

January 19, 2006

Dr. Richard E. Webb  
Raiffeisenstrasse 1  
86868 Mittelneufnach  
Bayern (Bavaria), Germany

Dear Dr. Webb:

This letter is provided in response to your calls on December 29, 2005, and January 04, 2006, to this office for information concerning the Three Mile Island-2 (TMI-2) reactor accident. You expressed interest in thermocouple data taken shortly before and after the licensee secured the reactor coolant pumps on April 27, 1979.

We believe that all information available to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on this subject is in the public domain.

Due to the age of this information, much of it is only available from microfiche. However, members of the public may search the NRC public legacy library, using a free software client, at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/citrix-based.html>. By using the TMI-2 docket number (05000320), keyword (thermocouples), and date (prior to October 1979), a list of document titles is obtained as shown in the enclosure. You may employ other searches, but my staff cannot research these documents in your behalf. You can obtain copies of the documents you identify through our Public Document Room (PDR) at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737.

As a result of our discussions, I agreed to make several senior NRC technical staff members available to answer your questions. On January 09, 2006, a conference call was held between you and Messrs. Bajorek, Lauben, Meyer, Scott and Voglewede. Following that call, you provided me with additional comments and requests for information in letters dated January 10, January 12, and January 18, 2006.

From the historical perspective, discussions concerning the TMI-2 accident are interesting. However, the NRC does not have sufficient resources to re-examine 30 year old data and information. The staff is fully engaged with current, more pressing safety issues and cannot be diverted to revisit historic issues. We have implemented the lessons learned from TMI-2 in the regulatory process and we do not see an immediate safety benefit of re-examining these prior issues. We will continue to review your comments and consider the issues in them as we move forward.

R. Webb

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I urge you to either use our document management system accessible through our website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> or contact the PDR to obtain the information you seek. Should you seek other information, not available through the PDR, in the possession of the NRC, you may also submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. Instructions for submitting a FOIA request are located at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-privacy.html>.

Sincerely,

**/RA/ J. T. Wiggins**

James T. Wiggins, Deputy Director  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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As stated

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