UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

December 22, 2008

Jack Colley, Chief
Governor's Division of
Emergency Management
Texas Department of Public Safety
Box 4087
Austin, TX 78773-0223

Subject: NRC PARTICIPATION IN THE COMANCHE PEAK EVALUATED EXERCISE ON APRIL 7, 2009

Dear Mr. Colley:

Each year, NRC Region IV participates in selected licensee exercises. This gives the NRC the opportunity to demonstrate its ability to interface with licensees as well as State and other Federal agencies. On April 7, 2009, Comanche Peak will conduct an exercise of its emergency plan. The NRC will participate in this exercise with staff at the following locations:

- Region IV Incident Response Center, Arlington, TX
- NRC Headquarters Operations Center, Rockville, MD
- Comanche Peak Emergency Operations Facility
- Comanche Peak Joint Information Center
- State of Texas Emergency Operations Center (if requested by the State)

We recognize that these exercises are very important to the licensee as well as offsite response organizations and that the success of the exercise depends heavily upon the coordination activities leading up to the exercise. We want to be sure that you are aware of our plans to participate and describe our typical coordination activities in which you may want to be included.

Approximately 3 - 4 months prior to the exercise, NRC management schedules a meeting or conference call with offsite officials to discuss NRC participation/support. This ensures that the offsite officials are aware of NRC's participation in the exercise and potential impact on liaison resources during the exercise.

The NRC has made an offer to the licensee to provide training on the NRC response process as well as specialized training related to the use of the Response Technical Manual, RASCAL dose projection code, and/or Emergency Response Data System. This training is typically held at the licensee's site and is subject to instructor availability. If you are interested in this training for your staff, we ask that you coordinate participation with the licensee.

As part of our staffing for the exercise, we would like to know if the State plans to activate its Emergency Operations Center. If so, we want to offer to provide a liaison and technical briefer to be located in the State Emergency Operations Center. Please let us know if you are interested in having these two people respond to your center as part of the exercise.

As a means of enhancing the coordination effort and training value of the exercise, the NRC will attempt to participate in the dress rehearsal with two to three people. If resources permit and if you are interested in having NRC liaison presence in your center, we will try to incorporate them into the dress rehearsal.

We look forward to working with you on this exercise. If you have questions regarding NRC's participation, exercise coordination, or specialized training, please contact Tom Andrews, Senior Emergency Response Coordinator at 817.860.8233.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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