



**Protective Action Recommendation Logic Diagram Notes**

## Note 1

- Rapidly progressing severe accident: This is a General Emergency (GE) with rapid loss of containment integrity and loss of ability to cool the core. This path is only used for very unlikely scenarios where containment integrity can be determined as bypassed or immediately lost during a GE with core damage and a radiological release expected in less than 1 hour. If this scenario cannot be identified, assume it is not taking place and answer “no” to this decision block.

## Note 2 Impediments include the following:

- Evacuation support not yet in place - For example, the GE is the initial notification to offsite response organizations or if there is a previous emergency classification notification, the GE notification occurs before preparations to support evacuation. Many sites have a low population density within 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) and evacuation support readiness will not be considered an impediment. This element should be discussed and agreed to with offsite response organizations (OROs). The expected time for evacuation support to be put in place should be agreed to with OROs in advance and embodied in the site-specific protective action recommendation (PAR) logic diagram for those sites where delay of a 2-mile (3.2-kilometer) radius evacuation is necessary, pending support setup. The licensee would base the recommendation on the agreement and would not confer with OROs on this matter before making the initial PAR.
- Hostile action event - Many OROs consider that initial shelter-in-place is preferred in this type of event. The licensee would discuss this element with OROs and reach agreement. The licensee would then base its recommendation on the agreement and would not confer with OROs before making the initial PAR.
- Licensees are not responsible for soliciting information or making a determination that weather or other impediments (e.g., earthquake, wildfire) to safe public evacuation exist at the time of the emergency. However, the licensee will consider an impediment to exist, if OROs notify the licensee of such an impediment (e.g., roadways are closed because of deep snow, flooding, construction, etc.).

## Note 3

- “Shelter-in-Place” (SIP in the diagram) is intended to mean that instructions are given to remain indoors, turn off heating or air conditioning (as appropriate for the region and season), close windows, monitor communications channels and prepare to evacuate. The instructions should specify that shelter-in-place is safer than evacuation at this time, or alternatively, shelter-in-place is being implemented in order that the public remain off roadways to allow other areas, under an evacuation order, to evacuate unimpeded. The intent is for members of the public to remain where they are, or seek shelter close by, but not to return home to shelter.

## Note 4

- This includes downwind sector(s) and adjacent sectors.

- Site-specific wind persistence analysis may indicate the need to include additional sectors with the initial recommendation. The licensee must discuss this element with OROs and reach agreement.

## Note 5

- “Heightened Preparedness” is intended to mean that the population within the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ) is informed of the emergency at the nuclear power plant and that they should monitor the situation and prepare for the possibility of evacuation, shelter-in-place or other protective actions. Further, if an evacuation is taking place, the public not residing in the evacuation areas should be asked to remain off the roadways to allow those instructed to evacuate to do so. Communications with this population must be clear and frequent to be effective.

## Note 6

- Once a GE is declared, terminating the declaration will take time. If the conditions that caused the declaration have improved (i.e., core cooling is restored), it may not be necessary to expand the PAR to evacuate additional areas. However, if there is a source term in containment that exceeds the GE emergency action level, expansion of the PAR in areas where protective action guidelines (PAGs) could be exceeded is appropriate, as GE conditions remain.

## Note 7

- At  $T=X$  hours, where  $X$  equals the site-specific 2-mile (3.2-kilometer) ETE for 90 percent evacuation, (e.g., 3 hours after the public is notified of the initial PAR), the licensee should evaluate the need to expand the PAR, based on plant conditions. The licensee identifies the value of  $T$  using the site-specific ETE and shall consider  $T_D$  for a daytime ETE and  $T_N$  for a nighttime ETE. These values should be representative for the site and should not include special events. The shift staff is expected to make this PAR without conferring with OROs, and the PAR is based on the ETE time value alone, not on verification of evacuation progress. If the augmenting emergency response organization (ERO) has been activated, there should be sufficient resources available for the licensee to confer with OROs more fully.

## Note 8

- If the impediment was the time to set up evacuation support (e.g., at a high-population site) - When the agreed-to time (e.g., 1 hour) for evacuation support to be in place has elapsed, the PAR should be changed. Licensee shift staff is not expected to confer with OROs before changing the PAR although, if the ERO is activated, they may confer.
- If the impediment was a hostile action event - Within 1 hour of the initial PAR, the licensee should discuss with OROs whether the sheltering PAR should be changed. This will be dependent on plant status as well as local law enforcement support obtained by OROs.
- If the impediment was caused by weather or other roadway disruption - OROs will determine when it is appropriate to change the protective action. Licensees may inquire as resources allow, but have no responsibility for PAR modification unless a PAR change is necessary because of plant conditions. OROs determine when it is safe for the public to evacuate.

## Note 9

- The rapidly progressing severe accident is more severe than other GEs, and different protective actions are appropriate for all sites. However, differences in ETE will dictate the most appropriate protective actions. Sites where the time to evacuate 90 percent of the population within a 2-mile (3.2-kilometer) radius is 2 hours or less should immediately and urgently recommend evacuation of the 2-mile (3.2-kilometer) radius, otherwise recommend shelter-in-place. The licensee uses the site specific ETE for this decision and shall consider  $T_D$  for a daytime ETE and  $T_N$  for a nighttime ETE. The ETE values should be representative for the site and should not include special events. If the 2 to 5 mile (3.2 to 8 kilometer) downwind evacuation time for 90 percent completion is 3 hours or less then that area should also be immediately evacuated (this time should include any traffic control preparations where necessary), otherwise, recommend shelter-in-place. For all cases shelter-in-place should be recommended for the 5 to 10 mile (8 to 16 kilometer) downwind areas.

## Note 10

- Evacuation after the initial shelter-in-place period is critical to reducing public exposure. However, the rapidly progressing severe accident scenario cannot be precisely characterized in advance. In general, accident analyses show that this source term may be initially large, but it will be reduced within several hours because of the exhaustion of the available radionuclide inventory (NRC, 1990). Mitigative actions may also be implemented to reduce the source term. While the timing of this reduction can not be specified in advance, the licensee must use available radiological monitoring information to identify when it would be safe to begin public evacuation from affected areas. PAR Study results showed that shelter-in-place times in excess of 4 hours reduce public exposure for the hypothetical events analyzed; and conversely, shelter-in-place for less than 4 hours did not reduce public exposure. However, the determination must be based on current information from effluent monitors, operational status, and field monitoring efforts.

The NRC expects that licensees would discuss evacuation of the sheltered population with OROs and plan for rapid evacuation of the public through potentially contaminated areas. Lateral evacuation should be considered, as it may reduce public exposure where the roadway network and plume meander are conducive.

The evacuation should proceed from the areas most at risk. This is expected to be the 2-mile (3.2-kilometer) radius (if sheltered), unless field monitoring data shows otherwise. The 2 to 10 mile (3.2 to 16 kilometer) downwind sectors should be evacuated when the initial evacuation is nearing completion.

## Note 11

- Continue radiological and meteorological assessments and evacuate any areas where dose projections or field measurements indicate that protective action guidelines are likely to be exceeded. Recommend shelter-in-place for additional areas, as appropriate. Maintain heightened preparedness. OROs should communicate frequently with the public while protective actions are in effect.
- Continue plant assessments to determine if accident conditions warrant changes to the PAR.