

May 16, 1994

Linda Vasta, Chief
Regulatory Services Coordination Unit
Preparedness, Training, and Exercises
Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Ms. Vasta:

Enclosed please find the final minutes for the NRC/FEMA Steering Committee Meeting which was held at FEMA on May 5, 1994. Draft proposed minutes were reviewed and commented upon by your staff.

We appreciate the opportunity to meet and exchange information with our FEMA counterparts. We wholeheartedly support FEMA's suggestion to hold Steering Committee meetings on a quarterly basis, and we look forward to the next meeting which is scheduled for August 10, 1994, at One White Flint North in Rockville, Maryland.

If you have any questions or additional comments, please contact me at (301) 504-2910.

Sincerely,

Original signed by R. Emch

Richard L. Emch, Jr., Acting Chief
Emergency Preparedness Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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NRC/FEMA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The NRC/FEMA Steering Committee met at FEMA Headquarters on May 5, 1994, to discuss the items on the attached agenda. Attendees and highlights of the meeting were as follows:

NRC

R. Emch
F. Kantor
S. Boynton
D. Barss

FEMA

L. Vasta
M. Lawless
D. Kohl
N. Goldstein
R. Costello

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Potassium Iodide (KI) Policy

The status of the NRC review of the policy regarding the possible stockpiling of KI for use by the general public was discussed. The NRC stated that they had been informed that the Commission had voted not to change the policy, and that the staff was awaiting the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) from the Commission for possible further guidance. FEMA stated that most of the survey results had been received regarding the States' position on the Federal stockpiling of KI, and that FEMA would provide a report to the NRC. (The SRM, which was issued on May 6, 1994, contained no further guidance for the staff.)

2. Exercise Deficiencies

The status of the resolution of FEMA-identified exercise deficiencies was reviewed. FEMA noted that resolution of the Braidwood deficiency was to be demonstrated at a remedial drill scheduled for May 12, 1994, and that the Limerick deficiencies were being corrected by plan changes. It was also noted that the State of Vermont is still working on plan changes to correct a deficiency from the last Vermont Yankee exercise. The Pilgrim deficiency was corrected during the exercise week. FEMA stated that the progress toward resolving all of the outstanding deficiencies appears to be satisfactory.

3. Watts Bar Evacuation Time Estimates (ETEs)

FEMA reported that the ETEs for both Watts Bar and Sequoyah are being redone as the result of the comments by Tom Urbanik, the NRC's contractor for ETE reviews. A new ETE study for these two sites has been provided to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency. FEMA will request the assistance of the NRC contractor in reviewing the revised ETEs. FEMA also noted that the FEMA telephone survey to ascertain the acceptability of the Watts Bar siren system was being done as scheduled by FEMA staff and contractors.

4. Allegations Process

The NRC discussed the NRC process for handling allegations, including the need for confidentiality, and provided FEMA with a copy of NRC Manual Chapter 0517, "Management of Allegations." FEMA assists the NRC when the allegations involve offsite EP matters. The status of NRC requests for FEMA assistance regarding allegations at Pilgrim were discussed. These allegations involve the testing of the Massachusetts emergency broadcast system (EBS), the purported leak of the exercise scenario for the December 7, 1993, exercise, and the participation of Plymouth police and fire personnel in emergency planning for Pilgrim. FEMA committed to provide information on these issues following additional discussion with their Region I staff.

5. Precautionary Evacuation of School Children

FEMA discussed the issue in California concerning the necessity for alerting the public by sounding the sirens prior to the issuance of an EBS message announcing the precautionary evacuation of school children. California would prefer not to use the sirens in this situation while FEMA believes that sounding the sirens is appropriate to ensure that the public tunes in to the EBS message. FEMA is reviewing a letter from California on the issue.

6. Proposed EP Rulemaking to Eliminate Off-Year Exercise

NRC reported that the proposed rulemaking to eliminate the annual, off-year exercise is going to the CRGR for review. The proposed rule eliminates the off-year exercise but requires that licensees maintain an adequate emergency response capability in the interval between biennial exercises by conducting drills including at least one involving major portions of the licensee's response organization.

7. EP Under 10 CFR Part 52

The NRC has recently received Commission approval to issue for public comment a draft Commission paper which discusses the staff's views on how EP will be addressed at each phase of plant licensing under 10 CFR Part 52: early site permit (ESP), standard design certification, and combined licenses. The NRC is in the process of issuing a Federal Register notice on the availability of the draft paper. An advance copy was provided to FEMA. The NRC stated that the draft Commission paper would be formally transmitted to FEMA with a request that a joint NRC-FEMA working group be formed, similar to the working group on EP for ESPs, to develop guidance on inspection, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) for EP for combined licenses.

8. Industry Standards for EP

The NRC reported on a series of standards for EP based on the experience of nuclear power plant licensees, in particular, on a standard for medical care for onsite personnel who are contaminated or overexposed to radiation. The

standard addresses the transportation of patients, training, and offsite hospital care. A working group is now being developed to update this standard and, because of the overlap with FEMA's guidance on medical services (GM MS-1), it was felt that FEMA might want to take part in the working group. FEMA expressed interest and the NRC provided a point of contact for the working group.

9. FEMA Updated Publications

FEMA noted that a revision to Guidance Memorandum MS-1 on medical services has been sent out to the FEMA Regions for comment. FEMA-REP-11 on emergency information including EBS and a revision to GM IN-1 on the ingestion exposure pathway has also been sent to the FEMA Regions for comment. In addition, FEMA noted that other planning guidance documents are being developed.

10. Three Mile Island Issues

The NRC reported on the followup correspondence and actions which have occurred since the issuance of the Director's Decision on the 2.206 petition alleging deficiencies in offsite EP at TMI, including the request to extend the EPZ to include the City of Harrisburg.

11. NRC Participation in FEMA Training Courses at Emmitsburg

The NRC indicated that they had received mixed signals concerning the availability of training courses in FEMA's Emergency Management Institute at Emmitsburg, MD. FEMA recommended that the NRC contact Bob Gantt, Chief of the Preparedness Branch in the Training Division directly (301-447-1121) to resolve any problems involving NRC training at Emmitsburg.

12. Site Specific Issues

The only site specific issue discussed was the current shutdown status of Indian Point 3. In accordance with the restart action plan, the NRC indicated that they would be checking with FEMA to determine if there were any offsite issues of concern. Restart of Indian Point 3 is not expected until Fall 1994.

13. Schedule for Next Steering Committee Meeting

It was decided that it would be appropriate to hold the NRC-FEMA Steering Committee meetings on a quarterly basis. The next meeting was scheduled for August 10, 1994, at 10:00 am at One White Flint North in Rockville, MD.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEMA-NRC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1994
FEMA HEADQUARTERS

- KI Policy
- Exercise Deficiencies - Limerick & Braidwood
- Watts Bar Licensing - Resolution of ETE Comments
- Allegations Processing
- Siren Activation for Precautionary Evacuation
- Proposed EP Rulemaking - Proposal to Eliminate Off-Year Exercise
- Proposed Supplement 3 to NUREG-0654 on PARS for Severe Accidents
- EP Under 10 CFR Part 52
 - EP for Early Site Permits, Proposed Supplement 2 to NUREG-0654
 - Development of ITAAC for Combined Licenses
- Industry Standard on Medical Support for Onsite Emergency
- TMI Issues
- Availability of Emmitsburg Training for NRC