
In the Matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

REPORT ON NUCLEAR DATA LINK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING
REPORT ON NUCLEAR DATA LINK

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Room 1130
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Friday, July 11, 1980

The Commission met, pursuant to notice, at 11:05 a.m.

BEFORE:

JOHN F. AHEARNE, Chairman of the Commission
VICTOR GILINSKY, Commissioner
JOSEPH HENDRIE, Commissioner
PETER A. BRADFORD, Commissioner

NRC STAFF PRESENT:

MARTIN MALSCH, Deputy General Counsel
WILLIAM J. DIRCKS, Exec. Director for Operations
R. MATTSON
B. WEISS
V. STELLO
E. HANRAHAN

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: The meeting will come to order.
3 Mr. Gilinsky will join us later and also Mr. Bradford. We have
4 come to discuss a Nuclear Data Link. Some six weeks ago, the
5 Commission received a briefing on this subject, and at that time
6 a memo was sent to the staff asking them to report back to us
7 in four to six weeks, and we are now approximately six weeks or
8 seven weeks since that time and we now are prepared to hear some
9 more on it.

10 I have a few points from Commissioner G'linisky which
11 I will interject at the appropriate stages. I'm sure Mr. Hendrie
12 will interject at the appropriate stages. Mr. Dircks?

13 MR. DIRCKS: We're back here in response to your letter
14 to talk about the Data Link and its relationship, I think, to the
15 issues that the Commission is particularly interested in. That is,
16 the requirements that we were placing on the various licensees to
17 accumulate data for the emergency offsite center and the interim
18 center and so on.

19 The Data Link is a part of that problem. I don't think,
20 in my own mind at least, we've solved all the kinks in the Data
21 Link. We've got more work to do, not only in the concepts, but
22 we have some work to do in the area of what is a system that
23 will serve our needs at an appropriate cost.

24 I think the main thrust that I'd like to see the
25 meeting take today is for us to deal with that question of the

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1 requirements that we would be placing on the licensees with the
2 various console data that we want to accumulate at the emergency
3 offsite center.

4 Roger Mattson will pick up on that point. What we'd
5 like to see today is for the Commission to allow that part of
6 the program to go forward, and we'll fall back and concentrate
7 on working on our problems on the Data Link itself.

8 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I assume, then, that you're prepared,
9 since that's what you'd like a decision on out of us, that you're
10 prepared to be able to clearly identify what kind of commitment
11 that ends up having us make with respect to details of the Data
12 Link.

13 MR. DIRCKS: We'll give it a try and see how we come
14 out on it.

15 Vic, do you have anything you might want to say?
16 Otherwise, we'll get into the details.

17 MR. STELLO: I hope what I say is fairly consistent
18 with what you've said, I'm not sure. The paper suggested we
19 would like the Commission to also approve the NDL concept, and
20 to move forward with the next stage in that process which would
21 be to prepare specifications to go out for proposal to start to
22 implement such a system.

23 I believe we need to move to the point where we have a
24 set of specifications that can go forward so that at some reason-
25 ably future date we can look forward to having a form of data

1 link operation. It's getting to be a year and a half since the
2 accident, and my experience in dealing with emergencies continues
3 to remind me of the value and the need for a data link. I am
4 convinced and have no doubt that the agency needs to have this
5 capability. And I feel a sense of urgency about trying to move
6 forward with it and get a decision and move on.

7 I do recognize that there are some things that still
8 need to be worked out before you can actually issue the specifica-
9 tions, but I believe that they can be worked out as the process
10 for developing those specifications is developed by the staff.
11 And if need be, the Commission can be kept well informed of the
12 development of those specifications and the RFP itself before
13 it's issued. I think that would not be the problem, but I think
14 at some point it would be appropriate for the Commission to
15 decide itself if the concept of a data link is appropriate. I
16 think it would be useful to do that today.

17 MR. DIRCKS: I agree with that point. I think we've
18 conceptualized on this thing quite a bit now, and I think we can't
19 make any real progress until we see what the specifications look
20 like, and that's the part we have to work on.

21 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I'm not sure. Where do you each
22 come out on this question of -- Bill, do you recommend that we
23 reach a decision on whether or not to authorize the development
24 of the specifications?

25 MR. DIRCKS: Yes, I think we have to move towards the

1 specifications. We've talked about concepts for so long and
2 needs. Now we have to see what the specifications turn out.

3 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: All right.

4 MR. STELLO: With that, if we could have the first slide
5 which I promised myself that we'd start each of these meetings
6 with, and that's the role of the NRC in emergencies to assure both
7 myself and you that in no way have we changed it. I don't intend
8 to discuss it, but from that point on --

9 (Laughter.)

10 I have nothing more to add to this subject.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Gee, I would have thought you'd
12 follow it with a slide stating what -- on June 2nd, the memo that
13 I sent to Mr. Dircks saying what the Commission interpretation is
14 that's placed on that.

15 MR. STELLO: I could do that very simply. Above the
16 line is 98%, below the line is 2%, I choose not to argue it.

17 (Laughter.)

18 But it's the basic role that we're proceeding with.
19 I might parenthetically note that we had a Mitre study looking
20 at this question and I'll be sending the results of that down to
21 the Commission shortly. They've tried to make an independent
22 assessment of roles.

23 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Fine. And I would just like to
24 point out that there was a Commission decision and we reached a
25 conclusion that we would want the vast amount of the weight given

1 to above the line.

2 MR. STELLO: And I wanted to have the slide to serve to
3 remind us all that we've done that.

4 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Well, the slide doesn't quite do that.
5 That's why I'm inclined to bring it to your attention.

6 MR. STELLO: Yes, I should have thought to put that in.
7 Ninety-eight percent above and two percent below.

8 MR. DIRCKS: And what was the bottom line on the Mitre
9 study, Vic?

10 MR. STELLO: The bottom line conclusion is that their
11 view is that the NRC really doesn't have any choice but to include
12 all of those elements that are on that slide in its role.

13 MR. WEISS: But their job was not to make a recommenda-
14 tion to us as much as it was to say what the implications of
15 each one of those roles would be to us.

16 MR. STELLO: Bernie, with that, why don't you continue?

17 MR. WEISS: I think Roger was going to start now.

18 MR. MATTSON: The first package of slides which you
19 have, abandon them, and switch to the second batch of slides.

20 I'd like to just quickly summarize where we're at with
21 the document that's come to be known as NUREG-0696, a draft set
22 of functional specifications for the Safety Parameter Display
23 System, the Technical Support Center and the Emergency Operations
24 Facility, the Nuclear Data Link and REG GUIDE 1.97 all rolled
25 into one set of specs.

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This first slide summarizes the four facilities, if you will, the SPDS being part of the control room. I won't read it except to say that it shows a hierarchy of responsibilities starting with operations responsibility in the control room, a sort of tactical planning and support responsibility in the Tech Support Center, a more strategic responsibility associated with the EOF and coordination of governmental actions at a plant, and finally, an oversight function, a character that you were just discussing.

I would call your attention to the column headed "Minimum Data Requirements" near the middle of the page. We have made a decision in the last few weeks in working with these functional specs that they will have total compatibility with REG GUIDE 1.97. One way of saying what we mean by total compatibility is that if you integrate the minimum data requirements of the SPDS, the Technical Support Center, the EOF and the NDL, and as you add up the minimum safety parameters required for each of those places, you will have by definition the parameters contained in Regulatory Guide 1.97.

At this juncture, we can't swear and declare that that's the case; 1.97 isn't final and we are testing it against that definition. It may mean that we add or subtract a few parameters from the set that's in there now.

MR. STELLO: Roger, it would be helpful to clarify that there is a Reg Guide 1.97 that's published, and what we're speaking

1 of is the revised version of that Guide.

2 MR. MATTSON: Yes, and the revised version has just
3 gone to the ACRS from the Office of Standards Development with
4 the qualifier in the transmittal letter that it is still subject
5 to that sort of modification. We'll be discussing it with the
6 ACRS in August; we anticipate that a number of people will probably
7 want to come to that ACRS meeting and offer comments on the
8 quality of the data list now that they are being informed how
9 it's going to be used.

10 Another opportunity, and Vic has already alluded to
11 this as well as Bill, is we hope to put these draft functional
12 criteria out for public comment after today's meeting. I want to
13 spend a little time talking about them in a little more detail,
14 but that's one of the things we hope to walk away from here with
15 today, is a general understanding that they're going out within
16 the next week or so for public comment.

17 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Roger, this chart that you have up
18 here differs slightly from the similar chart embedded in the
19 document that was sent up in this paper, which is off of
20 NUREG-CR1579. In particular, the previous one had some additional
21 requirements on the minimum data requirements for the TSC and
22 the EOF. Now, the fact that that doesn't show up now, does that
23 mean you've backed off of those?

24 MR. MATTSON: No, it means that those data requirements
25 will be folded into 1.97. And, in fact, the meteorology and

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1 radiation parameters were just recently sent out to Standards
 2 for their review for inclusion in the revised Reg Guide. The
 3 problem with 0696 is that it's changing, and I, in fact, want to
 4 list a few things that we're going to consider changing before
 5 we put it out for public comment, beyond the version that you
 6 see here. I think the date of this one is the 8th or something,
 7 there were two editions of the thing that day even. We're
 8 narrowing the uncertainty, but there's still a lot of flux on
 9 0696.

10 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Commissioner Gilinsky and I both
 11 want to raise the issue of location of the EOF. Is this the
 12 right time to do it or should we defer it until later?

13 MR. MATTSON: This is a good time to do it. You could
 14 let me finish sort of a general summary and then I was going to
 15 list some of the controversial things from my point of view in
 16 0696 and then that would be a good time to bring it up.

17 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Okay. Fine.

18 MR. MATTSON: The next slide just quickly summarizes
 19 for all of us so that we know we're talking about the same thing,
 20 the kinds of communication and data links that we envision, and
 21 that these draft specifications envision between and among these
 22 various facilities. I won't dwell on it unless it raises particu-
 23 lar questions. I might note that the SPDS is assumed to be a
 24 set of parameters located in all of those places, which primarily
 25 are relied upon in the control room, which are primarily designed

1 for use by the operators, but the same information that's in front
2 of them will also be in front of the Tech Support Center, the EOF
3 and the NRC Operations Center.

4 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Except that the SPDS doesn't show
5 up in the NRC Operations Center.

6 MR. MATTSON: I'm sorry, it should. I think it will,
7 by definition, be a subset of the Nuclear Data Link.

8 Similarly, I'll skip over the next slide. It's an
9 interesting slide but it's more interesting, I think, in what
10 Bernie wants to talk about in terms of some options for the Nuclear
11 Data Link than it is for how these things integrate. I will point
12 out one question that will be discussed with respect to the
13 Nuclear Data Link; where the processing of the data for the link
14 is to occur. That will have an important feedback on the costs.

