

ANNEX 3
(PUBLIC INFORMATION)
TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA OPERATIONAL RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) Public Information Section, in coordination with Federal, State, and local governments, and nuclear facilities located within the State, will develop and conduct a program of public education to address potential hazards resulting from an incident, appropriate actions for public self-protection, and information on State, local, and facility radiological emergency response programs.
- B. Dissemination of complete and accurate information to the public in South Carolina in the event of a Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) incident is essential to promote a controlled response by the population and to instill confidence that necessary actions are being undertaken for the public's health and safety.
- C. Federal, State, and local governments and the affected facility will establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) / Joint Information System (JIS) where representatives can respond to media inquiries and ensure an orderly and coordinated release of emergency information.

II. PURPOSE

- A. Provide effective communication and coordination with Federal, local, and NPP/utility emergency public information organizations to ensure accurate and orderly dissemination of emergency information before, during, and after a NPP incident.
- B. Provide the general public and transient population with appropriate educational information relating to potential hazards resulting from a nuclear facility incident; state, local, and facility radiological emergency response programs; and appropriate actions for public self-protection in the event of an incident.
- C. Provide for the establishment, coordination, and conduct of an effective program of public education relating to:
 - 1. Potential hazards resulting from a nuclear facility/utility incident
 - 2. Appropriate actions for public self-protection in the event of an incident
 - 3. State, local and facility radiological emergency response programs

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Prevention/Protection Phase

1. The SCEMD Public Information Section will coordinate the conduct of program activities within the state.
2. The SCEMD Public Information Section will coordinate the provision of necessary resources to support local program activities.
3. County governments within the Plume Exposure Pathway EPZ will conduct ongoing programs and participate in annual special emphasis programs.
4. FEMA and NPP public information organizations will augment the Public Information Section, as required, with appropriate staff to support incident response activities. Incident response activities will include:
 - a. Identification of possible types of incidents to include potential health and environmental impacts
 - b. Means of public alert and notification
 - c. Appropriate actions for public self-protection
 - d. Sources of additional educational information prior to and during an emergency
 - e. Information relating to state, local, and NPP response plans including identification of evacuation sectors, routes, reception centers, provisions for sheltering, respiratory protection, and use of radio-protective drugs
 - f. Information relating to special segments of the population including schools, hospitals, nursing homes, other institutions and physically impaired, mentally impaired and transportation-dependent individuals
5. Program activities will include ongoing programs and special emphasis programs conducted annually.
6. Educational information will be disseminated through available public and private resources:
 - a. Publications
 - b. Printed and electronic media
 - c. State displays and distribution of prepared literature at public locations
7. Dissemination of information to the transient population will be accomplished by providing access to educational materials at appropriate locations, including:

- a. Facility visitors' centers
- b. Motel/hotel lobbies
- c. Train stations
- d. Parks
- e. Campgrounds
- f. Recreation areas
- g. Other public areas

B. Response Phase

1. The Government of the State of South Carolina will exercise primary responsibility and authority for the release of information relating to the off-site impact of an NPP incident, requirements for off-site protective actions, activation of the IPAWS, and operational/technical activities of state response forces.
2. The State of South Carolina will organize and respond to the public information requirements stemming from an event at a NPP in accordance with Section VII (Disaster Intelligence and Communications) of the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP), and Annex 15 (Public Information) of the SCEOP.
3. Direction and Control
 - a. If the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is activated, the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications or designee [normally SCEMD Chief of Public Information] will address issues regarding public safety and state the government's response.
 - b. Federal, State, and local governments and the affected facility will establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) / Joint Information System (JIS) where representatives can respond to media inquiries and ensure an orderly and coordinated release of emergency information.
4. Coordination
 - a. ESF-15 (Public Information) will coordinate public information and IPAWS activities at the SEOC or JIC/JIS in accordance with Section VII (Disaster Intelligence and Communications) of the SCEOP, Annex 15 (Public Information) of the SCEOP, and the ESF-15 (Public Information) SOP.

