



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

March 24, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dennis H. Kwiatkowski
Assistant Associate Director
Office of Natural and Technological Hazards
Federal Emergency Management Agency

FROM: Frank J. Congel, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
and Emergency Preparedness
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: FEMA SUPPORT FOR LICENSING OF COMANCHE PEAK

Reference: Letter dated July 15, 1985, S. W. Speck to W. J. Dircks
concerning FEMA's 44 CFR 350 Finding on Comanche Peak

In the referenced letter, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided to the NRC its 44 CFR 350 findings and determinations on the adequacy of the State of Texas and local plans and preparedness for the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station (CPSES). FEMA's findings and determinations were based on its evaluation of the full-participation exercise held on December 14, 1983, as well as a review of the 1982 edition (including revisions through 1984) of the State of Texas and local plans.

As you know, Federal regulations require a full-participation exercise to be conducted within two years before the issuance of the first operating license for full power at a site and shall include participation by each State and local government within the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ) and each State within the ingestion exposure pathway EPZ. Due to the lapse of time since the December 1983 exercise, CPSES must conduct another full-participation exercise prior to the issuance of a full power license. A full-participation exercise is currently scheduled for the week of July 24, 1989. Pending the applicant's confirmation of the Unit 1 fuel load date, the NRC staff has scheduled issuance of a low power testing license (up to 5% of rated power) for October 1989. A full power license is anticipated to be issued shortly thereafter.

Accordingly, under the provisions of the April 9, 1985 NRC/FEMA Memorandum of Understanding, we request that FEMA provide its evaluation of the upcoming 1989 full-participation exercise in support of the licensing schedule for CPSES. In addition, we request that FEMA confirm that any revisions to the State and local plans since 1984 have not degraded the effectiveness of those plans. Further, because of the Commission's response to the Court decision regarding

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the medical services issue and the subsequent development of Guidance Memorandum MS-1 which occurred after FEMA's earlier finding on Comanche Peak, we request confirmation that the emergency plans of the involved emergency response jurisdictions meet current regulatory requirements and guidance.

Please contact Dr. William Travers of my staff if you have any questions or anticipate any difficulty in meeting the licensing schedule for Comanche Peak.

Original signed by

Frank J. Congel, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
and Emergency Preparedness
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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