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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE NEWS

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE 15

Southern Exposure 2015 (SE-15) is a full-Federal "Whole Community" exercise being coordinated with the biennial graded exercise at Duke Energy's H. B. Robinson nuclear plant in Hartsville, South Carolina. The exercise will be conducted on July 21 - 23, 2015. The exercise is being planned and will be executed in close coordination with Federal agencies, the State of South Carolina, local response organizations, and the H. B. Robinson facility. The Exercise Planning Team (EPT) consists of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, State of South Carolina Emergency Management Division, Duke Energy, Federal Emergency Management Agency's Technical Hazards Division, and the Department Of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

Tabletop Exercise

NRC staff and management from both Headquarters and the Region II office attended a very successful tabletop exercise hosted by Duke Energy as part of the preparations for the SE-15 full-scale exercise in July. The one-day exercise, held in Florence, SC, provided a great opportunity to walk through an integrated response to a nuclear power plant accident. In fact, more than 100 participants from the private sector; nongovernmental organizations; and local, State, and Federal organizations participated. The exercise included a discussion of actions that agencies would take during the Plume Exposure Pathway Phase as well as the Ingestion Exposure Pathway Phase of a response. The information gained from this exercise will help to refine policies and procedures prior to the exercise in July.

"We enjoyed the opportunity to meet face-to-face with a variety of emergency response officials and discuss how we would come together as a team in the event of an incident," said John Aucott, an attendee from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, D.C. "We're also grateful for Duke Energy's hospitality and for providing such a great venue."

Master Scenario Events List Writing Meeting

One of the most time consuming parts of the exercise design and development process is writing the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL). The MSEL is a chronological listing of expected events, actions, and reactions by those playing in the exercise. It is more than just a "script," as the elements of the MSEL help drive the exercise and provides the construct to address exercise objectives.

Exercise planners reached a major milestone by recently conducting the MSEL Writing Meeting for SE-15. During this two-day meeting that was facilitated by the DOE in Florence, SC, "trusted agents" worked hard to take the general exercise scenario and turn it into a detailed scenario timeline. Trusted agents are designated exercise planners that are entrusted to not reveal scenario details to actual exercise players and are crucial to maintaining the integrity of the exercise during the design phase.

Next steps in the MSEL design process include: 1) the construction of additional MSEL items needed to support objectives; and 2) the MSEL Synchronization meeting. One of the purposes of the Synchronization Meeting is to ensure that injects will be released to players or inserted into the exercise at specified and synchronized times and do not conflict with another MSEL. Participants will also have the opportunity to verify that injects will allow exercise participants to achieve their objectives.

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The Preparedness Tool Kit

FEMA's National Exercise Division has provided SE-15 exercise planners with access to the Preparedness Toolkit. The Toolkit provides a web-based platform for sharing exercise planning information. Each SE-15 working group has a "folder" on the toolkit. Exercise planners can maintain visibility on a variety of exercise planning activities by reviewing information stored in the toolkit. Access to certain parts of the toolkit is limited to

trusted agents in order to maintain the integrity of the exercise scenario. Exercise planners that need access to the Toolkit should contact their working group chair.

New Radiological EP Program Manual

Released by FEMA in January of 2015, this 332-page document serves as the principal source of policy and guidance for the FEMA Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program. It is an update to the June 2013 Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program Manual, and incorporates changes to clarify and update guidance based on information provided through the Frequently Asked Questions Committee, the National Frameworks, and other federal documents.

http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1422976690540-7cb06cc8eb4f294987b2614a54c8de91/DHS_FEMA_REP_Program_Manual_Jan2015.pdf

Upcoming SE-15 Workshops

Food and Agricultural Response and Recovery Issues Following a Radiological Release

This one-day workshop will focus on the impacts to food and agricultural operations in the event of a large scale release of radiation to the environment. Proposed topics include actions that can be taken to protect the safety of the food supply; impacts on soil, water, crops and livestock; decontamination; and strategies to reduce economic impacts on agriculture and trade.

The workshop will provide a venue for communication among all levels of government and associations representing the South Carolina food and agriculture industry.

The workshop will be held in Columbia, SC on May 12, 2015.

For additional information on the Food/Ag workshop contact John Aucott (USDA) at john.aucott@dm.usda.gov or Charlotte Krugler (Clemson University) at ckrugle@clemson.edu.

National Disaster Recovery Framework Workshop (NDRF)

This one-day workshop is intended to provide exercise participants and planners with an overview of the NDRF. Discussions will address how the NDRF can be used to support the recovery from a nuclear power plant accident, with a particular focus on housing, economic recovery, and health and human services.

The workshop will be held in Columbia, SC on May 27, 2015.

American Nuclear Insurers (ANI) and Price Anderson Act Workshop

Participants will have the opportunity to hear speakers discuss the emergency assistance that may be provided by ANI after a nuclear power plant accident as well as information on the claims process. Information on the Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act, which governs liability-related issues for nuclear facilities in the United States, will also be provided.

The workshop will be held in Columbia, SC on May 28, 2015.

Upcoming EP Outreach Events

April 27-30, 2015

National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference (Sacramento, CA)

May 18-21, 2015

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors National Conference (St. Louis, MO)

June 3-4, 2015

Nuclear Energy Institute's Emergency Preparedness Forum (Denver, CO)