



METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY SUBSIDIARY OF GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 542 READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19603

TELEPHONE 215 - 929-3601

February 17, 1978  
GQL 0277

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attn: Mr. S. A. Varga, Chief  
Light Water Reactors Branch No. 4  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 2 (TMI-2)  
Operating License No. DPR-73  
Docket No. 50-320  
Reactor Vessel Cavity Annulus

This letter is in response to your letter of February 2, 1978, regarding the reactor cavity annulus seal ring and associated biological shielding on Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2 (TMI-2).

Please be advised that the reactor cavity annulus seal ring is not left in place during normal operation. Biological shielding is installed in the reactor cavity annulus.

Biological shielding of the reactor cavity annulus is accomplished by twelve sheet metal tanks containing water which form an annular ring located at the top of the reactor subcompartment and around the reactor vessel. These tanks are designed so that they will neither clog vent paths nor become missiles in the extremely improbable event of a pipe break inside the reactor vessel cavity. A description of the tank design, its operation and the analysis performed to demonstrate their acceptability can be found in Supplement 3 of the FSAR in response to question 42.3/6.2.1.1 beginning on page S3-42-3a.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

*J. G. Herbein*  
J. G. Herbein  
Vice President - Generation

780550076

JGH:JRS:dkf

7905160519

P

120 294  
B001 | S/E \*  
1/0

Mr. S. A. Varga, Chief

-2-

February 17, 1978  
GQL 0277

cc: Dr. Ernst Volgenau, Director  
Office of Inspection & Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

120 295

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)  
DISTRIBUTION FOR INCOMING MATERIAL

50-320

REC: VARGA S A  
NRC

ORG: HERBEIN J G  
METROPOL EDISON

DOC DATE: 02/17/78  
DATE RCVD: 02/23/78

DOCTYPE: LETTER NOTARIZED: NO

COPIES RECEIVED  
LTR 1 ENCL 0

SUBJECT:  
RESPONSE TO NRC LTR. DTD. 02/02/78, RE. THE REACTOR CAVITY ANNULUS  
SEAL RING & ASSOCIATED BIOLOGICAL SHIELDING ON THE SUBJECT  
FACILITY.

PLANT NAME: THREE MILE ISLAND - UNIT 2

REVIEWER INITIAL: XRL  
DISTRIBUTOR INITIAL:

\*\*\*\*\* DISTRIBUTION OF THIS MATERIAL IS AS FOLLOWS \*\*\*\*\*

NOTES:

1. SEND AMENDMENTS ONLY TO WETMORE

PSAR/FSAR AMDTS AND RELATED CORRESPONDENCE  
(DISTRIBUTION CODE B001)

FOR ACTION: ASST DIR VASSALLO\*\*LTR ONLY(1) BR CHIEF VARGA\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
PROJ MGR H. SILVER\*\*LTR ONLY(1) LIC ASST SERVICE\*\*LTR ONLY(1)

FOR INFO: MOORE\*\*LTR ONLY(1) REGAN\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
FOR INFO: NORRIS\*\*LTR ONLY(1) DUNCAN\*\*LTR ONLY(1)

INTERNAL: REG FILE\*\*LTR ONLY(1) NRC PDR\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
I & E\*\*LTR ONLY(2) OELD\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
P. COLLINS\*\*LTR ONLY(1) HOUSTON\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
HELTEMES\*\*LTR ONLY(1) CASE\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
MIPC\*\*LTR ONLY(1) KNIGHT\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
BOSNAK\*\*LTR ONLY(1) SIHWEIL\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
PAWLICKI\*\*LTR ONLY(2) ROSS\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
NOVAK\*\*LTR ONLY(1) ROSZTOCZY\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
CHECK\*\*LTR ONLY(1) TEDESCO\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
GENAROYA\*\*LTR ONLY(1) LAINAS\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
IPPOLITO\*\*LTR ONLY(1) F. ROSA\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
GAMMILL\*\*LTR ONLY(2) VOLLMER\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
BUNCH\*\*LTR ONLY(1) J. COLLINS\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
KREGER\*\*LTR ONLY(1) KIRKWOOD\*\*LTR ONLY(1)

EXTERNAL: LPDR'S  
HARRISBURG, PA\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
TIC\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
NSIC\*\*LTR ONLY(1)  
ACRS CAT B\*\*LTR ONLY(16)

120 296

DISTRIBUTION: LTR 58 ENCL 0  
SIZE: 2P

CONTROL NBR: 78055007

NK 4  
60

\*\*\*\*\* THE END \*\*\*\*\*