

January 18, 1979

Docket No.: 50-289

Mr. J. G. Herbein, Vice President
Metropolitan Edison Company
P. O. Box 542
Reading, Pennsylvania 19603

Dear Mr. Herbein:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 48 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-50 for Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 (TMI-1). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your request dated December 26, 1978, as supplemented and revised January 11, 1979, and staff discussions.

The amendment revises the Technical Specifications for TMI-1 to permit removal to storage prior to the Cycle 5 refueling outage of the steel gate presently separating spent fuel pools A and B.

Copies of the Safety Evaluation and the Notice of Issuance are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 48
2. Safety Evaluation
3. Notice

cc w/enclosures: See next page

Concur on basis of comments that part 100 be referenced and p. 306 the SE and that the staff state part assumptions used by licensee are acceptable.

Concur with comment - p. 200 should have staff funding

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January 18, 1979

Note to Stuart A. Treby

TMI-1 - FUEL STORAGE POOL GATE REMOVAL AND STORAGE

The requested amendment would allow the licensee to remove the gate between TMI-1 storage pool A and B and store the gate in its storage location in pool A. This would allow the removal of fuel through the opening from A to pool B and thereby allow repair (without excessive radiation exposure) of a troublesome air motor in pool A. Because this would involve handling objects in excess of 3000 pounds (the gate is 5000 pounds) near the pool containing spent fuel, the amendment would allow a one-time waiver of the Tech. Spec. - prohibition of movement of such objects (those over 3000 pounds) over the fuel pool containing spent fuel. With the pencil comments (which state clearly that the Staff finds the assumptions used by the licensee are acceptable; and doses are within Part 100 doses) agreed to by Mr. Zwetzig (LPM), I find this package acceptable and I recommend OELD concurrence. This recommendation is based on [1] the Staff's acceptance of the analysis that the dose consequences of a gate drop accident would be less than 2 mrem to the thyroid and less than 202 mrem to the whole body (within 10 CFR § 20 and well within 10 CFR § 100; this is also within the previously renewed cask handling accident does of 41 R thyroid and 5 R whole body, see TMI-1 SER 15-2 through 15-4) [2] the conditions (1) through (3) noted in the SE which would lessen probability of a drop and [3] condition (4) that this action be allowed only one time.


Henry J. McGurren

Metropolitan Edison Company

cc w/enclosure(s):

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cc w/enclosure(s) and incoming
dtd.: 12/26/78 & 1/11/79

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