



**UNITED STATES**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION I  
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

July 26, 2018

Mr. James E. Ziolkowski, Chairman,  
Hampton Falls Board of Selectmen  
Town of Hampton Falls  
Town Offices  
1 Drinkwater Road  
Hampton Falls, NH 03844

Dear Mr. Ziolkowski:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your June 1, 2018, letter (ML18177A405<sup>1</sup>) regarding emergency preparedness near Seabrook Station. You also asked that the NRC convene a hearing to educate the public on the emergency plans for the area.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the NRC continue to find that State and local preparedness remains adequate to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of the Seabrook Station, and provides reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken off-site in the event of a radiological emergency.

Federal oversight of emergency preparedness for licensed nuclear power plants is shared by the NRC and FEMA. FEMA has the lead for overseeing offsite planning and response, while the NRC assists FEMA in carrying out its role. We believe that your concerns regarding offsite emergency preparedness should be directed to FEMA. The State of New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have the overall authority for making protective action decisions (sheltering, evacuation, etc.) for ensuring the safety of their public during a radiological event. The states' radiological emergency plans for implementing those decisions were developed by the state emergency management agencies and subsequently approved by FEMA. Additional information on these cooperative relationships between the States, FEMA and NRC are described in a fact sheet on the NRC's website at: <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/emerg-plan-prep-nuc-power.html>

The NRC relies on FEMA to provide a reasonable assurance finding on the adequacy of offsite emergency response programs, including the means for the timely evacuation of the public, for protecting the public health and safety. FEMA performs an evaluation of the offsite performance every other year. During the most recent exercise on April 4, 2018, FEMA did not identify any findings or planning issues for the State of New Hampshire or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. FEMA's June 6, 2018, after action report documenting the results of their

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<sup>1</sup> Designation refers to an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly-available using the accession number in ADAMS at <https://adams.nrc.gov/wba/>. For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov).

evaluation can be found on the NRC's website at: <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/emerg-preparedness/related-information/fema-after-action-reports.html>.

Regarding a hearing, the NRC conducted a public Annual Assessment Meeting on May 2, 2018, in Hampton, N.H. The NRC conducts meetings annually in the spring or summer to discuss our assessment of plant performance and other topics of interest to the public. We believe this meets the intent of your request because we encourage any member of the public to ask questions related to Seabrook Station. Although FEMA is the agency responsible for assessing offsite emergency preparedness, the NRC provided responses to offsite emergency preparedness questions from the public, including a representative from We The People, during the meeting. A summary of this meeting can be found at ML18142A293.

Thank you for your interest in this issue. We will continue to provide regular opportunities to address any public concerns regarding Seabrook Station, including offsite emergency preparedness. If you would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact Doug Tifft, Regional State Liaison Officer, at 610-337-6918.

Sincerely,

**/RA/ Original signed by**

Raymond K. Lorson, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

cc: SColman, FEMI RI  
PPlummer, NH SLO

## LETTER TO HAMPTON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMENT DATED JULY 26, 2018

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\* see prior concurrence

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