

August 2, 2007

Alan P. Nelson, Director
Emergency Preparedness
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS FOR AN AIRCRAFT THREAT SCENARIO

Dear Mr. Nelson:

An observation made by Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff during the recent Vogtle Station Phase III ("off-year") security threat-based event emergency preparedness (EP) drill was the need to familiarize licensee EP personnel with the protocols established by the NRC's Headquarters Operations Center (HOC) to inform a nuclear power plant site of an aircraft Track of Interest (TOI). The enclosure to this letter is intended to highlight key NRC HOC interfaces and communication expectations with an affected licensee's control room(s) only under the circumstances where the NRC HOC communicates the TOI information. Examples are provided of the likely content and duration of the message expected to be communicated by the NRC Headquarters Operations Officer.

The Nuclear Energy Institute is encouraged to share this information with industry EP personnel to facilitate demonstration during the ongoing "off-year" security threat-based event EP drill initiative, in accordance with the industry guidelines proposed in NEI 06-04, "Guideline for the Development of EP Drill and Exercise Threat-Based Scenarios," dated August 2006. NRC staff would also support possible industry-identified outreach opportunities to further familiarize licensee emergency response organization personnel on Headquarter's incident response procedures and communications protocols for security threat-based events.

I appreciate industry's continuing efforts in support of this important initiative. Any questions should be directed to either Anthony McMurtry or Joseph Anderson at (301) 415-2746 and (301) 415-4114, respectively.

Sincerely,

Melvyn N. Leach, Director
Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Enclosure: As stated

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