

Federal Emergency Management Agency *Don*

Washington, D.C. 20472

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Jeffrey A. Bean
Regional Director
FEMA Region I

FROM: Kay C. Goss, CEM® *Kay C. Goss*
Associate Director for Preparedness,
Training, and Exercises

SUBJECT: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
10 CFR 50.54 (q) Exemption for the Maine Yankee
Atomic Power Station

Attached for your information and action is a copy of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) letter dated September 16, 1998, officially notifying the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that the NRC has granted an exemption to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (MYAPCo) from certain provisions of 10 CFR 50.54 (q) concerning emergency response planning. Specifically, this exemption allows MYAPCo to discontinue its offsite planning activities and no longer requires FEMA to review, monitor, and report activities associated with offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station.

The NRC exemption documentation also states that "the staff finds that the postulated dose to the general public from any reasonably conceivable accident would not exceed Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Protective Action Guides (PAGs) and, for the bounding accident, the length of time available gives confidence that offsite measures for the public could be taken without preplanning."

In light of the basis for this exemption, permanent shut-down of the reactor and defueled condition of the plant, effective immediately FEMA will discontinue evaluation of offsite emergency planning and preparedness activities for the site. As stated by the NRC, emergency planning and preparedness can be limited to onsite activities, simple notification to offsite authorities, and training of offsite personnel who may need to respond onsite (e.g., police, fire and ambulance personnel).

Please notify appropriate State and local government officials that FEMA will no longer review, evaluate, and monitor offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness activities.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact D. Anne Martin, Acting Director Exercises Division of my staff at (202) 646-2738.