15 We have been proposing for several months now that the
16 processing would occur in Bethesda with the data being supplied in
17 some unique format by each of the operating facilities. Now, it
18 turns out that it probably costs less, although we can't say how
19 much and precisely whether it costs less, to have the processing
20 done uniquely and in some standardized way at each site, and
21 then just sent to us and we would read what they read when they
22 read it. That you can discuss in a few minutes with Vic and
23 Bernie about the Nuclear Data Link. I'll point out that when we
24 send the functional specs out for comment, we'll have to choose
25 one or the other of those approaches or say that that's still an

1 open issue, because the person who would be out buying a computer
2 to perform the Tech Support Center, EOF and SPDS functions would
3 want to know whether he has to save space and weight to do the
4 processing for the NDL at his site. Now, I don't think that's a
5 reason to hold up the functional specs; we need to draw down some
6 of the uncertainty in some of the other areas as quickly as we
7 can. It would be nice if we could draw down that uncertainty
8 today, but if we can't we can send the functional specs out with
9 that as an open issue and just note that it is an open issue.
10 In fact, we could solicit comments on it if we want to.

11 Well, I'm going to go to the document itself, but first
12 let me go to the next slide and say that the document is missing
13 a schedule, and we would propose to put one in so that we can
14 solicit public comments on its veracity and its goodness. These
15 are indicative of our most current thinking on what's likely to
16 be possible for procuring hardware and accomplishing the backfits
17 associated with these rather thoroughgoing, far-reaching informa-
18 tion requirements.

19 We still think it's possible to have the SPDS; that is,
20 the control room backfit, using existing information and existing
21 instrumentation and transmitters and cabling and what have you,
22 in place by early 1982. And we can probably still meet that date
23 and have the SPDS be available in the Tech Support Center, the
24 EOF and, as we can discuss later, the NDL.

25 In all likelihood, it will not be possible to have the

1 full complement of Regulatory Guide 1.97 instruments installed
2 and integrated with these systems by that time. Another reason
3 besides the difficulty of putting some of these instruments in
4 and qualifying some of these instruments is procurement of
5 computers in some plants to support these data requirements in
6 some of these facilities. I'll talk about that a little bit more.

7 In any event, we need some input from the regulated
8 industry about the practicality of even these dates; how long
9 does it take to procure computers, how generally available are
10 they, how long does it take to install these instruments. That's
11 one of the reasons we need to get the functional specs out for
12 comment so we can start to converge on realizable implementation
13 dates.

14 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: And underlying this is an assumption
15 that the revisions to 1.97 will be completed when?

16 MR. MATTSON: The way the Guide reads now, it says
17 that any plant going into operation after June 1982 has to meet
18 it. Any plant in operation now or to be licensed before June
19 1982 will be given an additional year because of it being more
20 difficult to backfit than it is to change a plant that's already --

21 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: My question, Roger, is when do you
22 assume that the revisions to Reg Guide 1.97 will be final?

23 MR. MATTSON: Oh. Simultaneously with the final version
24 of the functional specs; within the next three months or so.
25 In fact, if you'll turn to the next slide, it gives some more

1 detail about the steps required. I see here it says October,
2 that's a little longer than three months.

3 This and the following slide are really backup informa-
4 tion that show some laying out of how the steps go; some of them
5 sequentially, some in parallel, to yield these early 1982 and
6 early 1983 principal milestones.

7 I don't propose to say anything else about the general
8 picture of the schedule. I would propose at this time to switch
9 to 0696 itself and talk about some of the things that are still
10 troublesome in our minds and still needing of some work before we
11 put it out for comment.

12 The first of those is the question of whether or not to
13 require that there be a dedicated computer for managing and
14 supplying these information needs. The way the document currently
15 reads, it calls for a dedicated computer. And the reason we did
16 that is not because we think it's impossible that there are process
17 computers out there today that can perform the function. It is
18 possible that there are good process computers, and by good I'll
19 tell you in a minute the criteria I'm thinking of, that could
20 meet the requirements for these functional specs. But it is our
21 generally held belief that most of the process computers currently
22 in operation are not good enough. And we are unable alone to
23 write specifications for what constitutes a good enough process
24 computer, so we are attempting, through requiring a dedicated
25 computer, to try to shift the burden to the industry to tell us

1 what would constitute an acceptable process computer; that is,
2 to propose for our review.

3 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I guess you've lost me. I don't
4 follow why that leads you to the conclusion that requiring a
5 dedicated --

6 MR. MATTSON: Well, that's the controversy. It has been
7 my judgment that one way to make sure that the issue receives the
8 attention it deserves is to take the more prudent approach of
9 requiring a dedicated computer. It's clear you can write condi-
10 tions on a dedicated computer to keep it free of other service,
11 to keep it secure and untamperable under administrative procedures
12 and what have you to protect against the kind of problems that
13 we know exist today with current process computers.

14 It's a little more difficult for us to see our way to
15 writing the criteria for better process computers. For example,
16 the ones that people are purchasing today for new plants yet to
17 go into operation who have these kinds of problems in mind, to
18 assure that those process computers have enough capability,
19 enough capacity, that they have the right kind of security provi-
20 sions, that they have the right kind of buffering of other service
21 of the computer from this particular service of the computer, that
22 they have the right kind of availability, reliability, testability,
23 those kinds of things.

24 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: But you have to be able to describe
25 to some extent the parameter of the computer that you would

1 require, whether it's dedicated or not. Because just having a
2 dedicated computer doesn't solve your problem; you're going to
3 have to lay out a certain amount of requirements. And I guess I
4 don't understand why you can't say here are the requirements that
5 must be met, and they may be met by use of a portion of a computer
6 that is used for other uses, or it may require a dedicated
7 computer.

8 MR. MATTSON: I don't disagree with you. That's what
9 we're trying to do. At the stage of the draft that you have now,
10 we hadn't reached that point. What we need to do is write
11 specs on unavailability, specs on outage times and testing and
12 general reliability specs to the extent we can, specs on the
13 security of the computer, that kind of thing, and say we think
14 those specs are generally applicable, useful whether it's the
15 process computer being used or a dedicated computer. We simply
16 haven't reached a stage where we're able to articulate those
17 well enough. We will be making some attempt at that in the course
18 of the next week or so before it goes out for public comment.
19 The uncertainty is to how successful we will be with the staff
20 capability we have in this area.

21 You reach a point where you know that the computer
22 technology capability outside the agency is better and can get
23 you there faster; if you put out a document soliciting comments
24 on it, you get back useful information that you can then test
25 and assimilate and pull together into a meaningful standard.

1 If you're forced to do that in a hurry, you can do it by taking
2 the most conservative approach and getting back the best response.
3 We're reaching a point where we're ready to send it out and see
4 what kind of proposals we get for controlling existing or future
5 process computers.

6 The second point, the document as written calls for a
7 .001 unavailability of single parameters in the Tech Support
8 Center. What we are intending to require is the best availability
9 we can get, the state-of-the-art availability, using one computer.
10 We do not envision redundant computers. And we're being told, in
11 talking to computer experts, that .003 is really the state of
12 the art, not .001. Nuance like that we need to work on a little
13 harder in the course of the next few days and then specifically
14 solicit comment in that area.

15 There are also some troubles in the SPDS as to exactly
16 the function --

17 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Before you leave that last point,
18 I would suppose, then, that you could incorporate in what you're
19 putting out for comment the point that you don't intend to rely
20 on or require redundant computers.

21 MR. MATTSON: That's right. And that we believe that that
22 means an unavailability of .003, and that's the kind of specifica-
23 tion that we intend to have; a sort of double specification. One
24 computer but with an unavailability of individual parameters of
25 less than .003. And an unavailability of the total system of less

1 than .01.

2 The SPDS has had some controversy on several issues that
3 need to be drawn down a little bit better. My personal feeling
4 is that we're a little bit too interactive at the moment in the
5 way we allow or imply we would allow the operator and the SPDS to
6 relate to one another; the calling up of parameters, the number of
7 parameters, the difference of parameters depending upon the mode
8 you're in, regular operation, upset conditions, accident conditions.

9 The original concept of a year ago was not quite as
10 interactive as the document we have now, and we're still talking
11 about that.

12 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Obviously, if you push it too far,
13 you're back just to --

14 MR. MATTSON: Back where you were, right.

15 The number of variables is stated as 8; I think it
16 implies 8 per mode in here. I think that's too few and too
17 restrictive or too prescriptive at this point. I don't think
18 we're smart enough at this stage to say 8 or 20 or 33 or any
19 number like that. We need to broaden it a little at this stage.

20 There's also been a tension in this process between
21 those who want to jump to the diagnostic capability and those who
22 say let's not jump too quickly, let's get the most we can out of
23 the monitoring capability and do some further development in the
24 diagnosis area. There are problems in these control rooms that
25 can be cured quicker than we can supply diagnostic capability in

1 the control room. There's a little too heavy implication of
2 diagnostics in the writeup of the current SPDS I think.

3 I think that's sufficient to give you a flavor for the
4 kinds of things that we'll be doing with this 0696 in the course
5 of the next week or so. We, the sort of steering group that was
6 formed by Harold Denton and Vic Stello and others six weeks or so
7 ago to start to pull together these functional specs. We think
8 we've made significant progress. The amount of uncertainty has
9 significantly diminished; our own comfort that we're all talking
10 about roughly the same thing, the fact that we're concentrating
11 on what I think are important issues today shows me we're making
12 progress. And we need now to involve other people in that same
13 process because the overwhelming interest on everybody's part is
14 to get the SPDS in place. I think you folks have received a couple
15 letters from people in the industry saying let's not let the
16 Nuclear Data Link be the tail that wags the dog and that sort of
17 thing. We concur in that, we need to move on with the SPDS.
18 That's not to detract from the Nuclear Data Link, we need to move
19 on with that, also. But the SPDS is clearly our first priority,
20 and by moving these functional specs on and giving some firmness
21 to how the SPDS relates to the rest of the information will help
22 a lot, I think, in drawing down uncertainty.

23 You wanted to talk about the EOF.

24 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: You're going to put 0696 -- you plan
25 on putting 0696 out for comment, right? There are two things I

1 want to talk about, t' en. One, location of the EOF, and second,
2 the chart that you didn't show, because that's embedded within
3 0696. And if you're going to go out for comment on that, I
4 would like to --

5 MR. MATTSON: It's not at this point, is it? I'm sorry.
6 I haven't looked at the last version closely enough.

7 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes, I want to talk about those
8 two issues.

