



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

**JUL 30 1984**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward L. Jordan  
Director, Division of Emergency Preparedness  
and Engineering Response  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

FROM: *Richard W. Krimm*  
Richard W. Krimm  
Assistant Associate Director  
Office of Natural and Technological Hazards  
Programs

SUBJECT: Exercise Report for the April 11, 1984, Exercise of  
the Offsite Radiological Emergency Preparedness  
Plans for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station

Attached are two copies of the Exercise Report for the April 11, 1984, full participation joint exercise of the offsite radiological emergency preparedness plans for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station. The State of Mississippi and Claiborne County, and the State of Louisiana and Tensas Parish, which have jurisdictional authority in the 10-mile plume emergency planning zone, participated in the exercise. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IV exercise report, dated April 24, 1984, was submitted on May 15, 1984, and includes the comments resulting from the the FEMA Regional staff and Regional Assistance Committee review. The FEMA Region VI exercise report covering the State of Louisiana and Tensas Parish is currently in preparation. The completed report will be forwarded to you in approximately thirty days. Preliminary staff reviews do not indicate deficiencies significant to the protection of public health and safety.

The attached report identifies certain problems in the State of Mississippi which required immediate remedial action and were of significant concern in regard to the protection of the health and safety of the public in the event of an accident at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station. The primary deficiency was the uncoordinated approach to the issuance of information to the public. The use of separate media facilities by the State and the utility permitted neither the coordination nor the timely issuance of public information. This deficiency has been noted in both previous exercises at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station. It can only be resolved through improved cooperation and coordination between representatives of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Mississippi Power and Light Company (MP&L). Plan amendments in the area of public information, as well as a remedial exercise to demonstrate that this deficiency has been adequately addressed will be required by FEMA.

The State of Mississippi, MP&L, and FEMA Region IV, in an effort to expedite resolution of this deficiency, have taken a number of actions. FEMA Region IV hosted a meeting on May 31, 1984, which included representatives from MEMA, Port Gibson/Claiborne County Civil Defense (PG/CCCD), and the MP&L. MEMA agreed to accept a leadership role in resolving the public information problem.

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The parties agreed to participate in regularly scheduled meetings between government officials and MP&L until a solution, agreeable to all parties, has been developed. These meetings are being held monthly and are attended by representatives of MEMA, PG/CCCD, MP&L, the State of Louisiana, and Tensas Parish. Additional ad hoc meetings are being held to discuss issues in greater detail. In an interim agreement, MEMA and MP&L have agreed to participate jointly in the Emergency News Center (ENC) at the Chamberlain-Hunt Academy, and have set an October 31, 1984, milestone for documented progress towards an acceptable solution to the ENC's permanent location.

State officials and MP&L have satisfactorily addressed issues such as access, communications equipment, work-room areas, press conference procedures and a back-up facility in the interim agreement and subsequent actions. Plans for rectifying the remaining outstanding concern, the provision of teleconferencing capabilities, are underway. Further discussions have been held on the flow of public information and review of press statements. All of these developments lay the groundwork for the formal revision of public information plans and procedures, and testing through subsequent exercises. Region IV staff will continue to assist the State as necessary to assure that the problems are corrected. The State has assured all parties that during the interim period it will respond to any actual event at Grand Gulf using the existing facilities and resources.

An area of concern to offsite safety was the fact that the State Emergency Operations Center did not receive information that a radioactive release had occurred on a timely basis. Such a situation makes accident assessment difficult and limits the States ability to provide timely notification to the public of significant events. This problem area was also noted in the joint exercise conducted for this facility on November 4-5, 1981.

We understand that the NRC identified this problem in their assessment of the on-site portion of this exercise and appropriate corrective actions are being taken. Based upon recent conversations between our staffs, it is my understanding that a drill will be conducted during mid-August that will test the ability of the Technical Support Center/Emergency Operations Facility to make timely decisions and to transmit this information to offsite officials at the State EOC. As noted above, MEMA and MP&L officials have volunteered to conduct a remedial exercise in February 1985.

All deficiencies noted in the exercise report can be corrected through increased coordination and cooperation, training, and procurement of resources and equipment. Progress in correcting the public information deficiency has been made. A formal schedule of corrective actions will be requested from the State by September 15, 1984. The current status and the course of action established at the May 31, 1984, meeting is satisfactory to FEMA for continued approval under 44 CFR 350 provided the involved parties follow through on scheduled corrective actions and exercises.

As soon as we receive and analyze the formal schedule of corrective actions, we will provide you with the results. Subsequent to the planned February exercise, we will provide you a report on its results and a status of offsite preparedness.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Robert S. Wilkerson, Chief, Technological Hazards Division, at 287-0200.

Attachments  
As Stated



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Region IV 1375 Peachtree Street, NE Atlanta, Georgia 30309

May 15, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF NATURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS SL-NT

ATTENTION: Marlon Stangler - Project Officer

FROM: Major P. May, *Phillip May*  
Regional Director

SUBJECT: Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station, Mississippi  
Exercise Report

Enclosed are two copies of the Exercise Report for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station Exercise conducted on April 11, 1984.

The report was distributed to the Regional Assistance Committee and the exercise evaluators for their review and comment.

Please notify us when the report is transmitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission so that a copy can be formally transmitted to the State of Mississippi.

The demonstration at this exercise has left evaluators with serious concerns regarding off-site preparedness for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Station. Two areas require substantial improvement. One of these involves the delay in the report of necessary technical information from the utility to the State, making accident assessment difficult and the timely notification of the public of significant events impossible. Of particular concern is that information that a radioactive release had occurred did not reach the State Emergency Operations Center for an hour and fifty-one minutes.

The other area of concern is the uncoordinated approach to public information, which hampered the accurate and timely flow of information to the public. This problem has been noted in both previous exercises. The separation of facilities operated by the State and utility has neither permitted coordinated nor timely public information.

Both of these problems seem to reflect a general lack of coordination and cooperation between the State of Mississippi and the Mississippi Power and Light Company. Despite a reduction in specific NUREG 0654 deficiencies that surfaced in this exercise, the problems that did emerge were sufficiently significant as to require immediate remedial action. We recommend plan amendments in the area of public information, as well as a remedial exercise to demonstrate that these deficiencies have been adequately addressed. Regional staff will assist the State in assuring that the problems are corrected.

Enclosures