

MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

of ERDS data will be pursued through the NRC.

VI. Implementation

Arizona and the NRC agree to work in concert to assure that the following communications and information exchange protocol regarding the NRC ERDS are followed.

A. Arizona and the NRC agree in good faith to make available to each other information within the intent and scope of this Agreement.

B. NRC and Arizona agree to meet as necessary to exchange information on matters of common concern pertinent to this Agreement. Unless otherwise agreed, such meetings will be held in the NRC Operations Center. The affected utilities will be kept informed of pertinent information covered by this Agreement.

C. To preclude the premature public release of sensitive information, NRC and Arizona will protect sensitive information to the extent permitted by the Federal Freedom of Information Act, the State Freedom of Information Act, 10 CFR 2.790, and other applicable authority.

D. NRC will conduct periodic tests of licensee ERDS data links. A copy of the test schedule will be provided to Arizona by the NRC. Arizona may test its ability to access ERDS data during these scheduled tests, or may schedule independent tests of the State link with the NRC.

E. NRC will provide access to ERDS for emergency exercises with reactor units capable of transmitting exercise data to ERDS. For exercises in which the NRC is not participating, Arizona will coordinate with NRC in advance to ensure ERDS availability. NRC reserves the right to preempt ERDS use for any exercise in progress in the event of an actual event at any licensed nuclear power plant.

VII. Contacts

A. The principal senior management contacts for this Agreement will be the Director, Division of Operational Assessment, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data, and the Director, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency. These individuals may designate appropriate staff representatives for the purpose of administering this Agreement.

B. Identification of these contacts is not intended to restrict communication between NRC and Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency staff members on technical and other day-to-day activities.

VIII. Resolution of Disagreements

A. If disagreements arise about matters within the scope of this Agreement, NRC and Arizona will work together to resolve these differences.

B. Resolution of differences between the State and NRC staff over issues arising out of this Agreement will be the initial responsibility of the NRC Division of Operational Assessment management.

C. Differences which cannot be resolved in accordance with Sections VIII.A and VIII.B will be reviewed and resolved by the Director, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data.

D. The NRC's General Counsel has the final authority to provide legal interpretation of the Commissions regulations.

IX. Effective Date

This Agreement will take effect after it has been signed by both parties.

X. Duration

A formal review, not less than 1 year after the effective date, will be performed by the NRC to evaluate implementation of the Agreement and resolve any problems identified. This Agreement will be subject to periodic reviews and may be amended or modified upon written agreement by both parties, and may be terminated upon 30 days written notice by either party.

XI. Separability

If any provision(s) of this Agreement, or the application of any provision(s) to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Agreement and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances will not be affected.

Dated: January 6, 1993.

For The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

James M. Taylor,

Executive Director for Operations.

Dated: April 9, 1993.

For The State of Arizona.

Aubrey V. Godwin,

Director, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency.

➤ 58 FR 35770
Published 7/1/93
Effective 6/28/93

Appendix A to Part 354 — Memorandum of Understanding Between Federal Emergency Management Agency and Nuclear Regulatory Commission

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) have entered into a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Relating To Radiological Emergency Planning and Preparedness. This supersedes a memorandum entered into on November 1, 1980 (published December 16, 1980, 45 FR 82713). The substantive changes in the new MOU deal principally with the FEMA handling of NRC requests for findings and determinations concerning ~~emergency planning and preparedness~~. The basis and conditions for interim findings in support of licensing are defined, as well as provisions for status reports when plans are not complete. The text of the MOU follows.

Memorandum of Understanding Between NRC and FEMA Relating to Radiological Emergency Planning and Preparedness

I. Background and Purposes

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a framework of cooperation between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in ~~radiological emergency response planning, and preparedness~~ so that their mutual efforts will be directed toward more effective plans and related preparedness measures ~~and the~~ ~~radiological emergency response and fuel cycle facilities, as well as subject to 10 CFR part 50, appendix B and certain other fuel cycle and related facilities, which have potential for significant radiological releases.~~ The memorandum is responsive to ~~the President's decision of December 7, 1979, that FEMA will take the lead in offsite emergency response~~ his request that NRC assist FEMA in carrying out this role, and the NRC's continuing statutory responsibility for the radiological health and safety of the public.

On January 14, 1980, the two agencies entered into a "Memorandum of Understanding Between NRC and FEMA to Accomplish a Prompt Improvement in Radiological Emergency Preparedness," that was responsive to the President's December 7, 1979, statement. A revised and updated memorandum of understanding became effective November 1, 1980. This MOU is a further revision to reflect the evolving relationship between NRC and FEMA and the experience gained in carrying out the provisions of the January and November 1980 MOU's. This MOU supersedes these two earlier versions of the MOU.