9 MR. MATTSON: Let me add one thing before we turn to
10 those two questions. We have been saying that the formality that
11 we will attach to 0696 is comparable to the formality that the
12 staff attaches to a Regulatory Guide. That is, it is our preferred
13 and acceptable way of meeting the requirements, but it is flexible
14 to the extent that we are amenable to considering alternatives
15 that people propose. So that gives a little bit of flexibility to
16 the questions you're about to address, especially the EOF, which
17 has been of some controversy, we're aware.

18 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I think it's a fairly broad question,
19 but I know that when I read through this, the general sense I
20 get is that the EOF should preferably be about one mile; it might
21 be up to 3 miles, depending on the kind of site it's located at,
22 and that there ought to be perhaps an alternate available farther
23 out in case there has to be an evacuation from the EOF. And
24 the issues, to me, at least were really raised more sharply when
25 we were addressing the emergency planning rule, and a number of

1 state people raised the question why should not you have this EOF
2 at the fringe of your 10-mile zone, because if you are going to
3 have to be directing a number of emergency actions, their argument
4 was it seemed to be more logical to have the location of that
5 direction in a place where it itself didn't have to be in the
6 process of taking all of those emergency actions. Commissioner
7 Gilinsky raised that same issue to the staff earlier based upon
8 questions that came up in England, and I'm sure he'll also want to
9 pursue that.

10 But I found embedded throughout here this concept that
11 it really is very close. I've tried to see if I couldn't inter-
12 pret from this and then went back to the Action Plan information
13 to get a better picture of why it had to be that close, and
14 I've reached the conclusion that I don't understand it.

15 MR. MATTSON: I'll give you the reason that I support
16 the 1 to 3 that's in here, although I agree the reason you've
17 given for 10 is not a bad reason. It's going to end up, the
18 decision, finally on adding up the pros and cons for the rest of
19 them and probably taking a vote. But let me state the reasons
20 why I like 1 to 3.

21 I think it's important to keep the strategical planners,
22 the Harold Denton's and the Victor Stello's of the NRC operation
23 and their counterparts in the state governments or the regional
24 directors, close enough to the site that they feel comfortable
25 that they can get the information they need, that they can call

1
2 people out of the Tech Support Center or they themselves can go
3 on to the plant to verify anything that's uncertain to them. So
4 that they will feel comfortable staying in the Emergency Operations
5 Facility.

6 If we get it so far away that those people aren't
7 comfortable with conducting their strategical responsibilities
8 from the EOF that they must converge upon the Tech Support
9 Center, I think they'll interrupt and disrupt the activities,
10 the more tactical activities, of the Tech Support Center. That's
11 the primary reason in my mind for being 1 to 3 miles. But really
12 all I've said is, have access to the people. Now, if there are
13 special transportation arrangements, then 3 miles might be too
14 restrictive. A time element is really what you're talking about,
15 not miles but time. So the business of being able to fall back to
16 a facility outside of the immediate vicinity in the event of
17 habitability problems is sort of a backup argument to this
18 principal argument of being close so that you can get there in a
19 hurry if you want, to really talk to the people who are calling
20 the shots in the Tech Support Center.

21 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I think the distinction, at least
22 that's beginning to gel in my mind, is what is the primary
23 purpose, what kind of an accident does one have in mind, or
24 accidents, and looking at why do you have this facility. And I
25 would argue that if you have in mind a Three Mile Island or
something like Three Mile Island, where the accident is really

1 happening within the site and there's very little action required
2 offsite, then what you've described is correct. But if the
3 purpose of it is to have a location for the kind of emergency
4 response control that envisions a much larger release offsite,
5 and protective action being required within that 10-mile zone,
6 that the farther out one is the more appropriate. So I think,
7 at least in my mind, it seems to be what are the series of
8 accidents, types of accidents, you have in mind for which you
9 have that center.

10 MR. MATTSON: That's a good point.

11 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Could I ask also who do you
12 envisage being at that center, as opposed to the Technical
13 Support Center at the plant itself?

14 MR. MATTSON: I can answer it two ways, by naming the
15 kind of people from NRC if that would help you understand who we
16 think is where.

17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: And the company and what state
18 people.

19 MR. MATTSON: In the EOF, where we think the strategical
20 planning over longer periods of time and the coordination of a
21 grander scale; that is, things involving state government and
22 federal government, you would have people like the regional direc-
23 tor, or if the regional director had been augmented by the
24 Director of NRR or the Director of I&E, that level of NRC people
25 in the Emergency Operations Facility. Whether the head state

1 person would be there, or whether it would be a delegation from
2 the state people would depend upon the state I think. I've heard
3 some states say they'd like to command their operations from a
4 far away location where their normal offices are and where
5 their people are usually housed so they don't have to have the
6 transportation facilities and what have you; they would only send
7 a delegation.

8 So it would be state representatives would be there,
9 not in the Tech Support Center. The Tech Support Center, on the
10 other hand, would have the principal operations decisionmaker
11 for the utility.

12 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Tech Support Center or -- ?

13 MR. MATTSON: The Tech Support Center. Not the senior
14 reactor operator and the shift supervisor, but the station super-
15 intendent, for example, or the deputy station superintendent, as
16 I've heard proposed in some places. The person in charge of the
17 plant who knows the plant, who knows reactor operations, who's
18 calling the tactical shots.

19 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: That's in the Technical Support
20 Center, not the Emergency.

21 MR. MATTSON: I've switched to the Technical Support
22 Center.

23 From the NRC side, the way we talk about it in the
24 staff is that's where we put the people who are revising the
25 procedures at Three Mile Island, rather than in the control room.

1 The engineers that we would have in close-in support and assistance
2 and monitoring would be in the Tech Support Center. They'd have
3 access to the control room in limited numbers, but they would be
4 residing in the Tech Support Center.

5 On the other hand, the control room, as we've now
6 required it, is restricted to the command and control function
7 for hands-on operation of the facility. The shift technical
8 advisor, the shift supervisor, the reactor operators, augmented by
9 intermediate level managers or senior managers to the extent that
10 the utility wants. Does that answer your question?

11 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: In part. The way you describe
12 it, it sounds as if an NRC decision to recommend some sort of
13 protective measures for the population would come out of the
14 Emergency Center, the more distant one.

15 MR. MATTSON: Yes.

16 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Now, what would happen if you
17 then recommended an evacuation? At what point would that include
18 the personnel in the Center itself?

19 MR. MATTSON: The Center is required either to be
20 habitable; that is, to be protected against radiation, or to
21 have a fallback center at a more remote location that could be
22 activated as the people from the EOF were evacuated.

23 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: It seems to me that's just the
24 time when you wouldn't want to be switching centers. You've
25 recommended an evacuation, an evacuation may be taking place,

1 you'd want to be keeping track of things pretty closely, and I
2 wouldn't think you'd want the people at the Center jumping in
3 cars.

4 MR. MATTSON: The deficiency in having a fallback posi-
5 tion instead of a well-protected EOF.

6 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I would have argued that's a defi-
7 ciency for having the EOF so close in.

8 MR. MATTSON: Equally good response. Although even if
9 you're 10 miles, you still want it protected to some extent, I
10 would think.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I recognize your motivation
13 which is that one may want to be going back and forth, you may
14 want people from the plant coming back and talking with people
15 at the Center, at the Emergency more distant facility. But it
16 seems to me that if it is 1 mile away, almost any evacuation that
17 you recommend in the course of an accident would include that
18 distance. You can say that people at the Center don't necessarily
19 have to move -- you wouldn't necessarily have the same threshold
20 for Center evacuation as for evacuating the population. But
21 nevertheless, it seems pretty close in.

22 MR. MATTSON: We can ask if the emergency preparedness
23 people from NRR want to add anything that I'm leaving out.

24 MR. PERKINS: I'm Ken Perkins out at EDO's office.
25 The only thing I would add is that the NRC staff and the FEMA

1 staff are both going through the considerable number of comments
2 that we had received on the proximity of the EOF to the site
3 that we put in NUREG-0654, the joint criteria. We're going through
4 a process of revising that document. We haven't reached a conclu-
5 sion at this point yet. I would suggest that any reference in
6 0696 to proximity rather defer to 0654 and let that be the guiding
7 document on proximity.

8 It appears that one option that has been suggested for
9 us to look at is that there are certain functions that we had
10 put under the umbrella of the EOF that may be isolatable and
11 should be kept near, and others that could be allowed to be more
12 remote. But we have not reached any kind of conclusion at this
13 stage. We are in the process of re-examining that proximity in
14 light of the comments that we had received.

15 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I must say, if I were going to
16 have one basic center and one, sort of alternate center, I would
17 put the basic center at a place that wouldn't be evacuated, at
18 least in the scenarios that we're taking into account, and have
19 the alternate center closer in and allow senior people an oppor-
20 tunity to be closer in if they want to. But it seems to me that
21 you don't want to be moving centers just at the time when things
22 are happening.

23 MR. MATTSON: I think Ken's suggestion is a good one.
24 One thing we could do in noticing this thing for comment is to
25 say that this is a question of controversy but that we have a

1 number of comments already in the context of the other document,
2 and if people have commented there they need not go through the
3 whole argument again here; those comments are still being considered
4 And if there are others who haven't commented in that context but
5 want to in this context, go ahead and do it.

6 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: You will recall when we
7 discussed the emergency planning rule after the various parties
8 had commented and it was clear that there was concern about this
9 proposed close-in location for the Emergency Center, the rule
10 language that's proposed now simply says in the vicinity of the
11 site, or something like that. And my understanding is that on
12 the emergency planning site staff, they're willing to regard that
13 as anywhere out to maybe even 15 miles.

14 My comments parallel a number of Vic's. We are setting
15 up a series of locations from which an emergency is directed. A
16 control room is obviously necessary, the operators have to stay
17 there so they can push and pull switches and so on.. We found that
18 there is a tendency for people in the plant and NRC folk and state
19 representatives to gather. We had 80 or 100-odd in the Three Mile
20 Unit 2 control room at one point, I guess, and it got to the point
21 where you could hardly stumble through the crowd. That's clearly
22 inappropriate. So we said look, find some other place on the
23 plant site where you can have a technical support center and those
24 other people can gather. Then there needs to be a communication
25 link and so on. Fair enough.

1 Now we want to back off to yet a third control center,
2 and what I'm afraid is that the proposal as it now is frame in
3 the draft report on the 1 to 3 mile basis leads not to one more
4 center but to two more, and that seems to me to be getting at
5 least one too many points of concentration of people in the
6 sequence.

