

# South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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August 27, 1980

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Emergency Preparedness Program Office  
Mail Stop Phillips 242  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Steve L. Ramos

Gentlemen:

The staff of the Bureau of Radiological Health has reviewed the Draft NUREG-0696.

The South Carolina Radiological Emergency Response Plan, an annex to the State Disaster Preparedness Plan, designates the Department of Health and Environmental Control as the agency responsible for assessing the severity and possible consequences of radioactive releases and advising other state and local authorities on protective actions. Within the Department, the Bureau of Radiological Health is responsible to perform these functions.

Since most of NUREG-0696 deals with plans and equipment the utility operator must provide within the plant, we are not directly concerned with that. The Nuclear Data Link, however, can provide information which is essential for us to perform our designated function. We feel that the data link should be established in such a way that state agencies can tie into it on a need-to-know basis. South Carolina has four reactors at two sites on-line now, another scheduled to begin operation next year, and several more in various stages of construction. We do not need to have teletypes dedicated to each reactor chattering away in our office. Upon notification, we do need to be able to activate a link to whichever reactor is experiencing an event in order to receive plant status information. Information to determine the potential for breaching the barriers to radioactivity release and to monitor the site meteorological data is essential.

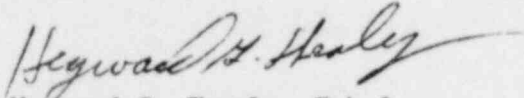
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August 27, 1980

I recommend that NUREG-0696 as it will be finally issued contain specific provisions to accommodate these concerns. If the NRC staff in Washington needs to know what is going on at the plant, those of us responsible for determining immediate response actions certainly need the same information.

Very truly yours,



Heyward G. Shealy, Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health

HGS:SLF:bo

cc: Mr. G. Wayne Kerr, Director  
Office of State Programs