



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

May 27, 1980

Ivan W. Smith, Esq., Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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In the Matter of
Metropolitan Edison Company, et al.
(Three Mile Island, Unit 1)
Docket No. 50-289

Dear Members of the Board:

This letter is to advise you that the Staff has issued an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-50 for Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 (TMI-1). The amendment consists of revisions to and additions of technical specifications related to ventilation filter systems for the control room, auxiliary and fuel handling buildings and the reactor building purge. A copy of the amendment and the Staff's supporting Safety Evaluation is enclosed for your information.

The ventilation filter systems involve matters that are issues in the TMI-1 restart proceeding and that may be considered by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board in the hearing concerning the restart of TMI-1. However, since the Technical Specifications imposed by this amendment will result in improved requirements and an increase in the level of safety relative to the requirements of the existing Technical Specifications, the Staff has concluded that the issuance of this amendment is appropriate at this time. While this increase in safety will accrue primarily for plant operation, the Staff believes that the amendment should be authorized now, during the shutdown of TMI-1, since this will allow the efficient development and finalization of procedures for implementing the new Technical Specifications now, prior to the return to operation of TMI-1, if, in fact, TMI-1 restart is eventually authorized. Of course, the requirements imposed by this amendment will be subject to the modification by the Board as a result of its decision in the restart proceeding.

Sincerely,

James R. Tourtellotte
Assistant Chief Hearing Counsel

Enclosure as stated

cc (w/ encl.): Service List

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