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January 9, 1980
GQL 1577
TLL 016

Mr. B. H. Grier, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit I
Operating License No. DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289
IE Bulletin No. 79-18

This letter is in response to your letter of August 7, 1979, concerning the audibility problems encountered on evacuation of personnel from high-noise areas. Below are listed our responses to your requested actions.

Action 1:

Determine whether current alarm systems and evacuation announcement systems are clearly audible or visible throughout all plant areas with emphasis on high-noise areas. Determination in high noise areas must be made with the maximum anticipated noise level.

Response:

A survey of the subject station was made by Met-Ed to determine the need for additional alarm signals. The survey made was to assure the initiation of an alarm evacuation announcement is clearly audible or visible to personnel working in high-noise areas. While it was not possible to perform the survey under maximum noise conditions, the operators who performed this were familiar with the normal noise conditions in the areas and the inaudibility of the page system. The final results of the survey may change slightly based upon actual noise levels during normal operation.

Action 2:

Determine what corrective action is necessary to assure that areas identified as inaudible areas in (1) above, will receive adequate audible/visual evacuation signals. In areas where adequate audible/visual evacuation signals cannot be assured by hardware changes, determine what additional administrative measures are necessary to assure personnel evacuation.

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Response:

The corrective action necessary to assure that areas identified as inaudible areas was determined during the surveying of these areas and are noted in the enclosure. No areas were noted where audible/visual signals could not assure evacuation.

Action 3:

Submit within 45 days of the date of issuance of this Bulletin, a written report of the findings on item (1), and delineate completed or proposed corrective actions per item (2). For operating facilities in a refueling or extended outage, the written report must be submitted within 30 days after plant startup following the outage.

Response:

Enclosed is Met-Ed's proposed modifications to be implemented for compliance with the subject bulletin. These modifications may be modified once actual operating noise levels are experienced. The enclosure shows the location of each visual alarm, speaker, and page to be installed.

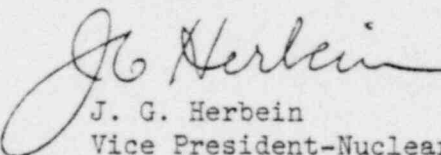
Action 4:

For accessible areas, all corrective actions determined per item (2) must be completed within 120 days of the date of issuance of this Bulletin. For inaccessible areas, the written report must include a time schedule for completion of corrective actions in this area.

Response:

A time schedule for completion of the proposed corrective actions delineated in the enclosure has not been determined. However, a schedule will be submitted by January 31, 1980.

Sincerely,



J. G. Herbein
Vice President-Nuclear Operations

JGH:DGM:dlw

enclosure

cc: Office of Inspection & Enforcement
Division of Reactor Operations Inspection
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555