



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I
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KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

April 19, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Hubert J. Miller *Miller*
Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: LONG ISLAND EMERGENCY PLANNING

Attached are Qs and As addressing the Long Island emergency planning issue raised at the Commission Meeting. These Qs and As were reviewed with the New York State Emergency Management Office. Within the NRC these Qs and As have been coordinated with NRR (Tom Essig) and the Incident Response Organization (Frank Congel).

If you have any questions on this, please contact me, Bob Bores or Wayne Lanning.

Attachments: As stated

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PLANNING AND LONG ISLAND, NY

(The following information was reviewed with New York State Emergency Management Office personnel, including the REP Exercise Director and Associate Planner on 4/15/99.)

1. Is Long Island included in the ingestion pathway plan for Millstone?

All of Long Island is included in the ingestion plan for both the Millstone and Indian Point plants. It is the practice of New York State to include the entire county if the ingestion pathway zone impacts a portion of a county. The Indian Point 50-mile EPZ includes Nassau and Suffolk Counties of Long Island, while the Millstone 50-mile EPZ includes Suffolk County.

2. Who is responsible for the ingestion planning in New York?

The New York State plan clearly states that the responsibility for planning and implementation of the ingestion response belongs to the State. The State is responsible for the radiological monitoring and assessment of the ingestion pathways. The State, in concert with the affected jurisdiction, is responsible for making Protective Action Decisions impacting the 50-mile EPZ. The planning for Long Island for Millstone is exactly the same as the ingestion planning for Indian Point, the upstate NY counties impacted by the Ginna and Nine Mile Point plants, and those impacted by the 50 mile EPZ for the Vermont Yankee plant and formerly for the Yankee Rowe plant. New York State Dept. of Agriculture and Markets is the primary agency within the State that has information about regulated food producers and processors. This information would be supplemented during a response by information obtained from the county and other local jurisdictions.

3. What is the role of the counties and other locals for response in the 50-mile EPZ?

While the State will provide the monitoring, assessment and decision-making criteria for the ingestion planning, the State will coordinate with the counties and other local jurisdictions in the implementation of Protective Actions within these areas. The State will utilize local information on geographical boundaries, local conditions, etc., to refine the impacted areas, and also will ask for local resources to assist in the implementation of Protective Actions. Many of the activities undertaken by the local responders will be the same as the responders routinely implement for a non-radiological emergency. These activities are not expected to require any special preparation or training of personnel beyond that required to perform their routine duties. For example, State and local law enforcement may be requested to provide traffic control or access control. State and local health officials may be asked to implement activities to address public health concerns. Any locally implemented activities will be coordinated with the State and local Emergency Operations Centers.

4. Are there any additional resources that the State can rely on to assist in a response to a radiological situation on Long Island?

New York State emergency management personnel stated that they would have no hesitation in contacting the Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) teams from nearby Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) on Long Island for radiological assistance and expertise in monitoring and assessment. New York State will contact the National Weather Service Office located at BNL for weather related information during radiological responses. The local Fire and Emergency

Services in Suffolk County have excellent interagency communications capabilities that include direct communication with the County Office of Fire and Emergency Services (FRES). The County FRES communication link with the State ensures a well-coordinated response effort. During the last five to six years, these capabilities were amply demonstrated in response to the TWA 800 crash recovery efforts and the Long Island forest fires. Additionally, New York State is working very closely with the County and East End Towns in efforts by these local jurisdictions to strengthen their radiological response capabilities.

5. When was the last ingestion pathway exercise in New York State?

The last ingestion pathway exercise in NYS was conducted in 1993 with Nine Mile Point. NYS will be exercising the ingestion pathway/post-plume plans in May, 1999 with the Indian Point site. Additionally, some NYS exercise play is anticipated for the Vermont Yankee exercise in April 1999.