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**POLICY ISSUE**  
(Information)

December 28, 1992

SECY-92-431

For: The Commissioners

From: James M. Taylor  
Executive Director for Operations

Subject: TRANSFER OF OFFSITE EMERGENCY PLANNING RESPONSIBILITIES AT SEABROOK

Purpose: To inform the Commission of the transfer of emergency planning responsibilities for Massachusetts communities in the Seabrook emergency planning zone (EPZ) from the Seabrook licensee to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Summary: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is scheduled to assume emergency planning responsibilities for Massachusetts communities in the Seabrook EPZ on December 30, 1992. This will culminate more than a year of planning by the North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation (NAESCO, the licensee), the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts submitted the latest revision of its emergency plan to FEMA on November 19, 1992. This revision addresses FEMA technical assistance comments and items identified

CONTACT:  
Frank J. Congel, NRR  
504-1088

SECY NOTE. TO BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE IN 10 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS PAPER BUT NOT PRIOR TO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY MASSACHUSETTS.

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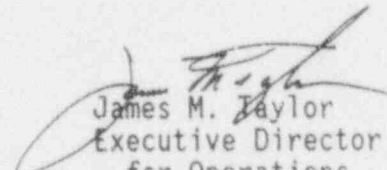
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during the June 1992 full participation exercise of the Massachusetts plans. FEMA completed its review of the Massachusetts plans and informed the NRC on December 15, 1992 that it had determined that the Massachusetts plans and preparedness "are adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public living in the Massachusetts portion of the Seabrook EPZ in the event of a radiological emergency at the site." The Massachusetts plans for Seabrook will become effective when the Commonwealth of Massachusetts officially assumes full responsibility for offsite emergency planning and preparedness for Seabrook. As indicated above, that is scheduled to take place on December 30, 1992.

Members of the NRC staff attended a meeting on November 30, 1992, at which MEMA and the licensee indicated that all facilities and equipment required to support the implementation of the Massachusetts emergency plans are in place and adequate staffing and equipment are available. Pole-mounted sirens have been installed in five of the six Massachusetts communities, replacing the licensee's vehicular alert and notification system. In the sixth community, West Newbury, two truck-mounted sirens are now in place at fixed sites to provide coverage until the permitting process is completed to allow pole-mounted sirens to be installed.

The Commonwealth plans to make a public announcement concerning the transfer of emergency planning responsibilities for the Massachusetts communities. The licensee has developed a comprehensive schedule for the physical turnover of certain facilities and equipment to the Commonwealth on December 30, 1992. FEMA indicated that it plans to observe the turnover activities. Following the transfer of emergency planning responsibilities, the licensee will inform the NRC under 10 CFR 50.54(q) of the changes in the emergency plans for Seabrook. The NRC, on November 25, 1992, requested the assistance of FEMA in ensuring that the transfer of emergency planning responsibilities at Seabrook does not result in any decrease in the effectiveness of the emergency plans.

  
James M. Taylor  
Executive Director  
for Operations

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