7 The Emergency Operations Facility, remember, is going
8 to be a place where not only the senior onsite NRC managers are
9 going to congregate, but also senior utility management people
10 will be there. I would really expect that it would also be the
11 place which will have state and local emergency organization
12 representatives. And beyond that, it's going to have a great
13 hovering pack of folk from the media.

14 I have some doubt that you want to establish that
15 congregation close enough in so that in the event of protective
16 action being ordered for the population you're going to have to
17 start moving out a hundred cameramen and reporters. And there
18 are also the problems that Vic has mentioned of having, if that
19 occurs, to make the transition at precisely the time when you
20 don't want these people to be moving away from their communication
21 points, their data points and so on. If we go this way, it seems
22 to me that what, in effect, we're requiring are two installations,
23 one in the 1 to 3 mile range and one in, say, the 8 to 15 mile
24 range. And I must say I don't see a need to do that.

25 The difference between the 1 to 3 mile range and, say,

1 10 is another 7 to 9 miles which is another 14 to 18 minutes by
2 automobile on the road. Realize that even if it's one mile away,
3 nobody is going to walk back and forth to the plant site, you're
4 going to drive, so the times of getting up and getting in your
5 automobile are there in each case and you've just got an additional
6 7 to 9 miles or whatever at an average 30 miles an hour for going
7 back and forth between the Tech Support Center and the Emergency
8 Operations Facility and I doubt that circumstances will be such
9 that that time increment is disabling. I just don't see it that
10 way.

11 I think you did need a center where the NRC senior
12 onsite manager and his staff can be, the public information people,
13 a point where state people can come, utility senior managers can
14 come. And it provides a place where the principals concerned can
15 gather and talk directly together about the actions that need to
16 be taken, and as an information center. The need for it to be a
17 public information center ought not to be taken lightly. We may
18 have a tendency to think that in an emergency, the utility has
19 certain things to do in controlling the plant and we have certain
20 things to do in understanding it and making sure they're control-
21 ling it right and all that, and the state people, their protective
22 action roles, the local emergency supervisors. And it would be
23 also nice to make information available but that, after all, is
24 sort of secondary. I am convinced that it is, in fact, not
25 secondary but one of the really essential and primary roles of the

1 emergency organization because on the accuracy, on how carefully
2 considered that public information is and how immediately it is
3 made available on a broad basis will depend precisely the kind
4 of public reaction you'll have in the area, and that will have a
5 great deal to do with the efficacy of any protective actions that
6 are taken. So I think it is a primary role, and I think it would
7 be a mistake to have the center in so close, that if you do take
8 protective actions then you've got the problems described of
9 information gatherers and transmitters who are going to have to
10 be moved back out. Joe?

11 MR. FOUCHARD: The thought on the offsite Emergency
12 Center, Dr. Hendrie, was that there would be a small number of
13 media representatives there. That's easier said than done, I
14 understand.

15 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Yes. I understand the advantages
16 of pooling and now how you're going to control that.

17 MR. FOUCHARD: I don't disagree with you for a moment.

18 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Everybody including people who
19 think they might someday write a book on Four Mile Island are
20 going to insist on rushing to the scene.

21 MR. FOUCHARD: I don't disagree with you, but the other
22 concept is that there would be a facility for the media, similar
23 to the Burl Hall at Middletown where the media would congregate.
24 A small group would be at the offsite Emergency Center, but the
25 basic announcements would be made at the press center.

1 Now, as I say, that works, as you draw the lines it's
2 fine in theory; in practice, I'm not so sure how it will work.

3 MR. BUDNITZ: Mr. Chairman, in listening to this I'm
4 puzzled about something. It may have been addressed but I'm not
5 sure it has been. That is, what accidents are we talking about?
6 In the old days there used to be this maximum credible accident,
7 you know, which was very, very improbable.

8 . COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: We're talking about accidents
9 that have the possibility of any significant offsite release.
10 And what that means is that it includes some accidents that are
11 within the design basis which, after all, goes up to 25 rem whole
12 body in the Part 100 siting guidelines for exposure, and on
13 beyond to however far you want to reach beyond the design basis.

14 MR. BUDNITZ: If you plow into the Rasmussen report in
15 detail and you look at sort of -- I don't know what the worst
16 possible accident is. I'm not sure what that means. If you look
17 at the worst accidents that are in there, they're of the following
18 character. They're a very large release and it comes pretty fast.
19 What I mean by fast is you can either have a bad steam explosion
20 or a prompt rupture of a whole lot of things, and things that are
21 more benign are either there's less release or it's slower. Sort
22 of a combination of those. And if you really want to run those
23 accidents, and if it's really going to be that fast, then the
24 people who are within the first few miles are in fatal danger.
25 And it's exactly those who I suppose I would be wanting to protect.

1 And the control room operators are going to be in danger. But if
2 you want the people in the Center to protect their own lives, then
3 I guess it's got to be far enough away to protect them from that.

4 Now, if you really think those sorts of accidents are
5 so improbable, and by the way, if you read the Rasmussen report,
6 they are. You know, most core melts don't even release practically
7 anything, and most of the releases that do occur aren't hazardous,
8 and most of the hazards are in some other direction. So when you
9 put it all in you may decide that you don't want to protect against
10 those really bad ones. And if you do, then you can make this
11 other choice. But I think you have to focus first on whether
12 you really are protecting against those real awful ones that we
13 believe are so remote as to be just very, very improbable. Other-
14 wise, you have to make other decisions.

15 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Bob, I agree with you. The problem
16 that I mentioned earlier that I'm having with putting it in
17 close is that we have said that emergency planning we've got
18 this 10-mile zone and the plans have to take into account a
19 certain ability to take a number of protective action measures in
20 that zone, including evacuation. And it just seems sensible to
21 me to therefore have this control center, whose purpose is to
22 coordinate that kind of action to be outside the bound.

23 COMMISSIONER BRADFORD: I'm in general agreement with
24 the concern that you've all voiced about locating it in close.
25 As nearly as I can see, the drawbacks of requiring people to go

1 perhaps another 7 miles, and presumably they'll have helicopters
2 available to them anyway for the worst possible situations. Am
3 I wrong about that?

4 I would think somebody would want to think in those
5 terms if you're going to have people all over the roads moving
6 away from the plant, even whether you're talking about 3 miles
7 or 7. And anybody who is thinking seriously, people are going to
8 want to go from there to the plant site itself, they'd better not
9 be confined to doing it on the ground.

10 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Vic, I think the general mood here
11 obviously I would say is that it represents more an interest in
12 having it out farther. Do you have a counterpoint? Roger gave
13 some arguments for in close. Do you have anything?

14 MR. STELLO: When the thought of having a center of
15 any kind first came out in the earliest discussions I can recall
16 that I had with Harold, there was clearly a need for being able to
17 do an awful lot of things from one place; for us to be in the same
18 place with the licensee, with the industry that was there, the
19 state people, to have a place convenient to brief the press and
20 have that thought out in advance.

21 The need to have the data in a place different than the
22 control room to avoid the very problem that Commissioner Hendrie
23 was talking about is very real. We can't tolerate that. That
24 in itself is a hazard. So you have to have someplace where people
25 can get together to think of what they ought to do. That suggested

1 to me the need for a center, of one, where this planning and
2 analyzing data, to try to understand whether or not the very severe
3 accident might occur; having those data are important for the
4 purpose of making the judgment if something bad could happen.

5 If your concern is that I'm going to evacuate, that
6 something really bad has happened, you would have to have avail-
7 able, and we did at Three Mile Island, an area that we'd fall
8 back to if, in fact, something very bad happened. But that
9 fallback position is one where you are now dealing with
10 controlling the evacuation and trying to follow the release of
11 the radioactive material to understand what more needs to be done.
12 So the need for the fallback center, in terms of detailed techni-
13 cal information that we're talking about here, in my view doesn't
14 really exist. You aren't trying to decide whether or not some-
15 thing bad is going to happen in the reactor. It has happened.
16 You have lost control and radioactive material has gotten out in
17 a gross way.

18 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Hopefully, you would be in a situa-
19 tion where you might be able to have reached a conclusion in
20 advance that you are losing control and that it may get out in a
21 gross way, so you can provide the adequate warnings to provide
22 protection.

23 MR. STELLO: Yes, but then what do you need in terms of
24 that fallback center. What should the requirements in that
25 center be, and should that facility have the same capability as

1 the one we're talking about.

2 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Don't misunderstand. I'm not pro-
3 posing a fallback center. I am proposing that -- at least for
4 me, I'm proposing that this Emergency Operations Facility be
5 located out at that roughly 10-mile region. So it's not a fallback.
6 It is it.

7 MR. STELLO: Instead of at 1 to 3 miles. If you had
8 it there, I guess I wouldn't get overly concerned with it being
9 there, it wouldn't bother me. But then I think I might want to
10 get that Tech Support Center that's now onsite and move that one
11 offsite.

12 (General laughter.)

13 MR. MATTSQON: You now see my problem. Where are you
14 planning to be?

15 MR. STELLO: I want to be at the Tech Support Center
16 that's fairly close to the site, because the need to understand --

17 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Well, let's see, why does
18 that have to be offsite?

19 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: The Tech Support Center is outside.

20 MR. STELLO: The number of people that you're trying
21 to have come in to do these evaluations and make these technical
22 judgments grows very, very large, and although you had Three
23 Mile Island, you didn't have any major offsite problem. The
24 level of contamination in and around the building and getting
25 around things was a real problem. Even on the site itself. And

1 being where we were, we didn't have that contamination to deal
2 with, we didn't have that kind of problem, and the access of
3 people getting to it was very easy. But getting on and off the
4 site was a real problem. When you needed to do it, it could be
5 done but it's not easy. And the number of people that have to
6 be involved in trying to make these judgments, some of the groups
7 must have grown from 20 people that we were dealing with on almost
8 a continuous basis and drawing on a couple hundred more people
9 had to have information.

10 So you need to have then a centralized place to deal
11 with the technical information being close enough to the facility
12 so you can get in there and do some things when there's a need to.
13 I think it's the more significant center-

14 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: But, Vic, if the Med Ed (?)
15 Visitors Center and Tent City that grew up around it, or Trailer
16 City that grew up around it very rapidly had been 3 or 4 miles
17 further away, it wouldn't have made a tinker's bit of difference
18 in getting back and forth. Anybody who had to go to the plant
19 got in his automobile and went over to the plant gate and got
20 rigged up for entry into the contaminated area and so on. And
21 if you're drive, instead of being a mile down the road had been
22 5 miles down the road, it wouldn't have made any difference.

23 MR. STELLO: But if you get me out to 10 miles, around
24 that area, it could have made a very, very significant -- or it
25 could have taken you a half hour or 45 minutes.

