

FEB 3 1969

Docket No. 50-289

Metropolitan Edison Company
P. O. Box 542
Reading, Pennsylvania 19603

POOR ORIGINAL

Attention: Mr. R. E. Neidig
Vice President

Gentlemen:

We had a meeting with you and your contractors and consultants on December 19, 1968 to discuss the issues on the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station that were not fully resolved during the construction permit review. We indicated that our review of your application for a Provisional Operating License, to be filed at a later date, can be expedited by your filing selected information as it becomes available. The topics, including availability dates, were discussed at the meeting. Further details are contained in Attachment A to this letter. In our opinion, submittal of information relative to the items in Attachment A can properly be deferred until your application for a provisional operating license is filed. We believe, however, that potential delays in the operating license review might be avoided by an early response to the concerns expressed in the attachment.

We also discussed airplane hardening of critical structures and the design of the reactor building fan coolers. Amendments 8, 9, and 10 to your construction permit application discussed the design criteria to be used. This design will be the first of a kind for nuclear power reactors under our regulatory purview. Changes in the design would be quite difficult to accomplish after construction is finished. Accordingly, we urge you to make your preliminary designs available for review, in order to avoid delays at the time of the operating license review.

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We have also concluded, based on our safety evaluation, that information on the reactor building fan coolers is required as soon as it is available. As discussed in our meeting with you, we understand that this information should become available by about April 1, 1969.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated above

cc:
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ATTACHMENT A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DESIRED
THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION
DOCKET 50-289

1. Combined Seismic and Loss-of-Coolant Accident Loads

Reference: Staff Safety Evaluation, pages 11, 35.
ACRS Report, page 2.

Comment: We understand that your nuclear steam system supplier, B&W Company, intends to prepare a topical report. We wish to review that report when available.

Availability Date: Not yet furnished.

2. Dilution System Controls

Reference: Staff Safety Evaluation, pages 21-22.

Comment: The preliminary design for these circuits was not furnished with the application. Criteria were postulated relating this design to the IEEE-279 standard. We would like to review the preliminary design when available.

Availability Date: Second Quarter 1969.

3. Failed Fuel Element Detector

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Reference: Staff Safety Evaluation, page 43.

Comment: We understand that B&W Company is pursuing a scoping study on the feasibility of such a detector. Since a topical report is not envisioned, as reported at our meeting of December 19, 1968, we desire that this study be filed in connection with your project.

Availability Date: Second Quarter 1969.

4. Pressure Vessel Thermal Shock

Reference: Staff Safety Evaluation, page 24.

Comment: We understand from comments expressed in another project under review (Oyster Creek 2, Question 7.0) that B&W is reevaluating the analysis reported in Metropolitan Edison's PWR on Three Mile Island (Question 8.11). We desire the results of that work.

Availability Date: First Quarter 1969.

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5. R&D

Reference: Safety Evaluation, pages 51-53.

Comments: Our review of reports on research and development should commence as soon as the information can be made available. An arbitrary delay until the filing for a provisional operating license could increase the likelihood of delay in plant startup. Our understanding of the availability dates for each item of R&D is listed below. We desire that the information be submitted as available. We would accept and encourage the submission of the results in the form of topical reports.

Availability Dates:

- a. Xenon Oscillation: Early 1970.
- b. Sodium Thiosulfate: First Half 1969.
- c. Thermal-Hydraulic: Second Quarter 1969.
- d. Check Valve Vibration: Early 1969.
- e. Fuel Rod Failure: Early 1970.
- f. Self-Powered In-Core Detectors: First Half 1969.
- g. High-Burnup Fuels: Early 1970.

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