

ENCLOSURE

Metropolitan Edison Company (Met-Ed)
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 1 (TMI-1)
Docket No. 50-289
Operating License No. DPR-50
Nonroutine 30-Day Report 74-04

Notification of a Deficiency in Design
of the Internals Handling Fixture Spherical Nut Retaining Device

1. Description of Deficiency

During the preparation for plenum assembly removal from the reactor vessel at TMI-1, it was noticed that the spherical nut was not secured to the threaded rod and could become unthreaded. The set screws on the three assemblies were found to be either missing, loose, or of the wrong length.

As a result of review by Met-Ed's Corporate Technical Support Staff, this situation has been determined to constitute a design deficiency which is reportable in accordance with 6.7.2.b of the TMI-1 Technical Specifications.

2. Corrective Action

A design review undertaken by Met-Ed's contractor found that the original design for preventing the spherical nuts from rotating relative to the threaded rods (i.e., become unthreaded) was inadequate. The spherical nuts could be unthreaded during the adjusting procedure, leaving potentially inadequate thread engagement to support the weight of the internals.

The deficiency was fixed by Field Change FC-120, which consisted of drilling a hole in the threaded rod to ensure capture by the set screw and staking the set screw to ensure that the set screws would not back out.

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