U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC20472

FEMA

October 27, 2016

Marissa Bailey
Director, Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T4D22A
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Bailey:

This letter is to inform you that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has completed its Disaster Initiated Review (DIR) of the State of Florida and local offsite response organizations continued capability to adequately respond to an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant following Hurricane Matthew that affected in and around the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone communities' communication capabilities, Emergency Operations Center functionality, and possibly blocked evacuation routes.

On October 7, 2016, a comprehensive investigation and collection of field data was performed by the joint FEMA/Nuclear Regulatory Commission DIR Team, in accordance with FEMA's Post Disaster Assessment of Offsite Capabilities procedure.

Based on the review of this information, FEMA concludes that offsite radiological emergency preparedness is adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant. At this time, FEMA is not aware of any unresolved offsite emergency preparedness issues around St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant; and therefore, we have no objections to plant startup and full-power operations.

Please see attached the full report from FEMA Region IV. If you have questions, please contact me at (202) 212-2376, if you have any questions or require any further assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Hoyes
Director
Technological Hazards Division

Timothy A. Gallagher for Jonathan Hoyes

Attachment – Disaster Initiated Review – St. Lucie Nuclear Plant

Department of Homeland Security
Region IV
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30341

FEMA

October 8, 2016

Memorandum For: Jonathon Hoyes
Director
Technological Hazards Division

Through: Vanessa Quinn, Chief
Radiological Emergency Preparedness Section

Conrad Burnside, Chief
Technological Hazards Branch

conrad.burnside@fema.gov
Digitally signed by conrad.burnside@fema.gov
DN: cn=conrad.burnside@fema.gov
Date: 2016.10.08 18:00:41 -04'00'

From: Lawrence Robertson, Section Chief
Central Section, Technological Hazards
Branch

Subject: Disaster Initiated Review – Hurricane Matthew – St. Lucie Nuclear Plant

Background

Hurricane Matthew impacted the St. Lucie Emergency Planning Zone and support counties on October 6-7, 2016. Hurricane Matthew approached the Florida Coast as a category 4 storm, with predictions of hurricane force winds traveling up the east coast of Florida. The eye stayed further off the coast than expected, so that the impact on risk counties, St. Lucie and Martin, was minimal.

Brevard, Indian River and Palm Beach Counties, the host counties, had varying degrees of impact by the storm. As of Friday, October 7, 2016, Indian River and Palm Beach Counties were operationally ready to implement their response plans to monitor, decontaminate if needed and provide congregate care to evacuees from an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. On October 7th Brevard County, which was the last of the host counties impacted by Matthew, stated that they continued to have shelters open and resource shortfalls that would preclude them from meeting their obligations in the event of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. Temporary compensatory measures have been developed and are discussed in this report.

Assessment

Operational Coordination

The State of Florida fully activated their EOC on October 4th and operations continue at the time of this report. On October 6th St. Lucie and Martin Counties activated their emergency operations

centers (EOCs), fully staffed them and established 24-hour operations in anticipation of Hurricane Matthew's landfall. Both counties put their EOCs on lock down that afternoon to wait out the storm. FEMA had representatives in each EOC. Through the night it became apparent that Hurricane Matthew was staying further out to sea than originally anticipated and the wind speeds and storm surge were significantly less than expected. St. Lucie deactivated their EOC early on October 7th and Martin County waited to deactivate their EOC until the electrically dependent medical special needs evacuees' homes were inspected so that they could safely return. Both counties stated that they have the capability to mobilize their emergency response organizations if needed to respond to an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant.

Indian River and Palm Beach Counties followed a similar pattern of activation and deactivation for their response to Hurricane Matthew. They stated that they had the resources necessary to support evacuees from the risk counties. The Brevard County EOC remains activated to support shelter operations until the residents can return to their homes and stated that they do not currently have the resources to support evacuees from the risk counties. On October 8th FEMA personnel met with the emergency management director for Brevard County and discussed contingency plans to meet their planned response. The contingencies developed for the next 30 days are provided in the report below.

Operational Communications

The hot ring down phone is the primary communications method for the licensee to notify offsite authorities of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. The hot ring down phone was used to notify State and local governments of the termination of the notification of unusual event on October 7, 2016.

Normal communications resources such as landlines, cell phones and radios were available throughout the storm. St. Lucie County officials were able to communicate with the Melbourne Office of the National Weather Service via NWS's chat. They would have been able to use that method of communication to activate the NWS and EAS broadcast as a back up to regular channels.

