



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

Taylor

Ltr only: Stello

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OCT 23 1986

Mr. Victor Stello, Jr.  
Executive Director for Operations  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Stello:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has completed an analysis of the prompt alert and notification system for the Oconee Nuclear Station in Seneca, South Carolina. This review has been completed pursuant to FEMA Rule 44 CFR 350; selected evaluative criteria and Appendix 3 in NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1; and FEMA-43, the "Standard Guide for the Evaluation of Alert and Notification Systems for Nuclear Power Plants" (now published as FEMA-REP-10). The enclosed report entitled "Oconee Nuclear Station Site-Specific Offsite Radiological Emergency Preparedness Alert and Notification System Quality Assurance Verification" summarizes the engineering design review, incorporates the results of the telephone survey of the public conducted immediately following activation of the alert and notification system on July 30, 1985, and confirms the adequacy of the applicable evaluative criteria from NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1, and FEMA-43.

Based on the engineering design review and the results of the telephone survey, FEMA has determined that the alert and notification system installed around the Oconee Nuclear Station satisfies the requirements of NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1, and FEMA-43. Therefore, there is reasonable assurance that the system is adequate to promptly alert and notify the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the site. The caveat on the alert and notification system contained in the 44 CFR 350 approval dated February 23, 1983, is now removed. The Honorable Richard W. Riley, Governor of South Carolina, has been advised of this approval.

Notwithstanding this approval, FEMA recommends that the Duke Power Company, the State of South Carolina, and the local jurisdictions increase the frequency of either the full-cycle tests or growl tests of the alert and notification system. Since the biweekly silent tests conducted on the system only confirm proper radio signal transmission and do not test whether each siren actually received the transmission and is operating properly, FEMA believes that additional full-cycle or growl tests, possibly conducted monthly, would provide an added degree of assurance of the continued readiness and operability of the alert and notification system.

Sincerely,

*Dave McLoughlin*

Dave McLoughlin  
Deputy Associate Director  
State and Local Programs  
and Support

Enclosure

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