- b. ESF-15 (Public Information) will coordinate all information prior to its release with the NPP/utility to the fullest extent practicable. Timely release of emergency information to South Carolina's populace is of paramount importance.
 - c. ESF-15 (Public Information) will schedule briefings to provide the media with periodic updates on the incident and will release additional information as it becomes available, as required by the urgency of the situation, or to clarify misinformation and rumors.
5. Public Inquiry/Rumor Control

ESF-15 (Public Information) will coordinate responses to requests for public information, and gather and respond to rumors, in accordance with Section VII (Disaster Intelligence and Communications) of the SCEOP, Annex 15 (Public Information) of the SCEOP, and the ESF-15 (Public Information) SOP.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General

The State of South Carolina will organize and respond to the public information requirements stemming from an event at a NPP in accordance with Section VII (Disaster Intelligence and Communications) of the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP), and Annex 15 (Public Information) of the SCEOP

B. State Emergency Response Team

1. SCEMD Public Information Section

- a. Coordinate the development and conduct of special statewide educational programs with the appropriate supporting organizations.
- b. Provide staff and material assistance to support the conduct of local ongoing programs.
- c. Acquire or develop special educational materials.
- d. Coordinate with Support Agencies to provide staff, facility, equipment, and material assistance to support the development and conduct of public education program activities
- e. Coordinate an annual media program to acquaint news media with emergency plans/procedures, information concerning radiation, and points of contact for release of public information in an emergency. This can be done by meeting with, or mailing information to, media representatives.

2. State government will exercise primary responsibility and authority for the release of information relating to the off-site impact of an NPP incident, requirements for off-site protective actions, activation of IPAWS, and operational/technical activities of state response forces.
3. State government will conduct public information operations in accordance with Section VII (Disaster Intelligence and Communications) of the SCEOP, Annex 15 (Public Information) of the SCEOP, and the ESF-15 (Public Information) SOP.

C. County Governments

1. Coordinate the conduct of local educational programs.
2. Participate in annual special emphasis programs.
3. Implement off-site protective actions as directed by proper authority.
4. Release information relating to operational activities of local response forces within their jurisdiction.
5. Provide an authorized spokesperson/representative to support county public information activities through the JIC/JIS.
6. Conduct public information activities in accordance with established plans, in coordination with ESF-15 and the JIC/JIS.

D. NPP/Utility

1. Provide staff and material assistance to support program activities.
2. Participate in annual special emphasis programs.
3. Release information relating to on-site conditions and response activities resulting from the incident.
4. Provide an Emergency News Center and its appropriate administrative and logistical support.
5. Provide an authorized spokesperson/representative to support public information activities at the State JIC, or interface with the State JIS.
6. Determine credentials of news media representatives and establish access control to the Emergency News Center.
7. Conduct public information and public education activities in accordance with established plans.

E. Federal Government

1. Release information relating to on-site regulatory and off-site support activities of federal response forces.
2. Provide an authorized spokesperson/representative to support federal public information activities at the State JIC/JIS.
3. Conducting public information activities in accordance with established plans.

V. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Location of the State JIC

1. State Emergency Operations Center, 2779 Fish Hatchery Road, West Columbia, SC 29172
2. The Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications, the Director or designee may determine an alternate location based on current conditions.

B. Emergency News Center

1. Some NPPs/utilities will provide the Emergency News Center and appropriate administrative, logistical and equipment support to public information and media staff.
2. The NPP/Utility will furnish telephone and internet support at the Emergency News Center.
3. Utility Emergency News Center Locations

Facility	Utility Emergency News Center Location
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant	636 Woodland Road, Waynesboro, GA 30830
Savannah River Site, Center for Hydrogen Research	301 Gateway Drive, New Ellenton, SC 29803

- C. Transportation and special equipment: Public information and media staff will provide for their respective transportation and specialized equipment needs.
- D. Public information communications support will be requested from the SEOC, as required.