1 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: It's a little longer, but by the
2 time you get to the plant and boot up and suit up, you've shot --
3 and gotten through the security provisions, you've shot 20 minutes
4 anyway.

5 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: In military plants, one thing that
6 one always has to keep in mind is that you try to learn the lessons
7 from the last war but don't plan to fight it.

8 MR. STELLO: Oh no, I agree, and I've tried to. I said
9 I don't -- you know, if there's a need which I don't debate for
10 the center to be far enough away so that if you're dealing with
11 an evacuation, you can deal with it where you don't have to be in
12 transit while you're having to do with the evacuation. I have no
13 problem with there being one there, but I think the access to the
14 site at 10 miles -- I think it can get to where that could get
15 to be pretty difficult, to have access to the plant.

16 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I think we ought to move on to some
17 other things, but I guess where I would come out and I think the
18 general sense here is, I would suggest that your document that
19 goes out indicates that that really is a point at issue. And
20 not only a point of issue, but at least there's some substantial
21 argument for putting it out at the 10-mile region.

22 MR. MATTSON: One point I should say, and Ed was going
23 to stand up and say it, but I think Harold is more where the
24 sense of the Commission is than where the 1 to 3 mile position
25 that I was stating.

1 MR. ED (?) : I talked to Denton before I came
2 down and he'd be prepared to take up the 10-miles for the
3 Emergency Operations Center.

4 MR. MATTSON: Given that, I would think what we'd want
5 to do -- you try to write these things where you think you're
6 going. We'd probably be better off to rewrite this, taking that
7 position and soliciting comments, and if there are things we
8 haven't thought of that people comment on or things we think of,
9 we'll bring it back and argue it again.

10 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Let me take it one step further
11 and in talking with the TVA people I'm sure they've made this
12 point to you. They felt that they wanted to have one center for
13 all their plants or some number of their plants, and the reason
14 they gave was that they didn't think it was efficient to fragment
15 their forces, in effect, and create a whole bunch of centers
16 around each of the plants or in stations. What's your reaction
17 to that?

18 MR. MATTSON: I haven't been involved in reviewing the
19 TVA proposal, I've only observed it from a distance. I think
20 it's unacceptable. There are people in NRR who are listening to
21 the argument and still considering it. I said it was unacceptable
22 when I first heard it. You have to have the people at the site,
23 and it would be tantamount to thinking that TVA could have run
24 Three Mile Island from Washington, is about how far they are from
25 some of those sites or further, and I don't think it can be done.

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It's too far. That doesn't mean they shouldn't have a center at Chattanooga, but to say that they're going to conduct the engineering operations that we envision for the Tech Support Center from Chattanooga or for the EOF from there I don't think it can be done. There may be others who want to state the other side.

MR. ED (?) : Harold and I agree with Roger's position.

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I think we may also get a similar request from at least a couple of -- at least one state where there's a cluster of plants. They may make a similar suggestion.

MR. STELLO: As I recall there was at least one other proposal, too, Pacific Gas and Electric.

MR. MATTSON: The number I remember there is 12 miles and that must be almost equal to 10, from what I've heard today.

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Can I get in a last comment since this subject is hard dying, John? Trying to make a sort of personal and intuitive integration over the distribution of all possible circumstances when you would use an Emergency Operations Facility, I conclude for myself that I'd just as soon see it not right next to the plant, but I think for me anyplace beyond about 5 miles would be fine. The reason is that although we've talked about 10 as the protective action zone for emergency planning for the public, the fact of the matter is that there's very little of the distribution of all possible events which would cause you to

1 have excessive exposures beyond about 5 miles for a group which is
2 professionally and by nature of their jobs, in effect, occupa-
3 tionally concerned with the plant and with the emergency. There
4 is a difference in the standards which are appropriate for expo-
5 sure to people in that category and for the general public on the
6 other hand, and I think for occupational sorts of emergency
7 exposures that you've really covered 99.99% of the distribution
8 of possible events by something like 5 miles. And if there were
9 some sort of a more convenient place that was a little further
10 than that away, why that would be fine with me, too.

11 But I think it would be useful to have the Emergency
12 Operations Facility at a place where you really didn't expect to
13 get chased out.

14 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I guess I would feel that I'd still
15 be a lot more comfortable around 10 miles, and if they had a good
16 reason for finding it relatively convenient to be in closer,
17 that would probably be all right.

18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I just have one final comment.
19 I agree with you, Joe, about the people who work there, but I
20 was impressed with your comments about the press which I hadn't
21 thought about earlier.

22 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: I regard the members of the press
23 who would gather at this facility as being occupationally
24 engaged and not -- you know, really. If you want to be a reporter
25 and come close in to the site and do firsthand reporting on a

1 nuclear accident, it seems to me that it's not necessary that
2 you have extended to you all of the provisions of protection which
3 we would like to take for the general population. First because
4 it's a very limited group of people, which is the essential
5 reason for having different occupational exposures anyway, and
6 secondly because their professional and occupational engagement
7 with what's going on.

8 MR. MATTSON: Mr. Chairman, since we've laid such a
9 good record here today, value impact of the location of the EOF,
10 there is one counterargument to putting it a long distance away
11 that probably ought to be on the record here.

12 That's the fact that most of the events for which you
13 would activate an EOF would probably not result in an evacuation.

14 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I understand that.

15 MR. MATTSON: And if putting it a long distance away
16 led to -- that is, further and further away makes communication
17 more and more difficult. If that significantly increases the
18 probability of a necessary evacuation, then that would be a
19 counter-argument for putting it away. I put it here not to argue
20 the point, but it is a point you have not discussed in your
21 conversations.

22 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I don't think that you're planning
23 a Pony Express back and forth.

24 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Yes, that's right. If the
25 communications depend on the ability of people to go from one

1 place to the other, we're in a lot of trouble.

2 MR. MATTSON: I think what you just said is that you
3 accept that there has to be a Nuclear Data Link, because that's
4 the thing that has to go the EOF.

5 (Laughter.)

6 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Of course.

7 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I would like to move on.

8 MR. BUDNITZ: Yes, but it seems to me that a point was
9 just touched on too rapidly that is of the most profound sort,
10 and that is the question about whether members of the press are
11 to be treated as members of the public or members of the occupa-
12 tionally exposed group. Because it's understood that the
13 utility, its contractors, we in the NRC, the state radiation
14 officials and so on treat ourselves in the group of occupationally
15 exposed sorts for whom protection is taken at a different level.
16 And it occurs to me that the thinking about that ought to be
17 based on some carefully thought out things that perhaps ought to
18 take a little while and ought to incorporate what thinking goes
19 on in the press about other accidents and the way to respond to
20 large refinery fires or who knows what else.

21 I really think you really ought to do that one
22 thoroughly.

23 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: My point is not the health of
24 the reporters, but your earlier point about the importance to
25 get information just at a time when public protection measures

1 might have to be taken. And one doesn't want that information
2 coming from people who are in the process of evacuating rapidly
3 themselves. And I think that's something that needs to be taken
4 into account.

5 MR. MATTSON: I'm through, except I think you had one
6 other question about the picture.

7 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: My concern is that your picture has
8 clearly a separate system for transmitting the data for the Data
9 Link as it does for, say, transmitting the information to the
10 offsite facility. It's a separate system.

11 MR. MATTSON: Yes, that's the way it's drawn here. I
12 don't think that's actually what's envisioned.

13 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I hope not. But that's the way it
14 is drawn here. That's probably the most expensive way one could
15 go, and I don't tend to like to go the most expensive way.

16 MR. MATTSON: You would say draw the line if I can
17 from the --

18 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I would have drawn the line from the
19 line that comes out to the EOF. I'm willing to listen to the
20 argument about where the processor is, but at least a transmission
21 line ought to be from here out.

22 MR. MATTSON: There's another possibility, too, if I
23 can do the same thing you did. That's to draw the line through
24 the Technical Support Center to the EOF to the NRC.

25 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Fine, fine.

1 MR. MATTSON: That's another possibility, and those are
2 the kinds of possibilities that are in active discussion at the
3 moment.

4 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Fine. It's just that this whole
5 separate set which is embedded in this document which supposedly
6 you're throwing out for comment I would disagree with.

7 MR. MATTSON: Okay. I wonder if we could try, to keep
8 the thing separate here and see if I sense what we're doing and
9 then move to the NDL. I think that the draft specifications, if
10 carefully qualified as being subject to modification, are at an
11 ideal place for public comment. That is, we haven't firmly set our
12 feet on everything.

13 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Well yes, with the modification we
14 just finished talking about.

15 MR. MATTSON: Yes. And with some of the modifications
16 possibly coming from the things I talked about, being different
17 than what you've seen, along the lines I talked about. I would
18 like to see it go out for public comment in the next week to two
19 weeks with like a 30-day public comment period, to start to bring
20 in the thoughts of others to solidify our thinking in some of
21 these areas.

22 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Subject to the sorts of comments
23 we've made and what seemed to be some tentative direct agreements
24 on language direction, yes.

25 MR. MATTSON: The people who will be doing the writing

1 are sitting in the room.

2 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Fine.

3 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Is there a listing, Roger, of
4 precisely what functions will be carried out in the Technical
5 Support Center and those of the Emergency Operations Facility?

6 MR. MATTSON: Yes, that's what we just talked about
7 putting out for public comment, the functional specs and Enclosure
8 2.

9 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: On page 22 there's some descrip-
10 tion of what would be done at the Emergency Operations Facility
11 but it's pretty general.

12 MR. MATTSON: If you go back to the first slide of the
13 package that I started with, look at the far righthand column
14 under the second row there, Tech Support Center, plant management
15 and tech support for the control room. Remember we went into some
16 detail. We created the Tech Support Center in the short-term
17 Lessons Learned a year ago this month, and described the functions
18 that we would want performed in a technical support center that
19 was equipped with a good documentation of the "as-built" condition
20 of the plant. It's a place where the engineering competence of
21 the utility could congregate in the early minutes after the
22 accident, like 30 minutes, where they would have available to them
23 the capability to trend information and ask the kind "what if"
24 questions, or how did we get to this point questions that the
25 people in the operation of the controls didn't have time or space

1 or background to do themselves. We didn't want those people all
2 congregating in the control room like they had at Three Mile
3 Island where we had 80 people in there so people couldn't even get
4 to the control console at times. We want them separate yet in
5 close-in support, providing the management and engineering support
6 functions that the people in the control room require for these
7 complex situations.

8 It's also the point, then, from which the information
9 on the status of the plant is, by and large, communicated offsite.
10 That keeps the NRC people at headquarters from meddling in the
11 individual movements of the operators in order to get data and
12 that kind of thing.

