



Metropolitan Edison Company
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May 18, 1979
GQL 0681

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: R. W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)
Operating License No. DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289
Fire Protection Program

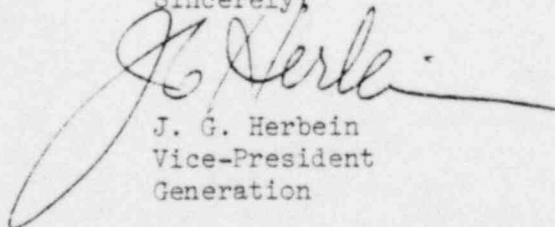
By our letter of March 16, 1979 (GQL 0393), Met-Ed transmitted the design of the Fire Detection System to be installed at TMI-1 by the end of the 1980 refueling outage.

A review of existing conditions indicated that installing fire detectors in Nuclear Instrumentation and Reactor Protection System (NI&RPS) cabinets A, B, C and D in the Control Room Fire Area CB-4b, would be of marginal value. (See TMI-1 Fire Hazards Analysis Drawing E-023-016 or Drawing E-313-505, transmitted with GQL 0393). The basis for this conclusion is that there are no ionization detectors presently manufactured that could be installed inside the cabinet in such a manner that the normal air flow, past a proposed detector location, would be conducive to the detection of an incipient fire.

It should be noted that the NI&RPS cabinets are in an area that is continuously manned, thus precluding the possibility of fire in the cabinets going undetected.

In light of the above, Met-Ed seeks NRC concurrence with our position that these four detectors be eliminated from the TMI-1 Fire Detection System.

Sincerely,



J. G. Herbein
Vice-President
Generation

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