

FEMA to Evaluate Emergency Preparedness of Pennsylvania

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PHILADELPHIA – The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)) will evaluate a biennial emergency preparedness exercise at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Berwick, Pennsylvania. The exercise will take place on October 16, 2018 to test the ability of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to respond to an emergency at the nuclear facility.

“These drills are held every other year to evaluate government’s ability to protect public health and safety,” said MaryAnn Tierney, Regional Administrator for FEMA Region III. “We will assess state and local emergency response capabilities within the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone of the nuclear facility, within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.”

Within 90 days post-exercise, FEMA will send a report of their evaluation to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ([NRC](#)) for use in licensing decisions. The final report will be available to the public approximately 120 days after the exercise.

FEMA will present preliminary findings of the exercise in a public meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 19, 2018, at the Holiday Inn, 600 Wildflower Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. Scheduled speakers include representatives from FEMA, the NRC, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

At the public meeting, FEMA may request that questions or comments be submitted in writing for review and response. Written comments may also be submitted after the meeting by emailing FEMAR3NewsDesk@fema.dhs.gov or by mail to:

MaryAnn Tierney

Regional Administrator



FEMA

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FEMA Region III

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FEMA created the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program to (1) ensure the health and safety of citizens living around commercial nuclear power plants would be adequately protected in the event of a nuclear power plant accident and; (2) inform and educate the public about radiological emergency preparedness.

REP Program responsibilities cover only “offsite” activities, that is, state and local government emergency planning and preparedness activities that take place beyond the nuclear power plant boundaries. Onsite activities continue to be the responsibility of the NRC.

Additional information on FEMA’s REP Program is available online at [FEMA.gov/Radiological-Emergency-Preparedness-Program](https://www.fema.gov/Radiological-Emergency-Preparedness-Program).

FEMA’s mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters. FEMA Region III’s jurisdiction includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Learn more about FEMA Region III at www.FEMA.gov/region-iii. Stay informed of FEMA’s activities online: videos and podcasts are available at fema.gov/medialibrary and youtube.com/fema. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/femaregion3.

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