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JUN 18 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: William J. Dircks, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

SUBJECT: THREE MILE ISLAND (TMI)

Enclosed is the report of a trip to TMI by NMSS representatives to review planning for processing of TMI-2 facility wastes. Specific emphasis was placed on waste disposal and transportation.

The main issue coming out of this trip is whether the waste resulting from decontaminating the contaminated water should be shipped for disposal in the form of dewatered spent demineralizer resins and filter medium as is presently planned by Metropolitan Edison, or in the form of a solid matrix (formed by mixing the spent resins and filter medium with a suitable binding agent, such as concrete). The latter approach would be consistent with the Effluent Treatment Systems Branch, Technical Position, ETSB 11-3 dated November 24, 1975. As you are aware NMSS fully supports the latter approach from both transportation and disposal considerations.

In view of the decision during the Chairman's staff meeting on June 12, 1979 that the latter approach of converting the waste to a solid matrix should be pursued, please have the person who will take the lead for NRR contact R. Dale Smith, Chief, Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch, for any support required from NMSS.

(Signed) William J. Dircks

William J. Dircks, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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Enclosure: Trip Report

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