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## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE NEWS

### Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 13-01 Endorsed

The NRC recently announced that it had endorsed the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 13-01, "Reportable Action Levels for Loss of Emergency Preparedness Capabilities," dated July 2014. NEI 13-01 provides specific guidance for reporting to the NRC any event that results in a major loss of emergency assessment capability, offsite response capability, or offsite communications. NEI 13-01 supplements guidance currently provided in NUREG-1022, "Event report Guidelines 10 CFR 50.72 and 50.73," Revision 3. Although some of the guidance is specific, the decision to report requires engineering judgment, which can result in inconsistent application.

NEI proposed NEI 13-01 as an industry initiative that would supplement the guidance in Section 3.2.13 of the NUREG 1022. NEI's objective was to make the guidance more specific and less subject to engineering judgment. NEI 13-01 provides a series of reporting action levels, in a structure similar to the emergency action levels. Use of NEI 13-01 is voluntary.

The NRC reviewed and commented on multiple versions prior to accepting the July 2014 version. The NRC discussed these comments with NEI and industry representatives in public meetings conducted in 2013. The NRC expects this supple-

mental guidance will reduce the burden on the licensees and the NRC associated with processing unnecessary reports while ensuring that the significant reports continue to be made to support the NRC's oversight.

NEI-13-01 can be found in the agency's document control system, ADAMS, at accession number ML14197A206. NEI 13-01 is endorsed in Supplement 1 to Revision 3 of NUREG-1022, which can be found in ADAMS, at accession number ML14267A447.

### Update On The Revision To NUREG 0654/FEMA-REP-1

Draft Revision 2 of NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1 is currently undergoing final review and approval by NRC and FEMA management prior to its issuance for formal public comment. Draft Revision 2 will likely be issued for a 90-day public comment period in January 2015. Public meetings are not being planned during the public comment period based on previous opportunities for stakeholders engagement. The overall schedule continues to support issuing the final version of Revision 2 by late calendar year 2016.

The initial draft of the new NRC Emergency Preparedness (EP) Manual, developed as a companion document to NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1 will be publicly available for viewing (but not for commenting) during the public comment period for NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1. A separate formal public comment period for the NRC EP Manual will be scheduled after the public comment period for NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1 ends.

#### Upcoming Outreach Events

- **International Disaster Conference: February 10-12, 2015 in New Orleans, LA**
- **Regulatory Information Conference: March 10-12, 2015 in Rockville, MD**
- **National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference: April 27-30, 2015 in Sacramento, CA**

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## Decommissioning Update

On October 27, 2014, the NRC granted Dominion Energy Kewaunee's request to alter the emergency preparedness program for the Kewaunee Power Station in Wisconsin to reflect the plant's permanently shutdown and defueled status. The changes come in the form of exemptions from certain requirements in NRC's regulations for operating nuclear power reactors that may not be applicable for a plant undergoing decommissioning. Kewaunee will no longer be required to maintain formal offsite radiological emergency preparedness plans requiring a 10-mile emergency planning zone, but State and local authorities would continue to maintain comprehensive emergency management (all-hazard) plans under the National Preparedness System. The plant will maintain an onsite emergency plan and response capabilities, including the continued notification of local government officials for an emergency declaration. Kewaunee will be required continue to provide for onsite response capabilities including fire, first aid and security, and coordinate the response onsite from local fire, first responders and law enforcement.

In granting these exemptions, the NRC staff agreed with Dominion's analyses that the exemptions are warranted because the risk of an offsite radiological release is significantly lower, and the types of possible accidents are significantly fewer, at a nuclear power reactor that has permanently ceased operations and removed fuel from the reactor vessel than at an operating power reactor.

On October 31, 2014, the staff also approved an amendment to the Kewaunee license that revises the Emergency Plan (referred to as the Permanently Defueled Emergency Plan) and Emergency Action Level scheme. The PDEP and EAL scheme describe the site's plan for responding to emergencies and the associated emergency classifications based on the permanently shutdown and defueled status of the facility, as exempted.

## Hostile Actions Communications and You

The NRC would like to remind licensees of the communication options during a hostile action based (HAB) or security related event, especially given numerous ongoing licensee exercises.

HAB and security events fall under 10 CFR Part 73.71(a)(3), "Reporting of Safeguards Events" which requires continuous communication with the NRC. In order to promote additional information sharing, the NRC issued Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2009 – 10, "Communication Between the NRC and Reactor Licensees During Emergencies and Significant Incidents" on June 19, 2009 which can also be located in the NRC's document management system, ADAMS (ML091480101). The RIS as stated "provides a description of the NRC's Security Bridge and the information discussed on this bridge to help promote a continuous, clear method of communicating security-related information." The RIS also contains requests for information that the NRC will likely pose to the licensee over the Security Bridge.

The NRC will staff a Security Bridge when there is an incident reported pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(B)(3)(v) or Appendix G of 10 CFR Part 73, as either may have multiple security implications. The benefits the NRC sees for use of this bridge as a separate line is that it will promote a clear communication for security-related discussions with NRC security knowledgeable employees while not interfering with operational communications conducted over the Emergency Notification System (ENS) or Health Physics Network (HPN) bridges. The NRC will continuously monitor the security bridge so that licensees can rapidly re-establish communication after the initial discussion. The NRC does not expect that scheduled briefings will take precedence over any operational requirements but updates, especially for changing and escalating security conditions, would be desired.

At any time during pre-exercise coordination with the NRC, the licensee can discuss with the NRC representatives expectations for security communication. The RIS also contains commonly asked questions that the NRC will likely pose to the licensee over the security bridge.