



FEMA

October 28, 2016

Marissa Bailey
Director, Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T4D22A
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Hurricane Matthew Disaster Initiated Review (DIR) Findings

Dear Ms. Bailey:

This letter is to transmit the findings of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Initiated Reviews (DIR) and Preliminary Capabilities Assessment (PCA) of the States of Florida, South Carolina, and North Carolina in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. Major Disaster Declarations were declared for Florida on October 08, North Carolina on October 10, and South Carolina on October 11.

As stipulated in the November 19, 2015, Memorandum of Understanding between FEMA and NRC:

“FEMA will inform the NRC if a disaster significantly damages the area around a licensed operating utilization facility and FEMA seriously questions the continued adequacy of offsite emergency preparedness. FEMA will also take the following actions:

a. Perform a Preliminary Capabilities Assessment (PCA) to obtain an assessment of offsite emergency preparedness capabilities immediately following an event and assist FEMA in making a determination on the need and timing for a full disaster-initiated review (DIR) of offsite radiological emergency preparedness. Communication and coordination between FEMA and NRC during the PCA phase should be maintained primarily at the Regional level between the appropriate FEMA RAC Chair and NRC Regional State Liaison Officer (RSLO). The respective Regions will be responsible during the PCA phase for updating respective HQ staff on status.

b. If determined that a DIR of offsite radiological emergency preparedness capabilities of the affected offsite jurisdiction(s) is necessary, the NRC will be informed in writing, as soon as practicable, including a schedule for conduct of the review. FEMA will also give the NRC (1) interim written reports of its findings, as appropriate, and (2) a final written report on the results of its review. A DIR is not intended to be a comprehensive review of offsite plans and preparedness.”

Due to the extensive damage inflicted by Hurricane Matthew on October 6-8 to the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zones (EPZ) and the surrounding areas of St. Lucie, H.B. Robinson, Brunswick and Harris nuclear power plants, FEMA elected to conduct DIRs to determine whether offsite emergency response plans and/or compensatory measures remained adequate to protect the public health and safety. While there are other nuclear power plants geographically located in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, these were the only plant EPZs and surrounding areas directly impacted by the storm.

Three DIRs were conducted between October 7-10, 2016 and a fourth DIR October 27, 2016 within the 10-mile EPZ and surrounding areas of the St. Lucie (October 7), H.B. Robinson (October 8), Brunswick (October 10) Nuclear Power Plants and Harris Nuclear Plant (October 27). Comprehensive investigations and collections of field data were performed by joint FEMA/Nuclear Regulatory Commission DIR Teams, in accordance with FEMA's Post Disaster Assessment of Offsite Capabilities Standard Operating Guide (jointly developed by FEMA and NRC).

Based on our thorough review of all of this information gathered, FEMA concluded that offsite radiological emergency preparedness remained adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the St. Lucie, H.B. Robinson, Brunswick and Harris plants.

At this time, FEMA is not aware of any unresolved offsite emergency preparedness issues within the St. Lucie, H.B. Robinson, and Brunswick Plume EPZs and surrounding areas.

Please find enclosed copies of the FEMA Region IV DIR Reports for the St. Lucie, H.B. Robinson, Brunswick and Harris Nuclear Power Plants for your information. Once you have an opportunity to review this documentation, please contact me at (202) 212-2376, if you have any questions or require any further assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Hoyes
Director
Technological Hazards Division

*For [unclear]
Hoyes*

ENCLOSURES: St. Lucie DIR Report
H.B. Robinson DIR Report
Brunswick DIR Report
Harris DIR Report