

17th Annual Regulatory Information Conference
Session B4
State Interface in Emergency Preparedness

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2005 Hurricane Season Regulatory Response and Coordination of Restart

Hurricane Francis

- 72 hour Storm preps start August 31
- Hurricane Watch 11pm on Sept. 1
- Hurricane Warning 11am on Sept. 2 (NOUE declared)
- Commenced St. Lucie Nuclear Plants down power on Sept. 3
 - Note: FPL Nuclear units must be shutdown two hours prior to the onset of hurricane force winds.
- Unit 2 offline 0252 Sept. 4 (manual trip)
- Unit 1 offline 1054 Sept. 4 (manual trip)
- Onset of hurricane force winds late afternoon Sept. 4

Hurricane Francis

- Access to the Island limited
 - Access to site north closed due to bridge being out (public evacuation possible due to location of washout.).
 - Access to the south open.
- Initially lost 11 of 89 sirens, promptly returned to service
- Degraded site access and local phone system required round the clock ERO on site for TSC/OSC.

Hurricane Francis

- Following storm FEMA/NRC initiate post disaster review Sunday evening.
 - FEMA/NRC rode out the storm in EOF
 - Interviews with offsite response organizations set up for Monday Sept. 6
- FEMA/NRC Review Team
 - drive evacuation routes
 - inspect local damage to infrastructure
 - Interview Martin, St. Lucie, Palm Beach, Indian River, and Brevard Counties, State Division of Emergency Management, State Department of Health Bureau of Radiation Control

Hurricane Francis

- FEMA completes review morning of Sept.7 and advises NRC of reasonable assurance that afternoon.
- Utility/NRC conference call on restart late Sept. 7, NRC places no hold on restart
- Units 1 and 2 returned to service 9/14/04 and 9/18/04, respectively.

Frances impacts Crystal River

- Sept. 6 – Progress Energy shuts down due to loss of off-site power
- The review process began on Sept. 8 utilizing FEMA and NRC staff already in St. Lucie
- A conference call was performed early on the 8th, followed later in the day by an on-site review.
- Permission was granted late in the day on the 8th to re-start.

Hurricane Jeanne

- Last Hurricane Winds past morning of Sept. 26
 - 9 hrs of hurricane force winds
 - 3 hrs of eye wall
- Hurricane Jeanne faster moving system
- Less damage to mainland, more damage to island

Hurricane Jeanne

- Access to the island was available from both directions.
 - The southern bridges were alternated in the beginning due to Jensen Beach Causeway work.
- Initially lost 13 of 89 sirens but were promptly returned to service.

Hurricane Jeanne

- The FEMA/NRC review followed the same process
 - FEMA/NRC rode out the storm in EOF
 - Interviews with offsite response organizations set up for Monday Sept. 27
- FEMA/NRC Review Team
 - drive evacuation routes
 - inspect local damage to infrastructure
 - Interview Martin, St. Lucie, Palm Beach, Indian River, and Brevard Counties, State Division of Emergency Management, State Department of Health Bureau of Radiation Control

Hurricane Jeanne

- FEMA completes review Sept.28
- NRC advised of reasonable assurance morning of Sept. 29.
- Utility/NRC conference call on restart the morning of Sept. 29
 - NRC places no hold on startup
- Units 1 and 2 returned to service on 10/3/04 and 10/4/04, respectively.

Lessons Learned

- Strength of risk counties
 - Nuclear planning invaluable benefit to community in terms of preparedness
 - Better prepared for all hazards
- Experienced Post Disaster Review Team
 - Experienced FEMA and NRC review team minimized burden on community while getting to the “bottom line”
- Positive State/Local/Utility/Regulatory relationship
 - Not first time the parties had worked together
 - Familiar with all parties and their programs

Benefits of the process

- Process remained flexible, allowing the agencies involved to develop viable solutions to challenges
- Process allowed the State and local authorities to focus on the event (Hurricane Response), not the utility
- The process was a success; we must not change a system that worked during one of the most challenging series of responses this Nation has faced