

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION 230 PEACHTREE STREET, N. W. SUITE 818 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

September 3, 1976

Dudley Thompson, Acting Director Division of Field Operations, IE:HQ

REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT NRC INCIDENT RESPONSE PROGRAM

In a memorandum dated August 10, 1976, to the Regional Directors, you requested that certain information be provided. We in Region II are assembling the requested information and material and it will be furnished. While I support the general premise that our incident response program should be carefully reviewed and upgraded as needed, it appears that this present effort is premature and maybe not necessary. It is apparently premature since no system is established to keep the contact lists updated nor to obtain changes to licensee procedures and plans. If details of this type are needed at the Headquarters level, having current information would seem to be necessary. It should be noted here that obtaining updated information will be costly in manpower. The most effective mechanism to keep updated would be to require

I question the necessity for this detail in information since it strongly implies that we envision managing the incident. We are not prepared in any way to manage incidents. I strongly doubt that we could prepare ourselves to manage large incidents. A significant manpower commitment would be needed. Further, a detailed knowledge of each facility much in excess of that we now have is required for effective incident management. We have no mechanism to obtain rapid information about the incident upon which to base operational decisions.

In summary, collection of the requested information is costing significant regional manpower. The payoff for this effort is very questionable. The first necessary ingredient would appear to be getting a management decision specifically defining our new role in incidents then determining what information, equipment, etc., is needed to do this job. Then a systematic approach could be begun to obtain and maintain the needed data.

IE: II: NCM

cc: Director IE:I, IE:III, IE:IV,