The general principles, agreed to in the previous MOU's and reaffirmed in this MOU are as follows: ~~1. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will cooperate in the development of radiological emergency response plans.~~

¹ Assessments of offsite plans may be based on State and local government plans submitted to

MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

preparedness, makes findings and determinations as to the adequacy and capability of implementing offsite plans and communicates those findings and determinations to the NRC. The NRC reviews those FEMA findings and determinations in conjunction with the NRC onsite findings for the purpose of making determinations on the overall state of emergency preparedness. These overall findings and determinations are used by NRC to make radiological health and safety decisions in the issuance of licenses and the continued operation of licensed plants to include taking enforcement actions as notices of violations, civil penalties, orders, or shutdown of operating reactors. This delineation of responsibilities avoids duplicative efforts by the NRC staff in offsite preparedness matters.

A separate MOU dated October 22, 1980, deals with NRC/FEMA cooperation and responsibilities in response to an actual or potential radiological emergency. Operations Response Procedures have been developed that implement the provisions of the Incident Response MOU. These documents are intended to be consistent with the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan which describes the relationships, roles, and responsibilities of Federal agencies for responding to accidents involving peacetime nuclear emergencies.

II. Authorities and Responsibilities

FEMA Executive Order 12148 charges the Director, FEMA, with the responsibility to establish Federal policies for, and coordinate, all civil defense and civil emergency planning, management, mitigation, and assistance functions of Executive agencies (Section 2-101) and represent the President in working with State and local governments and the private sector to stimulate vigorous participation in civil emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery programs. (Section 2-104.)

On December 7, 1979, the President in response to the recommendations of the Kemeny Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island, directed that FEMA assume lead responsibility for all offsite nuclear emergency planning and response.

Specifically, FEMA responsibilities with respect to radiological emergency preparedness as they relate to NRC are:

1. To take the lead in offsite emergency planning and to review and assess offsite emergency plans and preparedness for adequacy.

2. To make findings and determinations as to whether offsite emergency plans are adequate and can be implemented, (e.g., adequacy and maintenance of procedures, training, resources staffing levels and qualifications, and equipment adequacy). Notwithstanding the procedures which are set forth in 44 CFR part 350 for requesting and reaching a FEMA administrative approval of State and local plans, findings and determinations on the current status of emergency planning and preparedness around particular sites, referred to as interim

findings, will be provided by FEMA for use as needed in the NRC licensing process. Such findings will be provided by FEMA on mutually agreed to schedules or on specific NRC request. The request and findings will normally be by written communications between the co-chairs of the NRC/FEMA Steering Committee. An interim finding provided under this arrangement will be an extension of FEMA's procedures for review and approval of offsite radiological emergency plans and preparedness set forth in 44 CFR part 350. It will be based on the review of currently available plans and, if appropriate, joint exercise results related to a specific nuclear power plant site.

An interim finding based only on the review of currently available offsite plans will include an assessment as to whether these plans are adequate when measured against the standards and criteria of NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, and, pending a demonstration through an exercise, whether there is reasonable assurance that the plans can be implemented. The finding will indicate one of the following conditions: (1) Plans are adequate and there is reasonable assurance that they can be implemented with only limited or no corrections needed; (2) plans are adequate, but before a determination can be made as to whether they can be implemented, corrections must be made to the plans or supporting measures must be demonstrated (e.g., adequacy and maintenance of procedures, training, resources, staffing levels and qualifications, and equipment adequacy); or (3) plans are not adequate and cannot be implemented until they are revised to correct deficiencies noted in the Federal review.

If in FEMA's view the plans that are available are not completed or are not ready for review, FEMA will provide NRC with a status report delineating milestones for preparation of the plan by the offsite authorities as well as FEMA's actions to assist in timely development and review of the plans.

An interim finding on preparedness will be based on review of currently available plans and joint exercise results and will include an assessment as to (1) whether offsite emergency plans are adequate as measured against the standards and criteria of NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Revision 1 and Supplement 1, and (2) whether the exercise(s) demonstrated that there is reasonable assurance that the plans can be implemented.

An interim finding on preparedness will indicate one of the following conditions: (1) There is reasonable assurance that the plans are adequate and can be implemented as demonstrated in an exercise; (2) there are deficiencies that may adversely affect public health and safety that must be corrected in order to provide reasonable assurance that the plans can be implemented; or (3) FEMA is undecided and will provide a schedule of actions leading to a decision.

