113TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. ______

To require the President to issue guidance on Federal response to a large-scale nuclear disaster.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Engel introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the President to issue guidance on Federal response to a large-scale nuclear disaster.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Nuclear Disaster Preparedness Act”.

SEC. 2. GUIDANCE FOR RESPONSE TO A NUCLEAR DISASTER.

(a) ISSUANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, in consulta-
tion with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of De-
fense, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection
Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Sec-
retary of Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the
Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall issue guid-
ance on Federal response to nuclear disasters described
in subsection (b).

(b) NUCLEAR DISASTERS DESCRIBED.—The guid-
ance issued pursuant to subsection (a) shall be with re-
spect to any nuclear disaster that—

(1) may be caused by a natural catastrophe, an
accident, or a terrorist or other attack;

(2) occurs initially at a nuclear power plant;

and

(3) disperses radiation off the reactor site and
into the surrounding area.

(c) GUIDANCE.—The guidance issued pursuant to
subsection (a) shall—

(1) designate the single Federal agency that is
responsible for coordinating the Federal Govern-
ment’s efforts in response to a nuclear disaster (in
this Act referred to as the “Coordinating Agency”),
including making a formal declaration that a nuclear
disaster exists;
(2) identify the circumstances under which a formal declaration described in paragraph (1) will occur;

(3) designate the single Federal agency that, in response to a nuclear disaster, is responsible for recommending to the Coordinating Agency—

(A) the evacuation of the area within a 10-mile radius from the nuclear power plant; or

(B) the evacuation of the area within a larger radius from the nuclear power plant, but not more than a radius of 50 miles;

(4) identify the circumstances under which a recommendation described in paragraph (3) will be made;

(5) designate the single Federal agency that is responsible for developing plans for an evacuation described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (3), educating the public regarding such an evacuation, and conducting such an evacuation when directed to do so by the Coordinating Agency;

(6) designate the single Federal agency that is responsible for recommending to the Coordinating Agency that evacuees may return following a nuclear disaster;
(7) identify the circumstances under which a recommendation described in paragraph (6) will be made;

(8) identify what cleanup standards will apply for a nuclear disaster;

(9) designate the single Federal agency that is responsible for conducting cleanup of a nuclear disaster when directed to do so by the Coordinating Agency; and

(10) identify any other roles and responsibilities of any Federal agency involved in the response effort to a nuclear disaster.