13 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But it sounded to me from some
14 of the other discussions that a lot of the engineering work would
15 be done at the more distant center.

16 MR. MATTSON: No. Most of the engineering work is
17 done at the Tech Support Center.

18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I see somebody smiling over here.

19 MR. MATTSON: Well, the manager who is at a high level
20 who is a graduate engineer, in fact he's still doing engineering
21 at the EOF.

22 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I guess perhaps some sort of a
23 statement somewhere about the fact that the NRC's role is monitoring
24 and advising as opposed to directing or managing.

25 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I guess I'm really concerned

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1 whether we've really gotten clear on just whose going to be doing
2 what where.

3 MR. MATTSON: Well, we think we're clear.

4 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I share somewhat Commissioner
5 Gilinsky's view, and I read through trying to get clear in my mind
6 what is done where. What you say is consistent with what is here,
7 but what is here could be read -- a different interpretation could
8 be put on it. It would be reaching a little bit, but it's not --

9 MR. MATTSON: I guess what you're saying to me is if,
10 to the extent we can in the next few days make that point more
11 clear, consistent with the kind of thing that's on this slide
12 and the kind of thing I'm trying to say comes from 0578, we'll
13 give it a shot.

14 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes. Bernie?

15 MR. DIRCKS: What Bernie will try to do is to be very
16 brief and concentrate on the compatibility of the two subjects
17 today and discuss how we would like to go to specify in greater
18 detail the system. We just want to develop the technical
19 specifications.

20 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Right.

21 MR. WEISS: Just to tell you some of the concerns that
22 were raised when we went with an early draft of 0696 to AIF. They
23 had certain concerns which we've heard from other people at other
24 times and we just wanted to bring them to your attention.

25 First of all, it was a question of need. They kept

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asking us for a better definition of what the role of the NRC was in the use of the NDL. We tried to rewrite 0696 to try to help them along in that respect. The major effort there will be the NRC report to the Congress on the NRC's response plan, which is now underway and should be ready by the end of September. I think everybody is anxious to see exactly how we're going to specify what our role is and how we're going to carry it out.

The other thing was the quantity of data required for the NDL was in excess of what they felt was needed by NRC. There was some discussion that they felt maybe 50 points; our original estimate was 100. At the present time we think that's not that important because we will discuss with the industry and with other people exactly what that is and we don't think, from a sensitivity standpoint, it really doesn't impact upon the cost of an NDL. So that's something we can hold off. Although basically, it will be a subset of 1.97.

The other point which was one that has come up before was a prototype to be installed on one or a few plants. That has always been considered in our implementation. Our emphasis has been a little different, whereas we're not going to have prototypes to show that the concept is feasible; rather, we would like to have prototypes or what we've been calling lead plants to show that you can get around some of the interface problems that we think exist, to confirm some of our cost estimates, and generally check that the equipment specifications are

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reasonable.

COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: What was the distinction you were drawing there between feasibility and --

MR. WEISS: They were saying we ought to put in one or two prototypes and run them for three or four years and see whether they work. What we're saying is the idea of transmitting data is not something that we think we have to go out and find out whether it works. We would like to put out prototypes to make sure that when we put the rest of the 70 or 100 units in that we've got the interface problems settled, not that it's reasonable to get data at the Operations Center.

COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Isn't that what whether it works means? I don't anybody would disagree that you can transmit data.

MR. WEISS: I think we would get the data and we would know how to utilize it in the Operations Center. It wasn't quite what we had in mind. It was just a slightly different emphasis.

MR. DIRCKS: I think the point is you're going to be some work --

MR. WEISS: We're going to be doing some work on that.

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: The ACRS had a similar point, I thought, and one of our directions in that May 21st memo was to clarify the ACRS views.

MR. WEISS: Our point is that we will be doing

1 prototypes.

2 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: The ACRS said that they suggest an
3 early installation, considerably less elaborate than the one
4 described. It should be installed initially in order to gain
5 experience needed to specify final system.

6 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Have you discussed with them
7 what they meant by that?

8 MR. WEISS: No, not in detail.

9 MR. STELLO: No. We haven't had a meeting on the
10 subject.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Keep in mind that the memo to the
12 EDO said clarify the ACRS views expressed in their letter of
13 May 6th.

14 MR. DIRCKS: But we agreed basically we're going to
15 have a prototype. We can go down and talk to them about it.

16 MR. STELLO: But there's nothing that we can go back
17 down and tell them what the system is, if that's the system they
18 had in mind, until we know and develop specs for the system.
19 So until then, and we tell the ACRS what we're doing, I don't
20 know how we can have that exchange. So the next step is to
21 actually come up with what are going to be the specs of the
22 system.

23 MR. DIRCKS: I think that's the point. We're talking
24 not about going ahead with the system; we're talking about
25 developing the specifications that we would talk to them about,

1 and they could take a look at the specifications.

2 MR. WEISS: It's still very much in the concept stage.

3 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I guess I'm just surprised that
4 you didn't just ask them what they meant.

5 MR. DIRCKS: That's the point of today's discussion.
6 We will talk to them about what they mean, but all we talked
7 about thus far is this vague idea of a Nuclear Data System. I
8 think when I started this off, I said we've talked in concepts
9 long enough; can we now proceed to move and develop some specifi-
10 cations. Once we develop those specifications, that gives us
11 something pretty concrete to talk to people about. They say
12 make it simpler; we said it's kind of complex and we made it
13 simpler. But now let's stop talking in comparative terms, let's
14 show them something and see how they come back to us. We've
15 just talked in these very sort of loose terms. I think it's
16 time now to put something down on paper in considerable detail
17 what we're talking about.

18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: That sounds reasonable, except
19 that after some conversation with them you might put something
20 different down on paper than you would otherwise. I mean, I'm
21 just surprised --

22 MR. DIRCKS: It's easier to talk to people after we
23 have something down on a piece of paper.

24 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Okay.

25 MR. WEISS: Last time we talked about those four

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1 alternatives which was basically the Sandia concept, a modified
2 Sandia concept which the Commission told us to look a little more
3 closely at, a concept in which there was a line printer and a
4 minimal display capability, and the fourth alternative which was
5 a line printer only. We have looked at some of those.

6 Essentially, it's alternatives 3 and 4 which involve
7 the line printer and that minimal display. We feel that that is
8 quite efficient from what we feel, from a technical standpoint,
9 we need right now, because of a limited number of operations
10 center displays over which we would have no control, the ability
11 to have data recall under that, store the data so that we can
12 look at it some other point, the speed with which we would get
13 that data, and the ability to be able to acquire transient data.

14 With regard to alternative 2, which is basically a
15 modification of alternative 1, which is no longer actively being
16 considered and that's because alternative 1 was originally
17 designed on the basis that there would be no TSC, and as Roger
18 has indicated. we've integrated our thinking on that. So that
19 alternative drops out. But we think now there's a very strong
20 relationship with the SPDS, the TSC and the EOF, and Sandia has
21 gone back and looked at that and doesn't really feel that there's
22 a problem in that integration.

23 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: The chart doesn't make it clear
24 that it's very integrated.

25 MR. WEISS: I'd like to talk from that chart in a

1 second because I think that's where we're going to have some
2 problems.

3 Also, with this system that we've designed and are
4 considering, there can be concurrent implementation of all of
5 these systems, so it's not a serial kind of implementation.
6 There is a feeling that it's desirable to have some kind of an
7 NRC data receiving terminal at the site which would transmit the
8 data to the NRC Operations Center to insure viable and verifiable
9 data, and do all the good things to make sure that that data is
10 coming correct. There may be some other alternatives, and --

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: When you say a data receiving
12 terminal, what do you meant?

13 MR. WEISS: It's a terminal that can do some processing
14 at the site in order to probably consolidate the data and make
15 the transmission easier. It would format the data and send it
16 to the Operations Center.

17 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Why should it not just take off from
18 the information that's being sent to the Technical Support
19 Center, or to the Emergency Operations Facility?

20 MR. WEISS: May I have the next slide? Basically what
21 we're talking about is taking off before the process computer,
22 the inputs to go into some kind of a data acquisition system.
23 Now, that data acquisition system would basically get 1.97 digits.

24 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I understand what you're talking
25 about, and my question is why can't you just take it off, do away

1 with that part, just take off data that is either being provided
2 to the Technical Support Center or, as Roger said, a line from
3 Technical Support Center to EOF to NRC? I don't understand why
4 it's necessary to have --

5 MR. WEISS: Roger was saying that whether we have an
6 NDL or not, we would have some kind of a separate data acquisi-
7 tion system which would then supply the data to the TSC. It
8 would not go through the processing computer.

9 MR. STELLO: You're talking about plugging into that
10 EOF.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes, right.

12 MR. STELLO: Let me see if I understand the question.
13 Why don't we just have a terminal or a connection to make to
14 either one of the computers that are in the Technical Support
15 Center or in the Emergency Operations Facility.

16 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Right.

17 MR. STELLO: If you did that, and to the best of my
18 knowledge there's no reason that physically you can't do it
19 technically, you would then have access to whatever information
20 that computer was being asked to provide by the people there.

21 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: And that we've asked them to provide
22 to us.

23 MR. MATTSON: No, no. This is a key point. It would
24 be then just like we have now, except that when we ask a question
25 the answer would come back on the computer instead of back on the

1 telephone. The difference is whether you're able with your
2 processor in Washington to manipulate data that's common to both
3 you and the Tech Support Center, or whether in Washington you can
4 only receive data processed by their Tech Support Center. And
5 let's say that their Tech Support Center is processing at a given
6 point in time for three hours, 5 of the 120 variables. You can't
7 see anything but the 5 variables in Washington. But what if they've
8 got tunnel vision? What if nobody is backstopping them, doing
9 an independent analysis? The only way you can find out is to ask
10 them to go look at something else, call it up on their computer
11 so you can see it on your display system. If they say no, I'm
12 too busy, I'm convinced this is where the trouble is, then you
13 won't see the information. That's the difference between having
14 the processor here with the raw data coming in some format speci-
15 fied by us, or having the processor only there.

16 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Don't you have the same problem
17 with the Tech Support Center in the Emergency Operations Center?
18 They only see what the control room wants them to see?

19 MR. MATTSON: No, not the way it's drawn here.

20 MR. WEISS: This is just a stream of data that comes
21 through a processor, and then they can manipulate that data.
22 It's a stream of raw data, so everybody is getting essentially
23 the same data and they can then manipulate it.

24 MR. MATTSON: Same minimum set of data.

25 MR. WEISS: Minimum set. And then they can look at it

1 in any way they want. So the Tech Support Center and NRC Opera-
2 tions Center may very well be looking at the same kind of time
3 train, but they're produced by separate processors.

