



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

PDR
TERA

50-272
50-311

The Honorable William J. Hughes
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Hughes:

We have reviewed the letter from Jeanne Covert, Chairperson, Committee on Nuclear Power of the Cumberland Conservation League to James Miller, NRC, and to Senators Bradley and Williams and you. Attached to this letter, for your information, is a copy of our response to Ms. Covert.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL

Lee V. Gossick
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure:
Letter to Ms. Covert
dated 1/10/80

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RD-25
NU safety
466 x IDAR-S1
E.P.
(emergency plan)



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

January 10, 1980

Ms. Jeanne Covert, Chairperson
Committee on Nuclear Power
Cumberland Conservation League
P. O. Box 114
Port Norris, New Jersey 08349

Dear Ms. Covert:

Your letter of October 11, 1979, expressed a number of concerns of the Cumberland Conservation League relative to emergency planning in the environs of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station. NRC has an aggressive program for upgrading emergency plans that is responsive to many of your concerns as the program includes site visits by Emergency Planning teams, meetings with local and State authorities and meetings with the public. New and more stringent requirements are explained at these meetings. On October 12, 1979, such a meeting was held for the Salem plant at the Lower Alloways Township Municipal Building.

The 10-mile emergency planning zone for the plume exposure pathway is the recommendation of a joint U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission/U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Task Force. Their report, NUREG-0396, is enclosed with this letter. The emergency plan review teams that are now reviewing all operating nuclear power plants are requiring that planning should include early alerting of the public for serious accidents, and that the initial instruction in most cases should be to go indoors, close doors and windows, and listen to radio or television for further instructions.

NRC acceptance criteria for a licensee's emergency plan includes the provision that a licensee is responsible for periodic dissemination to the public of information on how they would be notified and what their initial action should be in an emergency. Means for accomplishing this could include information in the telephone book (such as evacuation routes, basic information on sheltering and respiratory protection, and a number to call for non-emergency information on radiation), information included with utility bills and postings in areas of transient occupancy. Assurance of continued notification capability will be done on a statistical basis. The licensee's emergency plans shall provide that once each year, a statistical sample of the residents of all areas within 10 miles of a power reactor will be made to assess the public's awareness of the prompt notification system and the availability of information on what to do in an emergency. The NRC review of the integrated state of emergency preparedness of the licensee, local and State authorities will include special provisions necessary for institutionalized, and for handicapped, persons.

DUPLICATE

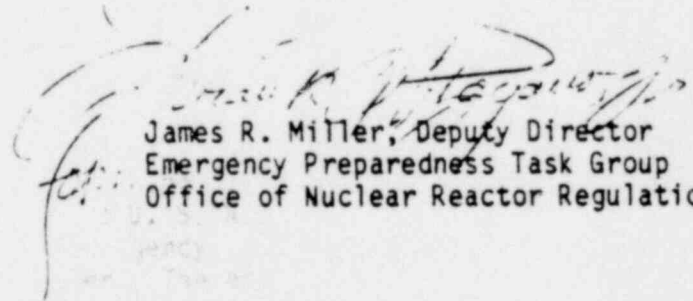
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January 10, 1980

Your expressed concern about financing of emergency planning refers to the Act of the New Jersey Legislative - Assembly No. 1272, approved October 22, 1979, that provides that a municipality that may be affected by an emergency at a nuclear power plant, may receive up to \$250,000 annually for preparing, testing, and implementing nuclear emergency response plans. The act does not specify that the source of the funds would be the involved utility. Laws passed by other States have specified that funds for emergency planning are to be furnished from a special tax levied on the owner/operator of the power reactors. Oregon Senate Bill No. 1084, Chapter 726, Laws 1979, approved July 24, 1979; Illinois Senate Bill No. 1084, Public Act 81-577, approved September 14, 1979; California Senate Bill No. 1183, Chapter 956, Laws 1979, approved September 22, 1979, are examples of recent State laws that require financing of emergency preparedness by the responsibility utility.

We trust that this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,



James R. Miller, Deputy Director
Emergency Preparedness Task Group
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
NUREG-0396