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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JAN 7 1980

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research  
Committee on Labor and Human Resources  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing a change to the current regulation on radiological emergency response plans for nuclear production and utilization facilities. During the comment period on the proposed rule, the NRC staff intends to meet regionally with appropriate State and local officials and utility representatives to discuss the feasibility of the proposed rule, its impact and the procedures proposed for complying with its provisions. By letter dated December 13, 1979, you were notified of the proposed rulemaking.

This letter is to inform you that in January 1980 NRC will be holding regional workshops in New York City, San Francisco, Chicago and Atlanta. Each Governor has been invited to designate one official to represent the State's views. Additionally, for those States in which a reactor site is located, the Governor has been asked to designate one local official to represent each such county. Letters of invitation have also gone to all affected utilities. If any members of your subcommittee or staff would like to attend any of these workshops, please notify Mr. Sheldon Schwartz, Assistant Director for Program Development, Office of State Programs, 492-7794.

The NRC and the States have as a common responsibility the protection of the public health and safety, and the Commission believes that this proposed rule would be a significant step to providing needed protection in the event of an accident at a nuclear facility.

For your information, I am enclosing the Federal Register notice of the workshop.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Ryan, Director  
Office of State Programs

Enclosure:  
Federal Register notice

cc: Senator Richard S. Schweiker

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### 10 CFR Part 50

#### Emergency Planning; Notice of Workshops

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of workshops for review of NRC emergency planning.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved on December 5, 1979, publication for public comment proposed rule amendments to 10 CFR Part 50 and Appendix E dealing with the development of emergency plans at nuclear power plants. The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on December 19, 1979 (44 FR 75167).

The Commission has determined that four regional workshops with appropriate State and local officials and utility representatives should be held during the public comment period to discuss the feasibility of the various portions of proposed amendments, their impact, and the procedures proposed for complying with their provisions.

The NRC will use the information from these workshops to evaluate the proposed rule changes.

**DATES:** Workshops will be held:

- January 15—New York, New York;
- January 17—San Francisco, Calif.;
- January 22—Des Plaines, Ill.;
- January 24—Atlanta, Ga.

**ADDRESSES:** The workshops will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the following locations on the dates given below:

- January 15—Roosevelt Hotel, Madison & 43rd Street, New York, New York;
- January 17—Bellevue Hotel, 505 Geary Street, San Francisco, California;
- January 22—Ramada O'Hare Inn, 6600 N. Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, Illinois;
- January 24—Downtown Holiday Inn, 175 Piedmont NE, Atlanta, Georgia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Montongliello, Office of Standards Development, NRC, (301) 443-5966.

Agenda for Emergency Preparedness Workshops

*Morning Session—8:30 a.m.*

#### *Introduction*

- Purpose & Scope of Meeting
- Background—Reason for proposed Rule
- Proposed Rule provides for Federal/State/Local planning for emergencies
- NRC Emergency Planning requirements—concurrence required

#### *Presentation of Proposed Rule*

- Rationale for and description of proposed rule
- Criteria to be met for concurrence

- Who must have concurrence
- Review and concurrence procedures
- Differences in requirements for emergency planning zones, i.e. plume exposure zone compared to ingestion pathway zone

#### *Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)*

- Role in overall emergency preparedness

#### *Public Affairs*

- Role of public affairs officials in an emergency, coordination between "responders" and the media

#### *Questions and Comments From General Public*

#### *Afternoon Session—1:00 p.m.*

#### *Discussion Points:*

- Requirement that State and local emergency response plans be concurred in by the NRC as a condition of operating license issuance. (NRC concurrence in State and local plans is not required at the construction permit stage.) Additionally:

a. An operating plant may be required to shutdown if a State or local emergency plan has not received NRC concurrence within 180 days of the effective date of the final amendments, or January 1, 1981, whichever is earlier.

b. An operating plant may be required to shutdown if a State or local emergency plan does not warrant continued NRC concurrence and is not corrected within 4 months of notification of NRC concurrence withdrawal. (Discussion will include consideration of alternative proposed rules for permitting continued operation or issuance of operating licenses for an interim period where there are no concurred in plans or concurrence has been withdrawn).

Requirement that emergency planning be expanded to cover "Emergency Planning Zones"

Requirement that detailed emergency planning implementing procedures be submitted to NRC for review

The requirement that specified "Emergency Action Levels" be used by the applicant, State and local authorities

Dissemination to the public of basic emergency planning information

Provision for alerting of the public and instructions for public protection

Requirements for having Emergency Operations Center

Requirement for providing redundant communications systems

Requirement for providing specialized training to licensee and local emergency support personnel

Requirement for maintaining up-to-date plans

What measures can compensate for various deficiencies?

#### *Closing Session*

- Individual statements—comments by participants and public
- Concluding statement by NRC

#### *Adjourn—5:00 p.m.*

These workshops are being held to obtain the views of and to provide the opportunity for discussion among State

and local officials and utility companies; however, all sessions will be open to public attendance and observation on a space available basis. Reports on the proceedings of these meetings will be filed in the NRC Public Document Room, 1717 H St., NW, Washington, D.C.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 13th day of December 1979.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Guy A. Ariotto,  
Acting Director, Office of Standards Development, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(FR Doc. 29074 Filed 12-20-79; 845 am)

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