



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD., Suite 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

October 5, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Fred L. Bower, III, Chief
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

FROM: Richard S. Barkley, Senior Project Engineer /RA/
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

FACILITY: SEABROOK STATION

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE ON AUGUST 28, 2017

Participants:

Massachusetts Attorney General's Office:

S. Schofield
J. Young

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency:

J. Giarrusso

NRC Region I:

R. Barkley
F. Bower
R. Lorson
J. Poole
D. Tiff

Purpose:

This meeting was held on August 28, 2017 from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the request of Mr. Seth Schofield of the Massachusetts Attorney General's (Mass AG) office to discuss the NRC's response to the concerns expressed to the Mass AG by Stephen Comley of Rowley regarding the ability to protect the public in the event of a radiological emergency at Seabrook Station.

Summary of the Discussion:

This teleconference was held to brief Mr. Seth Schofield of the Massachusetts Attorney General's (Mass AG) office on the NRC's response to the concerns expressed to the Mass AG by Mr. Stephen Comley of Rowley as well as several towns in northern Massachusetts near Seabrook Station. The concerns largely centered on the ability to protect the public in the event of a radiological emergency at Seabrook Station.

The NRC staff explained that in the area of emergency preparedness and response, the NRC works in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for ensuring the onsite and offsite emergency plans are adequate. The regulation of onsite emergency response falls within the NRC's purview, while the offsite oversight responsibility rests with FEMA. Per the memorandum of understanding between NRC and FEMA, dated December 7, 2015, (accessed from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)¹ under Accession Number ML15344A371), the NRC relies on FEMA to provide a reasonable assurance finding on the adequacy of offsite emergency response programs, including the means for the timely evacuation of the public, for protecting the public health and safety.

The NRC staff further explained that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has the overall authority for making protective action decisions (sheltering, evacuation, etc.) for ensuring the safety of their public during a radiological event. The state's radiological emergency plan for implementing those decisions was developed by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and subsequently approved by FEMA. Additionally, FEMA evaluates the implementation of the State's radiological emergency plan during emergency exercises conducted on a biennial basis to ensure continued reasonable assurance.

Subsequently, the NRC staff responded to the follow-up questions raised by Mr. Schofield and agreed to provide documents that supported the discussion and are publicly available on the NRC's website: www.NRC.gov.

¹ Designation refers to an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly-available using the accession number in ADAMS at <https://adams.nrc.gov/wba/>. For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Fred L. Bower III, Chief
Projects Branch 3
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-443

cc: Distribution via ListServ

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