Environmental Response/Health and Safety

The Florida Bureau of Radiological Control, located in Orlando, Florida was not impacted by Hurricane Matthew. They would be available to respond to an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant They have the staff to provide an independent capability to analyze plant, environmental data and incorporate radiological monitoring field team data in their dose assessments. These dose assessments allow the BRC staff to provide recommendations to decision-makers on protective actions for the health and safety of the public.

Brevard, Indian River and Palm Beach Counties provide support to St. Lucie and Martin Counties by conducting radiological monitoring, decontamination, if needed, and congregate care operations for evacuees. Indian River and Palm Beach County stated that they were in the process of closing the shelters and had the resources to support their missions in the event of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. During the October 7, 2016, Disaster Initiated Review

conference call, Brevard County stated that at the current time they could not support their obligation to provide monitoring, decontamination and congregate care for evacuees from St. Lucie County in the event of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant because of ongoing response to the impact from Hurricane Matthew. They stated that they did not have the resources to staff the reception center (monitoring and decontamination of evacuees) and congregate care facilities because of their disaster response. During a meeting on October 8th with the Brevard County Emergency Management Director the following contingency was developed for their reception center, Valkeria rest stop off of I-95. We held discussions with the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County emergency management officials who agreed to support reception center operations at the Valkeria rest stop for the next 30 days if needed. . Miami-Dade will bring their equipment and staff resources for the reception center. Additionally, Brevard County can provide their equipment to the reception center. Brevard County provided their plans and procedures for the operation of the reception center to Miami-Dade County.

Situational Assessment

The Florida Bureau of Radiation Control had the staff and equipment resources available to deploy their mobile emergency radiological laboratory and radiological monitoring field teams to identify the location of and monitor a radiological plume if radiological material was released during an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant.

Public Information and Warning

The prompt alert and notification system for the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant plume exposure emergency planning zone consists of a siren system and the broadcast of emergency alert system messages. The siren system consists of 90 sirens placed strategically throughout the emergency planning zone. As of October 7, 2016, one siren was inoperable and 23 sirens had lost AC power and were running on battery backup. The licensee has determined the cause of the siren failure and plans to have the siren fixed by October 11th. St. Lucie County stated that they had the resources to conduct back-up route alerting if a situation arose requiring it. The counties also have a reverse calling system that would allow them to notify residents of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant. The siren batteries of the 23 sirens can last seven days without an AC power supply. The licensee has a battery replacement program where they will replace the batteries after five days if AC power has not been restored to the siren. The licensee stated that power would be restored to the sirens as power to the area surrounding is restored. The licensee did not have a definite time frame for complete restoration of power to the sirens.

On-Scene Security, Protection and Law Enforcement

St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Indian River and Brevard Counties maintain the same law enforcement assets following Hurricane Matthew as they had before the storm. There is no degradation of capability in the counties.

Critical Transportation

St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Indian River and Brevard Counties maintain the same transportation assets following Hurricane Matthew as they had before the storm. There is no degradation of capability in the counties. Movement of transportation dependent populations to include disabilities, access/functional needs and schools remains unencumbered in these counties.

Mass Care Services

Evacuees from St. Lucie and Martin Counties would go to either Brevard and Indian River Counties or Palm Beach County depending on where they live in the emergency planning zone. Indian River and Palm Beach County stated that they have the shelter capacity and resources to staff the shelters in the event of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant.

On October 8th during a meeting with the Brevard County Emergency Management Director, she stated that they now had the congregate care center space available to shelter evacuees from St. Lucie County in the event of an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant, but did not have the resources necessary to staff the shelters. We had a discussion with Florida Division of Emergency Management and they agreed to provide the resources necessary to staff shelter operations if Brevard needs them in response to an incident at the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant.

Findings

Based on the assessment of data collected during October 7th and 8th disaster initiated review in risk and host counties for the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant the following statements are made:

> No significant changes to the infrastructure of the St. Lucie EPZ occurred which would necessitate the development of extra-ordinary compensatory measures.
>
> Offsite emergency preparedness in the State of Florida and in St. Lucie and Martin Counties, the risk counties, and Indian River and Palm Beach Counties, host counties is adequate.
>
> Contingency plans for the performance of monitoring, decontamination and congregate care for evacuees going to Brevard County have been developed and are in place for the next 30 days.

These statements complete the disaster initiated review made necessary by the passage of Hurricane Matthew through the risk and host counties for the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant.

FEMA evaluated the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant offsite emergency preparedness exercise on February 24, 2016. FEMA determined based on the results of the exercise and analysis of Florida's annual letter of certification the 44 CFR 350 approval of the State of Florida and associated local plans and preparedness site specific for the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant granted on February 14, 1984, will continue. The results of this disaster initiated review have not impacted this finding.