



FEMA

August 30, 2018

Stephen B. Comley, Sr.
P.O. Box 646
Rowley, MA 01969

Dear Mr. Comley:

I am responding to your phone calls to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) Regional Office in which you expressed concerns about the local evacuation planning and lack of exercises, drills, and preparedness at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Station in Seabrook, NH.

The FEMA Radiological Emergency Preparedness (“REP”) Program coordinates the national effort to provide state, local, and tribal governments with relevant and executable planning, training, and exercise guidance and policies necessary to ensure that adequate capabilities exist to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recovery from incidents involving commercial nuclear power plants (“NPP”). Under this program, FEMA assists state, local, and tribal governments in the development and conduct of off-site radiological emergency preparedness activities within the emergency planning zones of Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensed commercial NPPs.

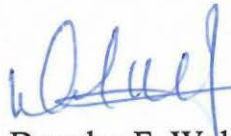
The federal regulations at 44 C.F.R. pt. 350 address FEMA’s role in conducting assessments and issuing findings regarding offsite emergency plans/procedures for responding to radiological emergencies at commercial NPPs. In the communities surrounding commercial NPPs, 44 C.F.R. § 350.5 directs FEMA to review state and local radiological emergency plans and preparedness and will only approve these plans if they “adequately protect the public health and safety by providing reasonable assurance that appropriate protective measures can be taken offsite in the event of a radiological emergency.” FEMA will make this adequacy determination through various means, to include participating in, observing, and evaluating drills and exercises conducted by state and local governments surrounding a commercial NPP.

FEMA recently evaluated the plans and procedures of state and local governments surrounding the Seabrook Nuclear Power Station on April 4, 2018 during the Biennial Seabrook Emergency Exercise. Following the exercise, FEMA conducted a public meeting on April 6, 2018, to, among other things, acquaint members of the public with the content of the applicable plans, discuss FEMA’s review of the relevant plans and the

exercise, and receive suggestions from the public concerning improvements or changes that may be necessary. FEMA, after the public meeting, later issued its after action report/improvement plan on June 6, 2018, that concluded that state and local governments demonstrated knowledge of their emergency response plans and procedures and adequately implemented them. There were, furthermore, no Level 1 or 2 findings nor any planning issues identified during the exercise.

I hope this information has been helpful. If you have any specific comments or suggestions concerning the evacuation planning by local communities, you may wish to bring those concerns to the local governments in question. You may also wish to identify these concerns during public hearings that follow FEMA's evaluation of an exercise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Wolcott, Jr.', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Douglas F. Wolcott, Jr.
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator
FEMA Region I