



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

NRC PDR

JUL 27 1979

Mr. Tony Godwin  
P. O. Box 1002  
Alachua, Florida 32615

Dear Mr. Godwin:

Your letter of April 17, 1979, to Mr. James R. Yore, has been referred to me for a reply. In your letter, you request a copy of the procedure that a power company has to go through to get a license (for a nuclear power plant). You also want to know what a company must go through to re-open (resume operation of a nuclear power plant) after an incident such as the Three Mile Island accident.

The procedure that a power company must go through to get a license for a nuclear plant is described in the Enclosure entitled, "The Reactor Licensing Process." This document describes the detailed review and hearing steps for each phase of the licensing process. The first (construction permit) phase deals with the reactor licensing process prior to authorization for construction. The second (operating license) phase deals with the process prior to authorization for reactor operation.

At this time, it is premature to state what a company has to go through in order to resume operation of a nuclear plant following an incident such as occurred at the Three Mile Island plant. The incident that occurred at Three Mile Island is currently undergoing extensive evaluation by various organizations, including a Presidential Commission, the Congress, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and various utility groups. Some of these evaluations will include inputs as to what must be done to permit resumption of operation of the Three Mile Island plant. Another factor that needs to be considered is the condition of the plant. This can only be assessed after entry into the containment building is permitted.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please advise us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steven A. Varga".

Steven A. Varga, Acting Assistant  
Director for Light Water Reactors  
Division of Project Management

Enclosure:  
The Reactor Licensing Process

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