



**FEMA**

James Joseph, Director  
Illinois Emergency Management Agency  
2200 South Dirksen Parkway  
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Dear Mr. Joseph:

This is to inform you of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency's (DHS/FEMA) Region V Office identification of two Level 1 Findings during the Quad Cities Station Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Exercise conducted on Wednesday, November 16, 2016.

A Level 1 Finding is defined in the DHS/FEMA REP Program Manual, dated January 2016, as an observed or identified inadequacy of organizational performance in an exercise that could cause a determination that, in the event of a radiological emergency, offsite emergency preparedness is not adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate protective measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of a Nuclear Power Plant.

The County of Rock Island received a Level 1 Finding under *Subsequent Emergency Information and Instructions for the Public and the Media* Criterion 5.b.1 – Offsite Response Organizations provide accurate subsequent emergency information and instructions to the public and the news media in a timely manner.

The Level 1 Finding assessed was based on Rock Island County's failure to contact the Emergency Broadcast System radio station in association with the dissemination of a Protective Action Decision Message. The failures identified would have adversely affected the health and safety of the public by exposing them to radiological hazards.

The County of Whiteside received a Level 1 Finding under *Subsequent Emergency Information and Instructions for the Public and the Media* Criterion 5.b.1 – Offsite Response Organizations provide accurate subsequent emergency information and instructions to the public and the news media in a timely manner.

The Level 1 Finding assessed was based on Whiteside County's failure to contact the Emergency Broadcast System radio station in association with the dissemination of a Protective Action Decision Message. The failures identified would have adversely affected the health and safety of the public by exposing them to radiological hazards.

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In accordance with 44 CFR 350.9(d), we have thoroughly reviewed and discussed these issues with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Because of the potential impact these findings have on public health and safety, appropriate corrective actions and a remedial exercise will need to be conducted within 120 days after the November 16, 2016 exercise date. These issues were presented to the exercise participants, including the State of Illinois, Rock Island County and Whiteside County staff during the post-exercise Participant Meeting conducted on November 18, 2016, and through a more detailed discussion with your staff.

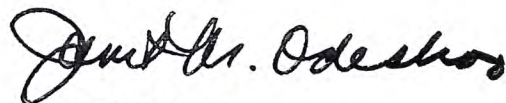
The DHS/FEMA Region V contacted the State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency on November 17, 2016, and informed them of the Level 1 Findings. Following a thorough discussion of the circumstances regarding the Level 1 Findings, the DHS/FEMA offered the State, Rock Island County, and Whiteside County the opportunity to conduct any necessary retraining and redemonstrations regarding the affected criterion.

Please coordinate with this office no later than December 6, 2016, regarding a Schedule of Corrective Actions, including what corrective actions will be conducted, e.g. training and/or drills, along with the date, time and identification of those organizations and participants by title, participating in the remedial exercise.

A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the DHS/FEMA Headquarters, the U.S. NRC Headquarters, and the U.S. NRC Region III.

Your cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Sean O'Leary, Chair, Regional Assistance Committee, at (312) 408-5389.

Sincerely,



Janet M. Odeschko  
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: DHS/FEMA Headquarters  
U.S.NRC Headquarters  
U.S. NRC Region III



U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Region V  
536 South Clark Street, Floor 6  
Chicago, IL 60605



**FEMA**

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