

Rulemaking Comments

**PRM-50-104
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From: Annie Pick [pickannie@gmail.com]
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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

I am a concerned citizen who has been studying the on-going events at Fukushima. The nuclear power disasters showed these events can have sustained and far reaching effects. At the time of the Fukushima disaster the United States was urging its citizens to evacuate the area within a 50- mile radius. Yet at the same time in the United States the current emergency evacuation zone is 10-miles, emergency planning for nuclear emergencies has remained largely static since 1980, when regulations pertaining to emergency planning were initially enacted after the Three Mile Island accident.

The current 10-mile emergency evacuation zone does not adequately protect from the effects of ionizing radiation, these plans are outdated and put the health and safety of United States citizens at risk.

Current NRC regulations do not require that emergency exercises take into consideration an initiating or concurrent natural disaster that might further complicate accidents and subsequent evacuation efforts. Weather patterns are growing more extreme and dangerous. In 2011, hurricanes, earthquakes, and flooding caused damage to U.S. nuclear reactors. As such, emergency preparedness drills and exercises should include regionally appropriate natural disasters such as droughts, flooding, blizzards, earthquakes, wildfires, and hurricanes.

It is for all these reasons that I request that the NRC adopt the proposed rule expanding emergency planning zones to the respective 25, 50, and 100 mile zones and add a new requirement that emergency exercises include scenarios of regionally appropriate initiating or concurrent natural disasters.

Thank you,

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