4 MR. HANRAHAN: That data acquisition system box up
5 there is for all three external locations?

6 MR. WEISS: Right.

7 MR. MATTSON: That's the computer. The processor just
8 takes things from the computer and puts it on cathode ray tubes
9 or on strip charts or something. The processor is a simple
10 device. The data acquisition system is the computing device,
11 the thing that takes millivolts from sensors and transmitters
12 and stores them on tape and sends them as bits of information.

13 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Do you mean the intersection of
14 the line falling vertically from the data acquisition center and
15 the horizontal line that feeds everything else, do you mean that
16 to be a round ball, I'd say, a transmitting intersection, not
17 a skipped --

18 MR. MATTSON: That's right, yes.

19 MR. WEISS: It would probably be just separate ports
20 on this, and the NDL would be another port.

21 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: And the so-called data acquisi-
22 tion system processor is something that you'll require the
23 licensee to install in his plant.

24 MR. MATTSON: Right. It's important, though, when you --

25 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: And it serves a variety of

1 functions, safety parameter display, its own emergency centers,
2 us, and you can send it to the vendor if you like.

3 MR. MATTSON: As long as you understand that we're
4 talking minimums on this sheet. It may be that the processor in
5 the Technical Support Center would call as many as 1000 or 2000
6 variables in some of the proposals we've seen out of the data
7 acquisition system. The EOF might call for the same amount or
8 some lesser amount, depending on how the utility wants to put
9 the weight of his people and his managers -- EOF versus Tech
10 Support Center.

11 The NRC terminal, on the other hand, will only call the
12 1.97 parameters out of the data acquisition system, and we will
13 require that their EOF and the Tech Support Center also call as
14 a minimum the 1.97 with the proviso that EOF is still a little
15 bit controversial as to whether they need all that.

16 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: You're saying ours calls all of
17 the 1.97?

18 MR. MATTSON: I'm sorry. A subset of 1.97. Let us
19 explain what the difference is. It's a simple answer. If you do
20 the 1.97 list of parameters, it's a number listed. But there
21 are 50 thermocouples at the top of the core. Do we want all 50?
22 There are 4 hotlegs and 4 coldlegs in a 4-loop Westinghouse
23 plant. Do we want all 8 of those temperature indications? The
24 1.97 says they have to be supplied. Do we want all of them?
25 Probably not. We have to derive that subset of the 1.97 parameters

1 yet and we're at work at that, but they haven't been listed with
2 any finality. It is a subset, though, I misspoke.

3 MR. WEISS: But for an estimate I think we're still
4 talking somewhere around the 100 we talked about before. But
5 that's going to be changing as we go through this.

6 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: What is Modem?

7 MR. WEISS: That's a transmission reader. That's the
8 thing that transmits or formats the data.

9 Now, there is some consideration. We now have the inter-
10 face at this point and we're saying it would be very helpful if
11 we had our own terminal here so that we have some control of the
12 site and be sure that we get the data correctly, or reasonably
13 sure. The thing is there is some consideration of maybe moving
14 the interface to this point, putting some more of the costs in
15 this proposal of the terminal back onto the licensee, and
16 reducing our costs for implementation. That's something where
17 there are tradeoffs from the standpoint of technical and cost
18 and we'll have to look at that. We really aren't prepared to
19 state exactly where that interface will be. But that's one of
20 the things that we'd like to go on now and look at writing the
21 specifications really at this point and that point and figuring
22 out where the best way to do that is.

23 Do we want the licensee to process some of the data
24 and send it in here or do we want to do it all ourselves.

25 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: What would be the argument against

1 having the licensee process the data?

2 MR. WEISS: There is some concern, from the technical
3 standpoint, that if we have the licensee -- we put that interface
4 over here, that we are then dependent on the licensee, and any
5 time he makes a change in the system, we may not get those
6 changes here and we may have problems over a long period of time
7 in maintaining the system and being sure that we have correct
8 data.

9 MR. MATTSON: It's still something we have to think
10 about further. The counter-argument to that argument is that
11 if you don't rely on him to do it you've got to rely on yourself
12 to do it. And it works both ways and then we don't know enough
13 details to answer that question, I don't think. We do know
14 enough, however, I think to know, I think, to not rely on only
15 his callup of data. I don't think we can put ourselves in that
16 position.

17 MR. WEISS: And I guess the other alternative is the
18 question of us going and asking his computer in the TSC to
19 supply us with the information. That one becomes an even more
20 expensive one, because then we have to know how to talk to every-
21 one of these computers and that gets quite --

22 MR. MATTSON: I think for the same reasons we don't
23 want him controlling our access to this limited set of data, he
24 doesn't want us accessing his computer and running the risk of
25 fouling him up.

1 MR. FEIT: I'm Ron Feit, I work with Sam Bassett and
2 I also have the contract man here from Sandia, Glen Otey. I'd
3 like for Glen to talk a little about the interface. We wouldn't
4 want to leave any misapprehensions about the considerations
5 that we're giving to an interface.

6 MR. OTEY: I think there are two technical points that
7 I'd like to make. We looked at this a good bit and you've asked
8 questions concerning this box and this box, and let me just
9 make a couple of comments.

10 The independence comes by having your sensor inputs
11 come before the process computer. We know that there have been
12 difficulties with process computer overload in the past, and
13 it's almost inevitable if you have a large machine here and it
14 has multi-functions and a machine that's interactive, that
15 under the pressure of an unknown emergency of some sort which is
16 making new demands on this machine, and this machine is supporting
17 the people in the control room, that you don't know just how the
18 load is going to work here. So you don't want to run it through
19 the process computer for that very reason. You want the process
20 computer's first priority to support the people in the control
21 room, and you don't want to get mixed up in the priorities in
22 that, and it's very difficult to design the architecture of the
23 machine to avoid that.

24 So bringing it here to an independent data acquisition
25 system is a very good idea. What you'd like this data acquisition

1 system to do, and it's a small mini-computer or a large micro-
2 processor, but it sits here day after day and reads this data
3 out in a repeatable way and transmits it, so that when an
4 emergency occurs and you really need this data back at NRC
5 headquarters and these other points on the loop, there is no
6 change in operation. It's still sitting there reading the same
7 signals at the same rate and pumping out the same data. There's
8 no change in the reliability or the availability, and you're
9 putting no load on the user or no special burden on this computer.

10 Now, this thing is transmitting data over here to the
11 Tech Support Center which is close, and to the SPDS which is also
12 close, and for that you don't need any special provision. How
13 you go from here to here depends, to some extent, on the distance.
14 If it's at 10 miles you probably need one of these Modem's, a
15 modulator-demodulator, that translates the digital data from
16 here into an analog signal that you can send over the wire and
17 then you have the same thing here to decode it.

18 But the point I want to make about the NRC need -- this
19 is a one-to-one, this is a plant-specific sort of thing. The
20 point I want to make about the NRC is that now you're sitting
21 back here looking at a net of 100 or 150 or some large number of
22 these, and this is the machine that allows you to control here
23 at the Operations Center the protocol, the transmission of data
24 over that net. It's the thing that polls and says -- the
25 computer here says hey, are you ready to send me some data.

1 I'm ready to send it, and here's your data package. This is put
2 in a standard protocol. So your question might be, why can't you
3 just tell the utility the standard protocol and allow them to
4 make that interaction.

5 We've thought about their own experience and we've
6 talked a lot with other people, people from Bell Labs, the
7 AT&T system about that. We're absolutely convinced that if you
8 want to have a reliable system, that you need this NRC box. It's
9 a microprocessor, the whole thing including the storage and the
10 motor costs on the order of \$25,000. But without this, you're
11 not controlling your network; you're dependent on implementation
12 by 40-x utilities at 100 sites or so, and the standardization
13 becomes exceedingly difficult.

14 The interface between these two -- this is the utility,
15 the licensee, and this is the NRC -- is across a room. You
16 don't have to go through the procedures for long distance trans-
17 mission. The standards are easy to check here; the guys over
18 there, the institutional barriers, are minimized. So those are
19 the two points I wanted to make. I really strongly believe that
20 this needs to be an NRC machine, this needs to be a stand-alone
21 dedicated, non-interactive data acquisition system .

22 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Thank you.

23 MR. WEISS: The next slide. We're just presenting
24 these in terms of some idea of what the costs are from a
25 scoping standpoint, and again as I indicated, certainly we're

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going to give consideration to Sandia's proposal, but we are going to look at other proposals for other ways of possibly reducing the costs and still having an effective system. That gives you some idea of what we're talking about, and this is strung out a little bit from what we had talked about before, because we're now talking about not completing the system until FY84, which is more consonant with the rest of the emergency systems that are going to be put in. As Roger said, we certainly don't want the NDL to lead those other systems.

MR. MATTSON: If we could lead together systems and not detract from them, we'd probably do it.

MR. WEISS: Okay, next.

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Now, the fact that we don't say hey, wait a minute, you're not interpreting that as approval of that project.

MR. WEISS: No. As I indicated, this is just some idea of the inevitable cost, the question of how much does it cost. That's it.

And this really is to give you some idea of the kind of activities that are going to have to go on and how they're spaced out over the period of time.

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Where is the mockup being done?

MR. WEISS: I believe that will be done at Sandia.

MR. DIRCKS: No. I think that would depend, as we go out and develop specifications and go through a contractor

1 selection, it may be that the mockup would depend on which con-
2 tractor is picked.

3 MR. HANRAHAN: I think this chart suggests that you
4 want to look back at the ACRS letter again, which suggested that
5 an early implementation of a simple system be considered. We're
6 talking here of four years from now before it's completed. I
7 don't think I could argue with that schedule. In fact, schedules
8 like that tend to extend, if anything, as procurements and what
9 have you are involved. So we're talking about a Nuclear Data
10 Link, which everyone agrees in some form or other is useful,
11 that's still four years or better away.

12 MR. WEISS: With regard to the ACRS, where it says
13 lead plant installation, that's the prototype and that would be
14 considered for next year.

15 MR. MATTSON: One point of clarification. We feel
16 pretty strongly that it's not necessary to have prototypes to
17 prove the technology. We're not breaking any technology barriers
18 with this thing we're doing. This is pretty standard stuff.
19 The prototypes are more for institutional learning than for
20 technology learning.

21 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Why do you think you don't need
22 that?

23 MR. MATTSON: I didn't say we didn't. I wanted to make
24 sure we understood we were talking about the same thing.

25 MR. HANRAHAN: I would agree with you. That's

1 probably far more important than the technical.

