

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

December 24, 1986

The Honorable Warren B. Rudman United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Rudman:

I am responding to your letter of December 2, 1986 signed by you and other members of the New Hampshire Delegation concerning emergency planning at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant.

I am enclosing a staff summary on the issues on emergency preparedness which were raised by the Congressional delegations of New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

The resolution of offsite emergency planning issues has been raised in the Seabrook licensing proceeding and may come before the Commission as part of the adjudicatory process. Accordingly, I regret that no more specific response to this issue can be provided at this time. The Commission's licensing decisions for nuclear reactors are made in on-the-record adjudications with due respect paid to the rights of all the parties to the proceeding. If this issue should come before the Commission, the Commission will carefully consider all the arguments of the parties before issuing a decision. It is essential to the integrity of the process that the Commission not comment on such matters without first hearing from the parties and issue its decision on the adjudicatory record.

I appreciate receiving your views and assure you that consideration of the matters you identified will conform with the Commission's understanding of the requirements imposed on the NRC through the Atomic Energy Act and other applicable federal laws.

Sincerely,

Lando W. Jech, Jr.

Enclosure: As Stated