

September 4, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: R. William Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING WITH FEMA AND STATE/LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES ON OFFSITE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ISSUES, 1:30 P.M., TUESDAY, August 12, 2008, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission met with R. David Paulison, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Dennis Schrader, Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, FEMA, and James Kish, Director, Technological Hazards Division, National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA to discuss offsite emergency preparedness issues. The NRC staff and several representatives of State and local emergency management agencies also participated: Tina Curry (California), Mike Rose (California), Joe Klinger (Illinois), Nancy Dragani (Ohio), and Larry Greene (Ohio). The discussion focused on the collaboration of Federal, State, and Local emergency management organizations to develop and exercise integrated radiological emergency response (REP) capabilities.

The Commission commends the progress that has been made in REP programs at all levels of government and the productive relationships in place between the NRC, FEMA and State and local officials to strengthen emergency preparedness. Significant enhancements have occurred in areas such as development of more challenging and less predictable exercise scenarios, interoperability of communications, and effective stakeholder participation and communication with the public.

Staff should continue its implementation of lessons learned from the ongoing Hostile Action-Based (HAB) EP drills and other initiatives to enhance offsite REP programs for the long term. The staff should be sensitive to the unique capabilities and organizational structures of various State and local jurisdictions, the need to incorporate other Federal agencies, e.g. FBI, into the NRC/FEMA partnership on REP program planning, exercising, and eliminating overlapping Federal requirements as much as possible through coordinated rulemaking and consolidated guidance for local responders.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
Commissioner Svinicki
OGC
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR