

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Edward L. Jordan

Director

Division of Emergency Preparedness

and Engineering Response

Office of Inspection and Enforcement U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

FROM:

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Assistant Associate Director

Office of Natural and Technological

Hazards Programs

SUBJECT:

Update on the Offsite Radiological Emergency Preparedness

at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the offsite radiological emergency preparedness of the State of Delaware for responding to an accident at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station. As a result of the October 26, 1983, joint radiological emergency preparedness exercise, and as mentioned and in my August 30, 1984, memorandum, two Category B deficiencies were cited for the State of Delaware related to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC). These deficiencies, originally scheduled for correction by the end of September 1984, remain uncorrected.

The deficiencies concern: 1) inoperability of the air filtering system necessary to permit continuous operation of the State EOC during plume exposure. The State's reported intention to repair this system must be carried out to assure capability for continuous operation of the facility; and 2) lack of adequate showering or decontamination facilities and limited sleeping space in the State EOC. Existing plans to add new sleeping space and showers should be completed to enhance the EOC's capability for continuous operations.

On August 17, 1984, at a meeting in the FEMA Region III Office, the State of Delaware through its representative, clearly stated that the State would not relocate the EOC outside the 10-mile emergency planning zone, and that the Accident Assessment Advisory Group members may not show up in the event of an accident unless the air filtration system is repaired. A suggestion of relocation of the EOC as a solution to this problem was rejected by the State since the communications equipment and other needed essential equipment for responding to disasters are located in this facility.

In consideration of the fact that these problems remain unresolved, the State of Delaware's ability to adequately protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the Salem Generating Station is questionable.

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It is my understanding that both the NRC Headquarters and NRC and FEMA Regional Offices have been working with the State in an attempt to resolve this issue. If this is the case, the roles and responsibilities of our two agencies must be clearly delineated before the deficiencies at Salem can be resolved.

It is in our best interest to try to resolve this situation prior to the exercise scheduled for next October. Therefore, I am adding this issue as a topic of discussion for the next NRC/FEMA Steering Committee meeting in anticipation of reaching a solution or an alternative as quickly as possible. It may be necessary to require a follow up meeting of all parties involved to resolve this issue.

Issues involved with New Jersey offsite preparedness are treated fully in the interim finding which will be forwarded to you. That finding also transmits the FEMA Region II report on the October 23, 1984, exercise at Salem.