



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

June 3, 2010

Mr. Paul Harden
Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC)
Beaver Valley Power Station
P. O. Box 4, Route 168
Shippingport, PA 15077

SUBJECT: OFFSITE PLANNING DEFICIENCIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE APRIL 20, 2010 BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

Dear Mr. Harden:

Enclosed are copies of two letters, one letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region V Office, to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and a second letter from FEMA Region III Office, to the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. These letters discuss planning deficiencies identified during evaluation of the April 20, 2010, emergency preparedness exercise at the Beaver Valley Power Station. FEMA defines a deficiency as "an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a finding that offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken in the event of a radiological emergency to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant." Specifically, the deficiency in Ohio resulted from inadequate communication between the Field Team Coordinator and the field teams in regards to communicating a radiological release in progress and the recommendation to take potassium iodide. The deficiency in West Virginia (Hancock County, Weirton Fire Department) resulted from the failure to adequately demonstrate the ability to monitor and decontaminate evacuees and their vehicles in accordance with the emergency plan.

The purpose of this letter is to communicate FEMA's official notification of the deficiencies that were sent to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This letter is in accordance with the NRC-FEMA Memorandum of Understanding. No response to the NRC is required.

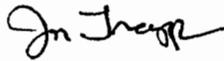
The NRC encourages FENOC to work with the appropriate offsite governmental agencies to ensure a timely resolution of these issues. The NRC will continue to monitor the status of these issues. It is our understanding that remedial exercises for the two deficiencies are required to be demonstrated within 120 days of the exercise date, April 20, 2010. In accordance with the NRC-FEMA Memorandum of Understanding, the NRC and the FEMA Regions III and V Offices will assess the progress made toward resolution of these issues, and will decide at that time if additional measures are necessary.

If these issues are not adequately resolved by August 18, 2010, FEMA may withdraw the finding of reasonable assurance according to the requirements of 44 CFR 350.13(a). At that time, the NRC would take appropriate action according to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.54(s)(2) and 50.54(s)(3).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any further questions, please contact Cherie J. Crisden at (610) 337-5061.

Sincerely,



James M. Trapp, Chief
Plant Support Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No: 50-334, 50-412
License No: DPR-66, NPF-73

Enclosures:

1. Letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region V Office, to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.
2. Letter from Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region III Office, to the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

cc w/Enclosure: Distribution via ListServ

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Sincerely,

/RA/

James M. Trapp, Chief
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Chicago, IL 60605



FEMA

Ms. Nancy J. Dragani
Executive Director
Ohio Emergency Management Agency
2855 West Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, OH 43235-2206

Dear Ms. Dragani:

This is to inform you of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency's identification of a Deficiency finding during the Beaver Valley Power Station's Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Full Participation Plume Exposure Pathway Exercise, conducted on April 20, 2010.

A Deficiency is defined by DHS/FEMA as an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a finding that offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate protective measures can be taken in the event of a radiological emergency to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant.

The State received a Deficiency finding under *Plume Phase Field Measurements and Analyses* Criterion 4.a.2 – Field teams are managed to obtain sufficient information to help characterize the release and to control radiation exposure.

The Deficiency assessed was based on our findings that out of the three State Field Monitoring Teams (FMT), only State FMT #1 (Unit 14) received the message that a release of radioactive materials had started and that the State Department of Health had ordered the ingestion of potassium iodide (KI) for all emergency workers in the 10-mile emergency planning zone (controller injects). State FMT #2 (Unit 15) received the information regarding the release of radioactive materials, but not the instruction to ingest KI. State FMT #3 (Unit 13) received neither the information that a release of radioactive materials was occurring, nor the instruction to ingest KI. There was a problem identified with the handheld radio being used by the FMT (sticking button), which led the FMT to use a back-up method (cell phone), all three field teams acknowledged that they "copied" the message that was provided by the FMT Coordinator after his radio broadcast, but the FMT Coordinator did not verify that the field teams had understood that a release of radioactive materials had occurred or that the FMTs had ingested KI. All three FMTs performed radiation measurements and collected air samples while immersed in the plume after the instruction to ingest KI should have been received. More detailed information regarding Criterion 4.a.2 performance is included in the enclosed narrative.