2 MR. DIRCKS: But I think early FY81 is probably the
3 earliest realistically.

4 MR. MATTSON: So there may be some people with some
5 data systems in place in 1981 that would be natural people to
6 choose from.

7 MR. WEISS: This is just some idea of the kinds of
8 costs which would be involved, recurring costs which include
9 these line charges, Operations Center personnel, maintenance of
10 the system.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: In other words, that's --

12 MR. WEISS: That would be the ongoing costs.

13 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Yes, but these aren't really
14 recurring costs of an operating system because you don't have an
15 operating system until 1984.

16 MR. WEISS: Right. I think the figure for 1984 is
17 more representative of what it would be on a continuous basis.

18 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I'm a little uncertain as to what
19 relationship those costs have to the ones you just showed us two
20 slides ago.

21 MR. WEISS: Those were additional costs. We separated
22 them out. They're not part of the initial implementation;
23 they're part of the ongoing costs in running a system.

24 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: And then 1983 looks very high, based
25 upon your previous schedule.

1 MR. DIRCKS: I think these cost numbers are here just
2 for a frame of reference. They certainly don't represent any
3 hard data. That's why we're suggesting we put something down on
4 paper in terms of definite specifications.

5 MR. WEISS: Okay, the next slide. We're back to what
6 we're here for, which is the second part. The first part is
7 what we're really asking for is permission --

8 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: To develop the RFP.

9 MR. WEISS: To develop an RFP and to approve the
10 concept, that we're going to move ahead towards some implementation.

11 MR. DIRCKS: I think on that point what we're seeking
12 more is to allow us to develop these specifications and go talk
13 with the ACRS, that based on the general feeling of the concept
14 you'll get a better idea when you see how the thing might work.

15 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Okay. Would you plan to come back
16 to us before you put the RFP out?

17 MR. DIRCKS: Oh, yes.

18 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: The more I sit and listen and
19 the more I look into this document and between the conversations,
20 the more I'd like to see a clearer statement of who does what
21 where. It just strikes me as the fundamental starting point of
22 everything. As you said, you think you're clear on it but I'm
23 not sure there's agreement on your side of the table on it.

24 MR. MATTSON: There certainly is a diversity of view
25 out there in licenseeland as to exactly how prescriptive they'd

1 like us to be here. Some licensees want some people in one place
2 and others want people in another place and they ought to be
3 given a chance to state their views.

4 The trouble, if you get down to listing the job titles
5 of the people you want in each of these places, you've made a
6 mistake. We can certainly do better than we have in describing
7 the kinds of functions we see to be described, and we'll take a
8 shot at that. But you have to leave some flexibility because
9 management systems, management people, engineering staffs are
10 going to vary from utility to utility.

11 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: How would you feel about having
12 them try to develop the specifications?

13 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I'd like to see that other
14 part first and then I think everything flows from that. It
15 presumably will be done pretty soon.

16 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: I'd certainly approve in
17 principle the NDL concept. You've convinced me on this diagram
18 that it ought to go that way rather than some of the other ways
19 we've talked about. I'd like to see the draft report going out
20 for comment to loosen up some on that EOF distance question, and
21 in turn, what that means is you're going to have to look at those
22 sections in the draft, then, that talk about habitability and
23 shielding and so on, because obviously if you move it out a few
24 more miles I don't see much point in factors of 5 gamma dose
25 reduction inside and outside necessarily. I would think just

1 good standard commercial construction sort of thing would do.

2 So if you'll loosen up on that EOF distance language
3 and the associated provisions for shielding, habitability and so
4 on, I guess it could go out. I had hoped we would be able to
5 talk some, but the time runs flat out on us I'm afraid, about
6 the Safety Parameter Display System specification in here. And
7 I'll just make a short comment on it.

8 I noticed that it covers reactivity control which is
9 fine, except that if there is one thing that is tolerably well
10 instrumented on every control board I've ever been close to,
11 it's reactivity control. The rod position displays are among
12 the better things. You may not like exactly where they're
13 located but they sure as hell show where the rods are with
14 backup, because of the requirements on that system and the neutron
15 channels are reported there, and I would think if there was one
16 set of information that I would not feel a need to have an addi-
17 tional board over here for the operator to look at it would be
18 neutron level and rod position.

19 MR. MATTSON: Maybe you misunderstand it. There's not
20 to be a board for each of those. A board is too big.

21 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Yes, but we've talked about
22 gathering into one place and in a human engineered display, some
23 essential things for the safety state vector in the plant. I
24 would think that if you want to have something in there relating
25 to rods, you've got some kind of a display that indicates most of

1 the rods are either in or out, one thing for neutron level but
2 it's ranked here as one of five apparently co-equal sets of data
3 to be in the display, and I wonder if that's necessary. Then
4 we've got two items above radioactivity containment and contain-
5 ment integrity. Okay, but as I remember, the safety state vector
6 in its early development at least it was pointed for water
7 reactors and gathering into one place a tight and coherent
8 display for the operators of what is essential primary and
9 maybe a couple of secondary pressures and temperatures were and
10 water levels. So we had an idea whether he was adhering to the
11 great principle that we have finally derived -- keep water on the
12 core. And all the rest of this stuff is great, but the more it
13 spreads out and becomes all-inclusive of things that might be of
14 interest but are not primary to keeping water on the core, the
15 less interest it will have for operators down the line.

16 I would have liked to have had an extended discussion
17 back and forth and we could have argued these various points and
18 I could have understood better, but I give up on it at this
19 point.

20 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I suggest that you do that.

21 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Well, if we're going to publish
22 the report for comment, there's not going to be much time for
23 that. But I'm willing to go ahead because I think in this case,
24 as in every other, the best is the enemy of the good. And if we
25 perfect this damn draft forever we'll never get it out.

1 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: After having quoted that aphorism,
2 where do you stand on having them start trying to develop the
3 specifications?

4 COMMISSIONER HENDRIE: Go to it. We'll never get
5 further down the line until we try to grind the details and find
6 out what they mean and what all the little "uglies" are and get
7 comments on it and so on.

8 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: You prefer them to hold until you
9 get a chance to see --

10 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: I assume that Roger was talkin,
11 about a week or so.

12 MR. MATTSON: I'm not sure what you're suggesting. Do
13 you want us to bring something up for the full Commission and --

14 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Vic is pointing out that his problem
15 is that he doesn't think you've really spelled out clearly enough
16 in the document what the functions are of those three sites. And
17 I think you're pointing out that that's a necessary item before
18 you address -- having people turn on to write the specifications.
19 Is that correct?

20 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: That's how I feel.

21 MR. MATTSON: I don't understand why you're relating
22 the two at all.

23 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I differ only because we were
24 talking here about the Data Link development, which comes back
25 here.

1 MR. STELLO: We're only talking about the specifications
2 for our center, and we've discussed ad nauseum I think what we do
3 in there, so I hope that's pretty clear. That's all we're
4 talking about.

5 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: I would go ahead and let them start
6 on the specifications.

7 COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Let me raise one more question
8 for you, Roger, and perhaps you can have an answer when you
9 develop a more specific listing of who does what where.

10 Victor says that if we're going to move the Emergency
11 Operations Facility out to 10 miles he wants the Technical Support
12 Center moved out one mile. He even says that it ought to be in
13 the same building.

14 MR. STELLO: Maybe I ought to explain what was behind
15 my thoughts. They speak to part of the original concern that you
16 had of who's going to do what in the Center. I think I commented
17 earlier when we talked about this way back in the Task Action
18 Plan. Then you have the concern of how many people are going to
19 try to give directions and instructions and what have you to
20 the control room and operators.

21 My view is that when the principal managers come,
22 they're the people who should be developing the long-term
23 strategies for what direction the plant ought to go, in a general
24 way. The implementation of writing the procedures to do this is
25 the kind of activity that I have in mind for the Tech Support

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Center. That's where the plant people can gather and decide exactly how they're going to implement this philosophy now that was developed by this management team, the company, into specific procedures. That's the reason I felt that the manager team, the onsite team, and I'd like to remark that O'Reilly's last two experiences, and he was right in the equivalent of the Tech Support Center, but he had to get right there to quickly get briefed and understand where it was. So the need to be very close when you get there originally in the first few hours --

CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: And there is a Tech Support Center onsite.

MR. STELLO: Yes, there is. For a longer term, clearly if evacuation is a concern and the Center being 10 miles away --

COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: But that's the other center. We're talking about the Tech Support Center.

MR. STELLO: Right now that's all we have. We have a Tech Support Center equivalent someplace in the facility where they can meet, as a temporary basis. We have these things today.

COMMISSIONER GILINSKY: Was that the equivalent to Tent City or Trailer City, or is that what was going on --

MR. STELLO: In my view, that was the equivalent to a little room over in the turbine building that we finally got reserved where we could pull out all our people out of the control room, all of the utilities people that had to do with writing

1 the procedures and doing the things for operating the plant, in
2 a special room near the control room. That's my view of a Tech
3 Support Center.

4 MR. MATTSON: And that's what it says.

5 MR. STELLO: So I don't know how to help you to under-
6 stand how I see the different roles, but I think they are really
7 different. The understanding of the management team when it hits
8 there in deciding where this plant ought to go is the kind of
9 activity that I view that should occur from the EOF. I guess what
10 I'm telling you is that I also see the further away you get with
11 that, the more difficult that's going to be. So going too far
12 away --

13 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Well, the judgment ends up being
14 on what are the scenarios you're thinking they're established
15 for.

16 I think where we have ended up is that Roger, you are
17 to develop some clarifying words on that -- the role of those
18 three facilities before you go out. You said that you could add
19 some -- more like the words you were using earlier.

20 MR. MATTSON: We're going to do that, and we will put
21 those in what we send out.

22 CHAIRMAN AHEARNE: Right. You might talk to Mr.
23 Gilinsky on that, and try to get it out in a week or so. We've
24 agreed to go ahead -- for you to go ahead and develop the specifi-
25 cations for RFP type development.

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Fine, the meeting is adjourned.

(Thereupon, at 1:07 p.m., the meeting in the above-entitled matter was adjourned.)

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the

in the matter of: PUBLIC MEETING - REPORT ON NUCLEAR DATA LINK

Date of Proceeding: July 11, 1980

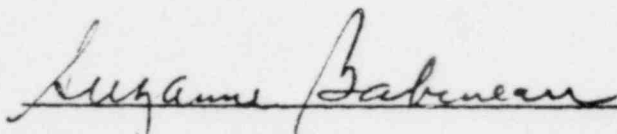
Docket Number: _____

Place of Proceeding: Washington, D.C.

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript thereof for the file of the Commission.

Suzanne Babineau

Official Reporter (Typed)



Official Reporter (Signature)