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Mr. H. W. Gaut, Coordinator
Field Cadre Operations
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Office of State Programs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Mr. Gaut:

This is in response to your September 7, 1978, memorandum requesting comments on the proposed change to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations (10 CFR Part 50) Appendix E - Emergency Plans for Production and Utilization Facilities.

This review is particularly timely in view of the draft General Accounting Office proposed report on "Emergency Preparedness: Around Nuclear Facilities Needs Improvement" which would also propose the extending of offsite emergency planning to a greater radius than Appendix E now defines as the low population zone. We have no restrictions or requirements on how far out from Department of Energy nuclear facility sites the site management should plan for the evacuation of local populations in adjacent areas. However, the proposed change in 10 CFR Part 50 requirements appears to be reasonable and is consistent with the concept we subscribe to which is to plan for evacuation on the basis of the estimated potential release of hazardous material from such accidents as have a probability of occurrence at specific facilities and sites or from specific operations.

Sincerely,

F. Raymond Zintz, Member
Headquarters Advisory Committee
Radiological Emergency Response
Planning
Division of Operational and
Environmental Safety

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