3. To assume responsibility, as a supplement to State and local, and utility efforts, for radiological emergency preparedness training of State and local officials.

4. To develop and issue an updated series of interagency assignments which delineate

respective agency capabilities and responsibilities and define procedures for coordination and direction for emergency planning and response. (Current assignments are in 44 CFR part 351, March 11, 1982 (47 FR 10758).)

NRC—The Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, requires that the NRC grant licenses only if the health and safety of the public is adequately protected. While the Atomic Energy Act does not specifically require emergency plans and related preparedness measures, the NRC requires consideration of overall emergency preparedness as a part of the licensing process. The NRC rules (10 CFR 50.33, 50.34, 50.47, 50.54, and appendix B, to 10 CFR part 50) include requirements for the licensee's emergency plans.

Specifically, the NRC responsibilities for radiological emergency preparedness are:

1. To assess licensee emergency plans for adequacy. This review will include organizations with whom licensees have written agreements to provide onsite support services under emergency conditions.

2. To verify that licensee emergency plans are adequately implemented (e.g., adequacy and maintenance of procedures, training, resources, staffing levels and qualifications, and equipment).

3. To review the FEMA findings and determinations as to whether offsite plans are adequate and can be implemented.

4. To make radiological health and safety decisions with regard to the overall state of emergency preparedness (i.e., integration of emergency preparedness onsite as determined by the NRC and offsite as determined by FEMA and reviewed by NRC) such as assurance for continued operation, for issuance of operating licenses, or for taking enforcement actions, such as notices of violations, civil penalties, orders, or shutdown of operating reactors.

III. Areas of Cooperation

A. NRC Licensing Reviews. FEMA will provide support to the NRC for licensing reviews related to reactors, fuel facilities and materials licenses with regard to the assessment of the adequacy of offsite radiological emergency response plans and preparedness. This will include timely submission of an evaluation suitable for inclusion in NRC safety evaluation reports.

Substantially prior to the time that a FEMA evaluation is required with regard to fuel facility or materials license review, NRC will identify those fuel and materials licensees with potential for significant accidental offsite radiological releases and transmit a request for review to FEMA as the emergency plans are completed.

FEMA routine support will include providing assessments, findings and determinations (interim and final) on offsite plans and preparedness related to reactor license reviews. To support its findings and determinations, FEMA will make expert witnesses available before the Commission, the NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, NRC hearings boards and administrative law judges, for any court actions, and during any related discovery proceedings.

*FEMA under its rule (44 CFR Part 350), and as noted in 44 CFR 350.3(f) may also be based on plans currently available to FEMA or furnished to FEMA through the NRC/FEMA Steering Committee.

MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING

FEMA will appear in NRC licensing proceedings as part of the presentation of the NRC staff. FEMA counsel will normally present FEMA witnesses and be permitted, at the discretion of the NRC licensing board, to cross-examine the witnesses of parties, other than the NRC witnesses, on matters involving FEMA findings and determinations, policies, or operations; however, FEMA will not be asked to testify on status reports. FEMA is not a party to NRC proceedings and, therefore, is not subject to formal discovery requirements placed upon parties to NRC proceedings. Consistent with available resources, however, FEMA will respond informally to discovery requests by parties. Specific assignment of professional responsibilities between NRC and FEMA counsel will be primarily the responsibility of the attorneys assigned to a particular case. In situations where questions of professional responsibility cannot be resolved by the attorneys assigned, resolution of any differences will be made by the General Counsel of FEMA and the Executive Legal Director of the NRC or their designees. NRC will request the presiding Board to place FEMA on the service list for all litigation in which it is expected to participate.

Nothing in this MOU shall be construed in any way to diminish NRC's responsibility for protecting the radiological health and safety of the public.

B. FEMA review of offsite plans and preparedness. NRC will assist in the development and review of offsite plans and preparedness through its membership on the Regional Assistance Committees (RAC). FEMA will chair the Regional Assistance Committees. Consistent with NRC's statutory responsibility, NRC will recognize FEMA as the interface with State and local governments for interpreting offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness criteria as they affect those governments and for reporting to those governments the results of any evaluation of their radiological emergency plans and preparedness.

Where questions arise concerning the interpretation of the criteria, such questions will continue to be referred to FEMA Headquarters, and when appropriate, to the NRC/FEMA Steering Committee to assure uniform interpretation.

