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METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

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DEC 9

1974

File Cy.

Director Directorate of Licensing U.S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Sir:

Docket No. 50-289 Operating License DPR-50

In accordance with the Technical Specifications for our Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, we are reporting the following abnormal occurrence:

- (1) Report Number: AO 50-289/74-27
- (2a) Report Date: December 9, 1974
- (2b) Occurrence Date: November 29, 1974
- (3) Facility: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)
- (4) Identification of Occurrence:
 - Title: Failure to Test the Resilient Seal on the Outer Door of the Reactor Building Personnel Hatch
 - Type: An abnormal occurrence as defined by the Technical Specifications, paragraph 1.8g, in that the failure to test the resilient seal on the outer door of the Reactor Building Personnel Hatch represented an inadequacy in the administrative controls which threatened to cause an unsafe condition in the operation of the plant. 1484 198
- (5) Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

Because of non-nuclear related maintenance, the plant was undergoing load changes during routine power operations with major parameters as follows:

Power: Core: 50% Elec.: 400 MW (Gross) 12522

RC Flow: 135 x 10⁶ 1b/hr RC Pressure: 2155 psig RC Temp.: 579°F PRZR Level: 220 in PRZR Temp.: 640°F

(6) Description of Occurrence:

Specification 4.4.1.2.5.b of the TMI-1 Technical Specifications requires that when not in a cold shutdown condition that the resilient seal on the outer door of the Reactor Building Personnel Hatch be tested after each use, but no more than once daily. Contrary to this requirement, the Reactor Building Personnel Hatch was opened several times during the period November 23-29, 1974, but the resilient seal on the outer air lock door was not tested.

(7) Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

Inadequate procedural guidance was the apparent cause of the occurrence in that there were no procedures in existence at the time of the occurrence to direct Operations Department personnel on when to test the resilient door seal.

(8) Analysis of the Occurrence:

It is believed that failure to leak test the seal did not threaten either the health or safety of the public in that subsequent to the occurrence the seal was tested and found to be within specification limits.

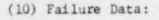
(9) Corrective Action:

Immediate corrective action was taken as described above to verify the leak-tightness of the seal.

At a meeting held soon after the occurrence was reported, the Plant Operations Review Committee reviewed and gave its approval of this action and recommended to the Station Superintendent that as a <u>long-term action</u> the "Shift and Daily Checks" procedure be revised to include a check-off of whether the Personnel Access Hatch had been used and the door seal tested that day. The Station Superintendent concurred with this recommendation and the procedure has been revised.

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- 2 -



Not Applicable.

Sincerely,

- 3 -

Arnold R.

Vice President

RCA/JFV/cas

File: 20.1.1/7.7.3.5.1

cc: Mr. J. P. O'Reilly (DORO-Region 1)

1484 200