

# NUCLEAR EMERGENCY RECOVERY PHASE PLANNING AND RESPONSE

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## ABSTRACT

Considerable effort has been directed to planning for the immediate response to nuclear accidents with the potential to affect the UK. Detailed emergency arrangements have been prepared, and validated in national programmes of exercises. Although some work remains to be done, sufficient information now exists to enable at least outline plans to be prepared also for the recovery phase. Emergency Planning Officers from Cumbria have been conspicuous amongst those who, in national forums, have prepared useful guidance for use at local levels. A level three (national) exercise of emergency arrangements for BNFL Sellafield in October 1997 served as a proving ground for local plans based on that guidance.

## INTRODUCTION

Cumbria is 'host' or near neighbour to several licensed nuclear sites, and transport of substantial quantities of nuclear materials occurs by road, rail, air and sea routes into, through and over the County.

Site/Activity	Location	Hazard
BNFL Sellafield	West Cumbria	Four MAGNOX reactors, reprocessing plant, radioactive waste management and storage facilities
BNFL Drigg	West Cumbria	Waste management and disposal
Marconi Marine VSEL	South Cumbria	Manufacture of nuclear-powered warships
Heysham	North Lancashire	Two advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGR)
BNFL Chapelcross	South West Scotland	Four MAGNOX reactors
Transport	Road and rail, Ports of Workington and Barrow-in-Furness, and Carlisle Airport	Civil and military nuclear cargoes

Figure 1: Nuclear hazards within or immediately adjacent to Cumbria

