

UPDATE: CHANGES AND INNOVATIONS IN REP EXERCISES

J. Kish (FEMA), M. Leach (NRC), J. Anderson (NRC) (joseph.anderson@nrc.gov; Phone: 301-415-4114), H. Sherwood (FEMA), W. McNally (FEMA), J. Singleton (FEMA)

Summary -

Since the 2008 NREP Conference, FEMA and the NRC have jointly engaged State and local response organizations, nuclear power plant licensees, and various support groups in the conduct of 20 focus groups held in 9 of the 10 FEMA Regions. The purpose of these focus groups was to engage stakeholders in dialogue on draft preliminary language being proposed to enhance scenarios to provide more challenging options and help avoid anticipatory responses by exercise participants due to pre-conditioning. Input from stakeholders was used to inform both FEMA and the NRC on draft EP rulemaking and guidance.

The Update informed REP professionals on the proposed revision to the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REPP) Manual, which incorporates proposed enhancements to scenario options and evaluation criteria and integrates with the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) process. Further, discussion focused on efforts to integrate REPP and HSEEP to provide a unified national strategy for exercise design, conduct and evaluation in compliance with elements of HSPD-5, HSPD-8, and the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Recovery Act (PKEMRA). The discussion included not only the proposed benefits of REPP/HSEEP integration, but also the unique requirements of the REPP. Discussions also included a REPP/HSEEP crosswalk on key areas of program management, planning, conduct, after action reporting, and improvement plans.