Ms. Dragani

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The State also received an ARCA finding under *Radiological Assessment and Protective Action Recommendations and Decisions for the Plume Phase of the Emergency* Criterion 2.b.1 – Appropriate protective action recommendations are based on available information on plant conditions, field monitoring data, and licensee and ORO dose projections, as well as knowledge of onsite and offsite environmental conditions.

An ARCA is defined by DHS/FEMA as an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that is not considered, by itself, to adversely impact public health and safety.

The ARCA was based on our findings that the State of Ohio Dose Assessment Team did not demonstrate a reliable capability to independently validate dose projections provided by the licensee or Columbiana County. Dose projections by the State of Ohio Dose Assessment Team were approximately three times higher than that of the licensee and Columbiana County. More detailed information regarding Criterion 2.b.1 performance is included in the enclosed narrative.

Because of the potential impact this Deficiency and ARCA have on public health and safety, a remedial exercise is required. For criteria 4.a.2, this exercise is to be demonstrated within 120 days after the conclusion of the exercise date (April 20, 2010). For criteria 2.b.1 training of Dose Assessment Staff must occur within the next 90 days, and the demonstration will be evaluated at the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Partial Participation Exercise on September 28, 2010. These issues were presented to the exercise participants as well as State Staff during the post-exercise Participants' Meeting conducted on April 23, 2010 and subsequent phone calls during the week of April 25, 2010.

Please submit a Schedule of Corrective Actions (SCA), including the date, time and identification of those organizations and participants by title that will participate in the remedial exercise and training no later than 20 days following the exercise (May 10, 2010).

We have thoroughly reviewed and discussed these issues with DHS FEMA Headquarters and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Your cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact William E. King, Chairman, Regional Assistance Committee, at (312) 408-5575.

Sincerely,



Janet M. Odeshoo
Acting Regional Administrator

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
One Independence Mall, Sixth Floor
615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404



FEMA

MAY 06 2010

Mr. Jimmy Gianato
Director, West Virginia Division
of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Building 1, Room EB-80
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0360

Dear Mr. Gianato:

The purpose of this letter is to officially inform you of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) identification of a Deficiency that occurred during the Beaver Valley Power Station Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Exercise conducted on April 20, 2010. A Deficiency is being assessed against Hancock County, Weirton Fire Department under Evaluation Area 6, Criterion 6.a.1: (Monitoring and Decontamination of Evacuees and Emergency Workers, and Registration of Evacuees) as follows:

Description: The Hancock County, Weirton Fire Department personnel failed to adequately demonstrate the ability to monitor and decontaminate evacuees and their vehicles in accordance with the plan. (NUREG 0654, J.10.h; H; K.5.b; Weirton Fire Departments "Vehicle and Personnel Monitoring at Reception Center/Mass Care Center" Issue 13 Rev. 1).

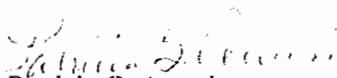
In accordance with 44 CFR 350.9(d) and the DHS/FEMA REP Program Manual, we have thoroughly reviewed and discussed this issue with the pertinent organizations participating in the off-site exercise evaluation. The DHS/FEMA REP Program Manual, Exercise Annex B-2: Exercise Evaluation Methodology, defines a Deficiency as "an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a finding that offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate protective measures can be taken in the event of a radiological emergency to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a nuclear power plant." Because of the potential impact of a Deficiency on the protection of the public health and safety, it should be corrected within 120 days from the date of this letter, through appropriate remedial actions, including remedial exercises, drills, or other actions.

Mr. Jimmy Gianato
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Please coordinate with this office on the date and time of the remedial action demonstration by Hancock County's Weirton Fire Department, within 10 days from receipt of this letter.

Your cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Darrell Hammons at (215) 931-5546.

Sincerely,


Patricia G. Arcuri
Acting Regional Administrator