



FEMA

June 1, 2022

Mr. Jessie F. Quichocho, Chief
Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of the Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Ref: REQUEST FOR FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
 CONSULTATION ON THE XCEL ENERGY PROPOSAL TO CONSOLIDATE
 THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS FACILITY

Dear Mr. Quichocho:

On February 2, 2022, the FEMA Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program received a request for assistance from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding Xcel Energy's request to relocate emergency operation facilities (EOF) for Monticello and Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plants a consolidated EOF centrally located in the Xcel Energy headquarters in Minneapolis at 414 Nicollet Mall. This location is currently the site of the common back-up EOF for the two sites and is approximately 55 miles from Prairie Island and approximately 45 miles from Monticello. The request for assistance specifically asked FEMA to review and provide initial concurrence that the proposed Xcel Energy EOF relocation does not have any unintended negative impact on office radiological emergency preparedness plans.

Assessment

In the license amendment request from Xcel Energy dated November 15, 2021, the utility included correspondence from the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin concurring with the proposed EOF relocation. As the current back-up location, the proposed location includes the facilities necessary to perform the EOF functions.

Through concurrence signed by Radiological Preparedness Administrator Patrick McLaughlin, State of Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Emergency Management, dated September 2, 2021, and Paul Gazdik of the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, Division of Emergency Management, dated September 2, 2021, it was acknowledged that any impacts of the proposed relocation had been reviewed against the respective state Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REPP) plans.

FEMA Region 5 personnel visited the proposed facility to review its capabilities. FEMA concurs that, with the retention of near-site facilities for NRC and Federal responders in proximity to each plant as stated in the utility's application, the location of the site beyond 25 miles from each plant does not adversely affect its ability to provide the needed functions. Based upon offsite response organization concurrence from the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and review of the memorandum of understanding between FEMA and the NRC, FEMA concurs that the proposed Xcel Energy EOF relocation does not have an unintended negative impact on offsite radiological emergency preparedness plans. FEMA will monitor the drill at the facility scheduled for August of 2022 and will notify you if the results impact this determination in any way.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 202-657-2301 or Craig Fiore at 202-280-9303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TK Warnock', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Thomas K. Warnock
Chief
Radiological Emergency Preparedness Branch

Cc: Sean O'Leary, FEMA Region 5
Craig Fiore, FEMA HQ
David Jeremy, FEMA HQ