



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

DEC 15 1995

Dennis M. Crutchfield, Director
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Crutchfield:

As requested by your office, in your letter dated November 22, 1995, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared an Interim Findings Report (Enclosure 1) regarding the adequacy of offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, located in Spring City, Tennessee. This finding and determination, with the supporting report, is submitted in accordance with 44 CFR 350 and the Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and FEMA dated June 17, 1993, and is based on a review and evaluation of the State of Tennessee and affected local jurisdictions joint offsite Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) plan entitled the "The State of Tennessee Multi-Jurisdictional Radiological Emergency Response Plan for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant." The Interim Findings Report was prepared by FEMA Region IV. A copy of the transmittal letter to FEMA Headquarters by Mr. Kenneth D. Hutchison, FEMA Regional Director, on December 1, 1995, is attached (Enclosure 2) with a finding that the offsite radiological emergency response plans are adequate and there is reasonable assurance that they can be implemented without substantive corrections. FEMA Headquarters staff has reviewed this report and concurs with the assessment provided by the FEMA Region IV Director.

As part of the Interim Finding process, FEMA Headquarters, Region IV staff, and the Regional Assistance Committee (RAC) completed plan reviews on June 10-11, 1993, August 15, 1994, and June 27, 1995. Two qualifying exercises were also evaluated. The first exercise was conducted on October 6-7, 1993, with a remedial drill, demonstrating the correction of an identified Deficiency, conducted on November 15, 1993, and findings submitted to the NRC on May 22, 1995. The second qualifying exercise was conducted on November 15, 1995. The draft exercise report associated with this exercise is being finalized; however, no Deficiencies were identified.

This Interim Finding is based on a technical assistance review of the available State of Tennessee and local plans of record and joint exercise results in accordance with the planning standards and evaluation criteria of:

1. NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Rev.1, "Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants" November 1980;

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2. FEMA-REP-14, "Radiological Emergency Preparedness Exercise Manual," September 1991;
3. FEMA-REP-15, "Radiological Emergency preparedness Exercise Evaluation Methodology," September 1991; and
4. Guidance Memorandum Series.

In addition FEMA has completed an analysis of the prompt alert and notification system for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. This review has been completed pursuant to Title 44 CFR, Part 350; selected evaluation criteria and Appendix 3 in the NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1; and FEMA-REP-10, "Guide for the Evaluation of Alert and Notification Systems for Nuclear Power Plants." The enclosed report entitled, "Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Site-Specific Offsite Radiological Emergency Preparedness Alert and Notification System Quality Assurance Verification," final report dated November 30, 1995, (Enclosure 3) summarizes the engineering design review; incorporates the results of the public telephone survey conducted immediately following full activation of the alert and notification system on May 5, 1994; and confirms the adequacy of the applicable evaluation criteria from NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1, and FEMA-REP-10.

Based on the engineering design review and the results of the May 5, 1994, public telephone survey, FEMA has also determined that the alert and notification system installed around the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant satisfies the requirements of NUREG-0654/FEMA REP-1, Revision 1, and FEMA-REP-10. Therefore, there is reasonable assurance that the system is adequate to promptly alert and notify the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the site.

In conclusion, based on the overall evaluation that has been completed and documented in the enclosures, there is reasonable assurance that the State of Tennessee and local radiological emergency response plans site-specific to the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant can be implemented and are adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken offsite to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. O. Megs Hepler, III, Director, Exercises Division, at (202) 646-2867.

Sincerely,



Kay C. Goss
Associate Director for Preparedness,
Training, and Exercises

Enclosures 3

ENCLOSURE 1:
INTERIM FINDINGS REPORT