

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY



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April 6, 1981

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop Air Mail - 5033  
Washington, D. C. 20550

ATTN: Steve Ramon

Dear Mr. Ramon:

Enclosed please find a copy of the article which appeared on page one, April 2, 1981 edition.

Also enclosed is the request for proposal that we sent out in January. We received ten proposals and have asked six firms to re-submit proposals to include communities in Massachusetts. We anticipate that the contractor will be selected and begin work around the first of May.

If I can be of any further assistance, please call me.

Sincerely,

*Michael M. Sawoj*  
Michael M. Sawoj  
Radiological Defense Officer

MM: EAS  
Enc.

8108070290 810601  
PDR FOIA  
MIGLIET81-155 PDR

# Foster's Daily

## The Democrat

### Seabrook: New Hampshire and Southern Maine

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, 1981

# study planned

## NRC to take look at evacuation time

By TERRY WILLIAMS  
Democrat Staff Writer

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct an independent evacuation time study this summer for the area around Seabrook Station as a comparison to two other studies completed last year.

It will be the first independent evacuation time study conducted by the NRC for a particular reactor plant, according to Richard VanNiel of the NRC's Emergency Preparedness Branch.

VanNiel said the study would be done "as a check" on the studies done by Alan M. Voorhes & Associates and HMM associates.

"The numbers may be different and the basis for analysis might be different," VanNiel said. "We want to run an independent review and compare the reports."

He explained that the study is being done to find information not included in the HMM or Voorhes reports and not because the NRC is dissatisfied with either of the two studies.

"I can't say whether we're satisfied or not," VanNiel said. "We haven't really examined the other two reports in depth. This study might turn an important area the other way around."

HMM Associates of Waltham, Mass., has completed an evacuation time study for Public Service Company of New Hampshire, principal owner of the unfinished nuclear power plant. HMM predicted that the 10-mile area around the plant could be evacuated in about six hours and five minutes in the event of an accident at Seabrook Station.

Alan M. Voorhes Associates of McLean, Va., conducted a study for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and said under ideal conditions the area could be cleared out in six hours and 10 minutes. But Voorhes did say that traffic problems could delay complete evacuation and that it might take as long as 10 hours.

Both studies have come under heavy criticism from area Civil Defense directors, who say large summer beach crowds, parties, automobile breakdowns and narrow roads could cause hangups in the evacuation process.

VanNiel said the NRC's study would be conducted this summer when beach

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Evacuation  
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### Evacuation

populations are at their peak.

The NRC official said FEMA has the responsibility of seeing that off-site evacuation plans are prepared, while the NRC is basically concerned with onsite precautions in case of an accident at a nuclear power plant.

He added that the NRC can review FEMA's findings because "we have the ultimate jurisdiction on the plant's licensing."

VanNiel said FEMA has conducted 12 evacuation time studies for nuclear power plants around the country. He said there are only a few consulting firms able to do the studies. Pacific Northwest Laboratories of Washington might do the NRC's evacuation time estimate, he said.

VanNiel said the three studies can be used by Public Service, the state Civil Defense Agency, and local Civil Defense directors in preparing evacuation plans.

The state Civil Defense Agency is deciding on a contracting firm to assist the 15 Seabrook communities that have to develop emergency evacuation plans. Public Service will contribute up to \$250,000 to the state to pay the consultants. The state Civil Defense Agency wants the plans completed by September.