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Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

FEB 7 1983

Mr. William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Dircks:

The purpose of this letter is to apprise the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of the current status of pre-exercise activities associated with the exercise scheduled for March 9, 1983, at the Indian Point Nuclear Power Station. A monthly report, of this nature, was requested in the "NRC DECISION (CLI-82-38)" of December 23, 1982. This report is structured to highlight the status of the Rockland County non-participation issue and the status of resolution of the bus driver issue in Westchester County.

Although significant effort has been expended by all levels of government and the utilities in preparation for the planned exercise, this report discusses many areas that are still problematic. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will continue to focus the attention of all parties on the importance of these pre-exercise activities in upgrading preparedness around Indian Point and to ensure that the requirements established in Guidance Memorandum (GM) #17 regarding exercise activities are met.

On January 28, 1983, I personally visited FEMA Region II to ascertain the status of the pre-exercise activities. The issues associated with Rockland and Westchester Counties are still in a state of some uncertainty. Although activity is ongoing, it is still unclear as to what the situation will be on exercise day or as to just which plan the counties or the State will exercise. A brief status is provided below.

ROCKLAND COUNTY

- A preliminary draft plan, which according to FEMA's December 17, 1982 "Update Report" was due in January 1983, has not been received. This plan, which is being prepared by the County, may not be furnished in time for its inclusion in the March 9, 1983, exercise.
- The County is working on the plan with State technical assistance; however, the scope of the project has resulted in the submission delay.
- Communications between all parties has improved. The FEMA Regional Director met with the new Chairman of the Rockland County Board of Supervisors on January 13, 1983.
- It is not certain as of this date exactly what participation, if any, representatives of Rockland County will have in the exercise in March.

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- The State is prepared to exercise its "compensating measures" if Rockland County does not participate fully in the exercise. The State's plan does require participation by Rockland emergency personnel.

The final disposition of this problem is still uncertain. However, FEMA will continue to work with State and county officials in an attempt to resolve the situation in time for the March exercise.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

- The State of New York is working with county officials and "bus associations" regarding the "bus operator" problems within Westchester County.
- It appears that four of the major bus companies will participate in the March exercise.
- The State has not committed to activating the National Guard for the March exercise.
- A key meeting is scheduled for February 8, 1983, between the new county executive and Frank Petrone, Regional Director, FEMA Region II, to discuss the entire Indian Point situation.

Although there is continuing activity it is still uncertain as to the final disposition of this situation prior to the exercise. It is not certain whether adequate bus support will be guaranteed or whether the National Guard activation will be required.

NEW YORK STATE PLAN REVISIONS

As a result of the significant effort associated with upgrading the "plans" during the 120 day period, the State was given until January 15, 1983, to formally submit plan revisions to FEMA for review.

- The revisions to the State generic and Indian Point site specific portions of the New York State radiological emergency response plan were received by FEMA Region II on January 17, 1983.
- The county plan revisions, originally due by January 15, 1983, are now scheduled for submittal during the week of February 7, 1983.
- All plan revisions will be reviewed by the Regional Assistance Committee (RAC). This delay in submission puts additional pressure on both FEMA and the RAC.

EXERCISE OFF-SITE SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT

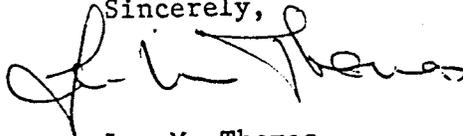
- ° Four meetings of the "Exercise Scenario Task Force" have occurred since December 20, 1982. This task force is comprised of FEMA, NRC, the State of New York, and both utilities.
- ° The off-site Exercise Scenario is at FEMA for review. It appears that all deadlines associated with GM #17 are being met.

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

- ° FEMA intends to have ready for distribution on April 15, 1983, the Post Exercise Assessment of the March 9, 1983, Exercise of the New York State and Local Radiological Emergency Plans.
- ° FEMA has requested that the testimony of its witnesses be scheduled for sometime after the distribution of the Post Exercise Assessment. This request was made in order to facilitate the progress of the hearing and in light of the demands of exercise planning and operations and post exercise assessment on the Regional staff. It is now our understanding that FEMA will appear before the ASLB beginning on April 19, 1983, to present its views on the status of offsite safety. In light of the short time between the deadline for assessment delivery and presentation of testimony, it might be constructive for the Commission to consider a grant of additional time to the Board to insure adequate FEMA preparation for the hearing.

As of this date, some of the problems associated with off-site matters involving Rockland and Westchester Counties remain unresolved. A great deal of effort has been expended by all parties, however, and FEMA will continue to closely monitor the situation with the objective of facilitating resolution of outstanding issues.

Sincerely,



Lee M. Thomas
Associate Director
State and Local Programs and Support