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# TOWN OF OSSINING

**Supervisor**  
Barbara C. Fratianni

**Town Board**  
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Secretary to the Commission  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Secretary:

Enclosed for your information is a statement by Ossining Town Councilman Francis X. Lynett, delivered before Lt. Governor DelBello at the Public Hearings on Emergency Communications in New York State in the Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York, on Wednesday, March 7th, 1984.

The Town of Ossining is still very much concerned about the effectiveness of an adequate emergency response plan. We feel strongly that if the monies were to be allocated to the Westchester MRD District 3, it would enable the police departments to communicate with local, county and State Police agencies to coordinate the proposed evacuation plan.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara C. Fratianni  
Supervisor

BCF:ls

Enclosure

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Lt. Governor DelBello, thank you for the opportunity to present a statement not of a technical nature but as an additional expression of our needs with regard to Emergency Communications. As you are aware, we had representation at the hearings in New York City and wanted to further state our concerns here today.

As you have introduced me, my name is Frank Lynett, an Ossining Town Councilman, Deputy Supervisor as well as the Town Board's liaison to the Westchester County Municipal/County Task Force Emergency Response Plan.

A brief history will be of assistance in understanding the importance of the Multiple Radio District Emergency Communications System to the Town of Ossining. For a number of years, we have been working closely with the County, the State and the Federal Emergency Management Agency with regard to the Radiological Emergency Preparedness System seeking to make corrections to emergency evacuation routes over non-existing roads; as to Westchester County District #3 (Villages of North Tarrytown, Briarcliff Manor, Croton and Ossining as well as the Towns of Mount Pleasant and Ossining) having the MRD when it did not; as to having the Crotonville Section of the Town evacuated with the Village of Croton - traveling north and then south; as to obtaining the proper emergency equipment such as dosimeter, geiger counters, TLD's etc.; as to having proper radiological training for emergency personnel-police, fire, ambulance volunteers; as to planning proper evacuation procedures for our school children.

On May 17th, 1983, out of frustration, the Town Board of the Town of Ossining held a Special Meeting to consider withdrawing from participating in the Emergency Response Plan. After hearing from the representatives of Con Edison and the

New York Power Authority; receiving written statements from senior executive officers of the utilities and listening to the concerns of our citizens, by a narrow 3-2 vote, we decided not to withdraw but to continue for a 90 day period to work with other municipalities, the County, the State and FEMA to correct and obtain that which is necessary to uphold our oath of office - to protect the health and safety of the people of the Town of Ossining.

We have met at Special Meeting twice since May 17th, and we are somewhat satisfied - not delighted - just somewhat satisfied with the response of the utilities, the county and the state. We appreciate the work and assistance. Our equipment needs are almost at 100%; the County Task Force is operating and emergency personnel have and are being trained. Corrections and additions to plans are being made daily.

We could have easily - through our frustration - stuck our heads in the sand and withdrawn. We took what we thought was the better road - to work within the system. Neighboring municipalities, the County, the State and FEMA have received our three resolutions stating our concerns. Finally, after ten months, we have the attention of FEMA.

Presently, the most important and urgent item in the Emergency Response Plan is not in place in our Town nor has it been allocated in '84-'85 New York State budget. We were both amazed and stunned. It is incredible. We do not wish to prejudice other municipalities or counties needs - but to our knowledge all or most of the following counties - Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Lewis, Erie and Nassau <sup>HAVE '84-85 MRD FUNDING BUT</sup> do not have operating nuclear facilities. Westchester does. It is known as the Indian Point Nuclear Energy Facility. The Town of Ossining is within FEMA's 10 mile radius for emergency evacuation. We cannot effectively

communicate with the County, the utilities or anyone out of our immediate area. Our concerns are IMMEDIATE and URGENT!

The \$537,000 necessary to fund Westchester County MRD #3 must be allocated to the '84-'85 budget. An increase in fees from the utilities may not be sufficient for we know what usually happens to fees. They happen to disappear elsewhere.

We plan to have a Special Meeting on May 15th, one year after our first meeting. We will monitor the budget proceedings and, of course, the final budget. It is imperative that the state government understand the urgency of our needs. If necessary, we will meet prior to May 15th and the choices available may be narrowed down to ONE. Hopefully not! We are confident that you will consider and understand our needs and the problem and allocate the proper funds for Westchester District #3.

The room # is 711 and that's a lucky number. <sup>PERHAPS!</sup> Once again, we appreciate the opportunity to present our concerns and the assistance you have given us in the past. Thank you.