

Docket No. 50-289

Metropolitan Edison Company  
ATTN: Mr. R. C. Arnold  
Vice President - Generation  
P. O. Box 542  
Reading, Pennsylvania 19603

Gentlemen:

RE: THREE MILE ISLAND PLANT

The subject of guard responsibilities in protecting special nuclear material from theft and sabotage is being reviewed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of this letter is to clarify one aspect of these responsibilities so as to assure effective application of regulatory requirements in this important area.

Nuclear reactor facilities are required, under 10 CFR 73.40, to provide physical protection and to implement the security plan submitted to the Commission. A necessary element for approval of the plan of a nuclear power reactor is the provision of guards. We expect that the response requirements for these guards will be the same as called out in 10 CFR 73.50 (g)(2) which requires that guards responding to a possible threat shall determine if a threat exists, assess the extent of the threat, and initiate measures to neutralize the threat, either by acting on their own or by calling for assistance from local law enforcement authorities, or both. It appears that the option for guards taking action on their own or calling for outside assistance may conceivably be subject to misinterpretation. The current regulation contemplates that guards are to be instructed that their first priority is to assess the extent of the threat and convey to the proper law enforcement authorities the nature of the threat. They should then, or simultaneously if possible, take action on their own to counter the threat, deferring action pending the arrival of reinforcements only in those instances in which a guard's life would be placed in needless peril when faced with an overwhelming force. In such instances, guards could be expected to take prudent delaying action whenever possible while awaiting assistance.

*MS*

1485 035

7910260 645

P

requirements of 10 CFR 73.40 are consistent with this view for the implementation of §73.50 (g)(2) or advising us of any deviation from this approach, and in the latter case, indicating the cause of such deviation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:  
Roger S. Boyd

Roger S. Boyd, Acting Director  
Division of Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

CC:  
See next page

Distribution  
NRC PDR  
Local PDR  
Docket  
ORB Reading  
KRGoller  
TJCarter  
RWReid  
~~WRSSBY~~  
RIngram  
OELD  
OI&E (3)  
DEisenhut  
TBAbernathy  
ACPS (16)  
JBuchanan  
RSBoyd  
File  
DBridges  
DJShovholt  
RWHouston

1485 036

OFFICE	ORB4 <i>DWB</i>	ORB4 <i>RI</i>	ORB4 <i>WR</i>	OELD	RL <i>26</i>	NRR
SURNAME	DBridges:mt	RIngram	RWReid	<i>Grossman</i>	KRGoller	RSBoyd
DATE	12/19/75	12/19/75	12/19/75	12/23/75	12/23/75	12/23/75

Metropolitan Edison Company

cc:

G. F. Trowbridge, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts, Trowbridge & Madden  
Barr Building  
910 17th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006

GPU Service Corporation  
Richard W. Heward, Project Manager  
Thomas M. Crimmins, Jr., Safety  
and Licensing Manager  
260 Cherry Hill Road  
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Pennsylvania Electric Company  
Mr. R. W. Conrad  
Vice President, Generation  
1001 Broad Street  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15907

Mr. Weldon B. Arehart, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors of Londonberry  
Township  
2148 Foxiana Road  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Miss Mary V. Southard, Chairman  
Citizens for a Safe Environment  
P. O. Box 405  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108

Government Publications Section  
State Library of Pennsylvania  
Box 1601 (Education Building)  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126

1485 037