

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 5, 2023

The Honorable Christopher T. Hanson
Chairman
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
115 5 5 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Hanson,

We write regarding the License Amendment Request (LAR) for a “Common Fleet Emergency Plan” proposed by NextEra Energy Inc. and NextEra Energy Seabrook. We request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in your oversight capacity, ensure that changes to the proposed common fleet emergency plan at Seabrook enhance rather than reduce public safety, and that you provide appropriate transparency and opportunity for public engagement.

It is our understanding that NextEra Energy has proposed to update a 40-year-old emergency plan to provide consistent emergency protocols throughout several of NextEra’s Energy facilities across the country. We recognize the need for coordinated planning and synchronization among facilities and appreciate efforts to focus on emergency preparedness. However, we have serious questions about the details in the proposed plan related to staffing locally in Seabrook, New Hampshire.

We are asking the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to answer the following questions:

- How do the changes in NextEra Energy’s proposed license amendment for common emergency planning improve safety in Seabrook?
- Will NextEra’s proposed plan reduce the number of full-time employees stationed at Seabrook that hold Emergency Response Organization (ERO) roles? If so, how many staff currently employed in Seabrook will be re-located, reduced and/or reassigned into another position not ERO related?
- It is our understanding that NextEra intends to increase the number of technical experts that can respond remotely in an emergency in place of on-the-ground experts. How will this proposal impact safety and the response time in an emergency? How have cybersecurity risks been evaluated related to remote access into a plant during an emergency?
- Has NextEra or NRC held any public forums with details about the plan? If not, we urge you to include an opportunity for the public to learn about the proposed plans and provide comments before NRC decides on the licensing amendment request. It is imperative that New Hampshire residents have ample time to review, understand and provide input on decisions that impact their neighborhoods and lives.

Thank you for your attention to this request and for all your work to ensure the safety and security of our nuclear energy sources.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Cc: John W. Ketchum, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer NextEra Energy, Inc.
Brian Booth, Site Vice President Site Vice President, NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC
Governor Christopher Sununu