C. Preparation for and evaluation of joint exercises. FEMA and NRC will cooperate in determining exercise requirements for licensees, and State and local governments. They will also jointly observe and evaluate exercises. NRC and FEMA will institute procedures to enhance the review of objectives and scenarios for joint exercises. This review is to assure that both the onsite considerations of NRC and the offsite considerations of FEMA are adequately addressed and integrated in a manner that will provide for a technically sound exercise upon which an assessment of preparedness capabilities can be based. The NRC/FEMA procedures will provide for the availability of exercise objectives and scenarios sufficiently in advance of scheduled exercises to allow enough time for adequate review by NRC and FEMA and correction of any deficiencies by the licensee. The failure of a licensee to

develop a scenario that adequately addresses both onsite and offsite considerations may result in NRC taking enforcement actions.

The FEMA reports will be a part of an interim finding on emergency preparedness; or will be the result of an exercise conducted pursuant to FEMA's review and approval procedures under 44 CFR part 350. Exercise evaluations will identify one of the following conditions: (1) There is reasonable assurance that the plans are adequate and can be implemented as demonstrated in the exercise; (2) there are deficiencies that may adversely impact public health and safety that must be corrected by the affected State and local governments in order to provide reasonable assurance that the plan can be implemented; or (3) FEMA is undecided and will provide a schedule of actions leading to a decision. Within 30 days of the exercise, a draft exercise report will be sent to the State, with a copy to the Regional Assistance Committee, requesting comments and a schedule of corrective actions, as appropriate, from the State in 30 days. When there are deficiencies of the types noted in 2 above, and when there is a potential for a remedial exercise, FEMA Headquarters will promptly discuss these with NRC Headquarters. Within 90 days of the exercise, the FEMA report will be forwarded to the NRC Headquarters. Within 15 days of receipt of the FEMA report, NRC will notify FEMA in writing of action taken with the licensee relative to FEMA initiatives with State and local governments to correct deficiencies identified in the exercise.

D. Emergency planning and preparedness guidance. NRC has lead responsibility for the development of emergency planning and preparedness guidance for licensees. FEMA has lead responsibility for the development of radiological emergency planning and preparedness guidance for State and local agencies. NRC and FEMA recognize the need for an integrated, coordinated approach to radiological emergency planning and preparedness by NRC licensees and State and local governments. NRC and FEMA will each, therefore, provide opportunity for the other agency to review and comment on such guidance (including interpretations of agreed joint guidance) prior to adoption as formal agency guidance.

E. Support for document management system. FEMA and NRC will each provide the other with continued access to those automatic data processing support systems which contain relevant emergency preparedness data.

At NRC this includes Document Management System support to the extent that it does not affect duplication or records retention. At FEMA, this includes technical support to the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Management Information System. This agreement is not intended to include the automated information retrieval support for the national level emergency response facilities.

F. Ongoing NRC research and development programs. Ongoing NRC and FEMA research and development programs that are related to State and local radiological emergency planning and preparedness will be coordinated. NRC and FEMA will each

provide opportunity for the other agency to review and comment on relevant research and development programs prior to implementing them.

G. Public information and education programs. FEMA will take the lead in developing public information and educational programs. NRC will assist FEMA by reviewing for accuracy educational materials concerning radiation, and its hazards and information regarding appropriate actions to be taken by the general public in the event of an accident involving radioactive materials.

IV. ~~NRC/FEMA Steering Committee~~

The NRC/FEMA Steering Committee on Emergency Preparedness will continue to be the focal point for coordination of emergency planning, preparedness, and response activities between the two agencies. The Steering Committee will consist of an equal number of members to represent each agency with one vote per agency. When the Steering Committee cannot agree on the resolution of an issue, the issue will be referred to NRC and FEMA management. ~~The NRC members will have lead responsibility for licensee planning and preparedness and the FEMA members will have lead responsibility for offsite planning and preparedness.~~ The Steering Committee will assure coordination of plans and preparedness evaluation activities and revise, as necessary, acceptance criteria for licensees, State and local radiological emergency planning and preparedness. NRC and FEMA will then consider and adopt criteria as appropriate in their respective jurisdictions.

V. Working Arrangements

A. The normal point of contact for implementation of the points in this MOU will be the NRC/FEMA Steering Committee.

B. The Steering Committee will establish the day-to-day procedures for assuring that the arrangements of this MOU are carried out.

VI. Memorandum of Understanding

A. This MOU shall be effective as of date of signature and shall continue in effect unless terminated by either party upon 30 days notice in writing.

B. Amendments or modifications to this MOU may be made upon written agreement by both parties.

Approved for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated: April 3, 1985.

William J. Dircks,

Executive Director for Operations.

Approved for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Dated: April 3, 1985.

Samuel W. Speck,

Associate Director, State and Local Programs and Support.

Dated: June 28, 1993.

James L. Witt,

Director.