



FEMA

April 24, 2024

William Ray, Director
North Carolina Emergency Management Agency
1636 Gold Star Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

Dear Director Ray:

The North Carolina Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program Annual Letter of Certification dated January 31, 2024, for calendar year 2023 is approved.

The FEMA Region 4 Technological Hazards Branch staff reviewed your Annual Letter of Certification, supporting documentation, and activities for calendar year 2023. Most statements were found to be adequately documented and accurately reflected all the state of North Carolina and counties did and continue to do to protect the health and safety of the public.

Based upon our review, we have respectfully requested North Carolina Emergency Management Agency's Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program focus on the following areas in 2024, and to provide more comprehensive documentation of those areas with the 2024 Annual Letter of Certification submission.

- A statement the annual media program was conducted to acquaint news media with emergency plans/procedures, information concerning radiation, and points of contact for release of public information during an emergency (NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Rev. 2, evaluation criterion G.5). The Statement should include dates held, organizations who participated, organizations who sponsored the program, and a description of the program.
 - While it was indicated in the submission that Duke Energy provided media guides, those guides did not provide points of contact, emergency plans/procedures, or information concerning radiation relative to NCEM or the risk counties.
 - The intention of this item is for offsite response organizations to hold an annual media briefing, workshop, mailing, or other means of providing information to news media to promote accurate, objective reporting during radiological incidents.

- A statement that the maintenance of the Alert and Notification System (ANS) is being conducted pursuant to the ANS evaluation report and a statement that the ANS system continues to meet the needs of population it was designed to alert/notify (RPM Part V: REP Program Alert and Notification System Guidance).
 - The submission identified the siren test cycle and included a statement saying the system meets the design objectives; however no supporting documentation was provided to substantiate those statements.
 - Duke Energy provides site specific siren test information that provides dates, results, and reliability percentages annually to NCEM as well as the risk counties. We request that information to be included in the 2024 ALC submission.
- A statement that non-evaluated medical services drills are conducted annually at each medical facilitated in the emergency plan, including dates, facilities, contamination control measures, and exposure control (NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Rev. 2, evaluation criterion N.4.b).
 - The biennial FEMA evaluated medical service drills were identified in the annual letter of certification, however we also request information and documentation related to the non-evaluated drills be provided in the 2024 ALC submission.

We have discussed future expectations with your REP staff and offered assistance to provide a more comprehensive understanding of program requirements. My staff and I look forward to continuing our partnership in building and sustaining the emergency preparedness and response capabilities in the state of North Carolina and the counties surrounding the Brunswick Nuclear Plant, the Harris Nuclear Plant, the McGuire Nuclear Station, and the Catawba Nuclear Station.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact J.T. Ackermann at (404) 695-2334, my designated Section Chief for the state of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Kevin Wells
 Chief, Technological Hazards Branch
 Regional Assistance Committee Chairperson

Enclosure

cc:

Mr. Thomas K. Warnock, Branch Chief
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