

December 3, 1999

Mr. Michael J. Colomb  
Site Executive Officer  
New York Power Authority  
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant  
Post Office Box 41  
Lycoming, NY 13093

**SUBJECT: NRC-EVALUATED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE - INSPECTION  
REPORT NO. 50-333/99-11**

Dear Mr. Colomb:

The enclosed report documents an inspection for public health and safety, led by Mr. D. Silk at Lycoming, New York. The inspection at the James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant evaluated the performance of your emergency response organization (ERO) during the October 20, 1999, full-participation exercise, the post-exercise critique, and the emergency preparedness performance indicators as specified in the reactor oversight program. The inspectors discussed the findings of this inspection with you and other members of your staff on October 22, 1999.

This inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selected examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities, and interviews with personnel.

No violations of NRC requirements or significant findings were identified. No response to this letter is required.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**

Wayne D. Lanning, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-333

Enclosure: Inspection Report No. 50-333/99-11

cc w/encl:

C. D. Rappleyea, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
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J. Knubel, Chief Nuclear Officer and Senior Vice President  
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W. Josiger, Vice President - Special Activities  
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R. Deasy, Vice President - Appraisal and Compliance Services  
R. Patch, Director - Quality Assurance  
G. C. Goldstein, Assistant General Counsel  
C. D. Faison, Director, Nuclear Licensing, NYPA  
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T. Morra, Executive Chair, Four County Nuclear Safety Committee  
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P. Eddy, Electric Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York  
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L. Downing  
H. Hawkins, Syracuse Green Party  
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Mr. Michael J. Colomb

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

Docket No: 50-333

License No: DPR-59

Report No: 50-333/99-11

Licensee: New York Power Authority

Facility: James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant (JAFNPP)

Dates: October 18 - 22, 1999

Inspectors: D. Silk, Senior Emergency Preparedness Specialist, DRS  
R. Rasmussen, Senior Resident Inspector, JAFNPP  
B. Norris, Senior Reactor Engineer, DRS  
R. Sullivan, Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NRR

Approved by: Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Human Performance and Emergency Preparedness Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant (JAFNPP)

October 18 - 22, 1999

Inspection Report Number 50-333/99-11

This report covers a four day period of announced inspection of the biennial exercise by two emergency preparedness specialists, a senior reactor engineer and the JAFNPP senior resident inspector.

Inspection findings were assessed according to potential risk significance and, when appropriate, were assigned colors of GREEN, WHITE, YELLOW, or RED. GREEN findings are indicative of issues that, while not necessarily desirable, represent little risk to safety. WHITE findings would indicate issues with some increased risk to safety, and which may require additional NRC inspections. YELLOW findings would be indicative of more serious issues with higher potential risk to safe performance and would require the NRC to take additional actions. RED findings represent an unacceptable loss of margin to safety and would result in the NRC taking significant actions that could include ordering the plant shutdown. The findings, considered in total with other inspection findings and performance indicators, will be used to determine overall plant performance.

### Emergency Preparedness

No significant findings were identified.

## Report Details

### !!! REACTOR SAFETY

#### Cornerstone: Emergency Preparedness (EP)

#### 1EP1 Drill, Exercise, and Actual Events

##### a. Inspection Scope

The inspectors reviewed licensee documentation and corrective actions pertaining to the January 14, 1999, unusual event declaration cause by an hydrogen tank fire.

Also, the inspectors reviewed:

- Exercise objectives and scenario to determine if the exercise would test major elements of the licensee's emergency plan.
- Observed and evaluated the licensee's biennial full-participation exercise performance by focusing on risk-significant activities in the simulator control room, the technical support center, the operations support center, and the emergency operations facility.
- Assessed the emergency response organization's (ERO) recognition of abnormal plant conditions, classification of emergency conditions, notification of offsite agencies, development of protective action recommendations (PAR), command and control, communications, utilization of repair and field monitoring teams, and the overall implementation of the emergency plan.
- Observed the post-exercise critique to evaluate the licensee's self-assessment of the exercise.

##### b. Observations and Findings

No significant findings were identified.

#### 4OA1 Identification and Resolution of Problems

##### a. Inspection Scope

The inspectors reviewed:

- Records of the licensee self-assessments, audits, corrective actions and problem identification forms associated with the EP program.
- A critique of an emergency plan activation and corrective actions associated with it .
- A sample of corrective actions identified from the drill program and other self-assessment activities.

- The record of corrective actions in the past two years.
- Members of the emergency planning staff were interviewed regarding the disposition of a sample of corrective actions.
- An audit conducted in accordance with 50.54(t).
- A critique of an emergency plan activation. One finding from it was followed up in depth.
- A sample of corrective action reports.

b. Observations and Findings

No significant findings were identified.

40A2 Performance Indicator Verification

a. Inspection Scope

The inspectors verified the licensee's system for identifying the data for the past two years that is utilized to determine the values for the three EP performance indicators (PI):

- Drill and Exercise Performance (DEP)
- ERO Drill Participation, and
- Alert and Notification System Reliability.

The review also included:

- The procedure for EP PI data gathering and documentation relative to the raw data for each PI.
- Current and historical records for each PI.
- Drill/exercise records and siren testing records.

b. Observations and Findings

During this inspection, errors were identified in the PI data submitted to the NRC. It was noted that the licensee was not using the guidance in NEI 99-02, Regulatory Assessment Performance Indicator Guideline, for the collection of data for DEP PI statistics. Specifically, the licensee was not counting the notification of PARs in the statistics. The licensee's method for determining the statistics was such that inclusion of the PAR notification opportunity would have improved the score in this area. There was no change in the assessment color. Concerns with this error are minimal and the licensee has stated that the method will be corrected for future data. However, because these errors were not significant in that no change in the NRC's action would have resulted from this data, and was not willful, this is a minor violation not subject to formal enforcement action.

**V. Management Meetings**

**X1 Exit Meeting**

The inspectors presented the inspection results to members of licensee management (as indicated on the contact list) at the conclusion of the inspection on October 22, 1999. The licensee acknowledged the inspectors' findings.



## PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

### Licensee

N. Avrakotos, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
M. Colomb, Site Vice President  
D. Kieper, General Manager Maintenance  
D. Lindsey, Plant Manager  
K. Szeluga, Assistant Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
G. Tasick, Licensing Manager  
A. Zaremba, General Manager Site Support

## ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

### Opened

None

### Closed

None

### Discussed

None

## LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

DEP	Drill and Exercise Performance
EP	Emergency Preparedness
ERO	Emergency Response Organization
PAR	Protective Action Recommendation
PI	Performance Indicator