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HUGH J. GALLEN  
GOVERNOR

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
DOCKETING & SERVICE  
BRANCH

Honorable Nunzio Palladino  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, W.  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I recently signed legislation that establishes a procedure for the initiation, formulation, and implementation of a nuclear planning and response program for nuclear generating facilities located in the State of New Hampshire. This statute gives the state Civil Defense Agency responsibility for developing radiological emergency response plans for Seabrook Station Unit 1, located in Seabrook, New Hampshire, currently under construction by Public Service Company of New Hampshire.

In accordance with this legislation, the New Hampshire Civil Defense Agency issued a request for proposals to develop such plans. A recommendation for a specific contractor will be presented, and must be approved, by the Governor and Executive Council prior to initial planning.

As we begin the task of designing radiological emergency response plans, I would be most grateful for your response to certain questions which have arisen regarding aspects of evacuation and shelter planning. I am aware of the studies performed regarding evacuation time estimates, and understand time estimates vary and are dependent upon such conditions as time of day, time of year, status of existing local emergency preparedness plans, and weather conditions.

Based upon your best information, what does the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the Federal Emergency Management Agency consider as the time needed to safely evacuate the resident and transient populations of the ten-mile radius of Seabrook Station Unit 1 during a so-called "summer Sunday" scenario? In addition, can the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the Federal Emergency Management Agency describe exactly what sheltering facilities should be available in a "summer Sunday" accident scenario, given the number of people on the beaches?

I have read Director Harold Denton's recent decision regarding the request of the Seacoast Anti-Pollution League, Docket Nos. 50-443 and 50-444 (10 C.F.R. 21206). In that decision, the director states, "The NRC recognizes it will be impossible to assure that everyone within the plume exposure Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) will actually be notified within 15 minutes. The requirement is to create a notification system that is capable of reaching

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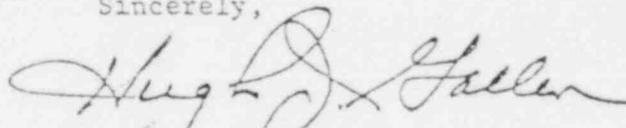
October 15, 1981

essentially 100% of the population, not a system that guarantees actual notification." Will the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the Federal Emergency Management Agency set standards outlining the minimum percentage of the population that must be notified in order to assure acceptance of the notification system?

Finally, Director Denton states in the same opinion, "This does not imply that in the case of the most serious low probability events that all serious health effects will be absolutely prevented. Indeed, for the very lowest likelihood events, some serious health effects could be expected at most operating reactor sites even with emergency preparedness programs which fully meet the regulations." Will the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the Federal Emergency Management Agency set standards that a plan must meet to insure minimum health effects in the case of an accident?

I have consistently supported the continued construction of Seabrook Station Unit 1. It is my desire to see Seabrook Station Unit 1 safely built, safely operated, and safely maintained. I ask for your careful consideration of this inquiry so that my support of the project is consistent with my concern for the health and welfare of the people of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,



Hugh J. Gallen

HJG:sd