

SPANISH PRACTICE AND EXPERIENCE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
NUCLEAR EMERGENCY PLANS

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ABSTRACT

In Spain, as in other countries, the emergency plans associated with nuclear installations have known three well defined periods: from the beginning of the nuclear national program (in Spain about 1956) to the Three Mile Island-2 accident (March 1979; from TMI-2 to Chernobyl-4 event (April 1986); and from Chernobyl up to now.

The second period has been the most fruitful for development of nuclear emergency plans in Spain; during that period a Basic Plan for nuclear emergencies at national level was established. This Basic Plan follows the international recommendations, mainly from IAEA, EURATOM and lessons learned from Chernobyl accident.

In the paper the criteria and principles on which the Basic Plan is based are firstly described. Organizational and operational aspects are then discussed; the extend these aspects is brought into play is determined by the type of abnormal event which occurs in the facility; since the evolution of this event can not be exactly predicted, there must be enough flexibility in the organizational and operational aspects so that it can be adapted rapidly and effectively to the circumstances. Another section deals with the protection measures as a function of intervention (or reference) levels. For planning purposes such measures are taken gradually up to 3, 5, 10 and 30 km. depending on the severity of the situation.

The Basic Plan has been adapted for each of the provinces where a NPP is located; this adaptation takes into account the particular organization and resources of each province, so there are Plans at provincial levels; besides and derived from these Plans, each municipality within a radius of 10 km from the NPP also has its own Municipal Plan for nuclear emergencies.

Finally, details are given of the Training Courses for specific teams and Information Conferences for the population which are applied in Spain and also the accumulated experience with the implementation of the nuclear emergency plans.