

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY,)	Docket No. 50-289
ET AL.)	
(Three Mile Island, Unit 1))	

NRC MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO
THE LICENSING BOARD'S MEMORANDUM AND ORDER TO NRC STAFF
REGARDING CLASS 9 ACCIDENTS DATED MARCH 31, 1980

On March 21, 1980, the Staff filed with the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board a document entitled "Supplement to NRC Staff Position on Need to Consider Class 9 Events" (Supplement). In this Supplement the Staff summarized ongoing Staff activities in relation to Class 9 events. Subsequently, in its "Memorandum and Order to NRC Staff Regarding Class 9 Events" (Memorandum), dated March 31, 1980, the Licensing Board asked the Staff for further supplementation in the form of "a specification and description" of "critical accident sequences the Staff will analyze in order to assure that the proposed short and long term actions necessary and sufficient to provide adequate protection to public health and safety have been taken." Memorandum at 1, 2. Specifically, the Licensing Board asked the Staff to:

1. Specify and describe each of the accident sequences (or other similar terminology employed) which the staff apparently is considering under the umbrella of the very general references in the underlined portions of the attached pages 5-7 of its supplemental response; or
2. Explain why the staff can not or will not specify/ describe the accident sequences.

Memorandum at 2.

The Licensing Board asked the Staff to file an answer to one of the above directives within fifteen days from the date of service of the Memorandum, the last day of which falls upon April 20, 1980.^{1/} Id. at 2.

Consistent with the Board's request, the Staff is beginning to compile the information necessary to formulate a complete, responsive answer. Nevertheless, in view of the imminent publication of the Staff's Safety Evaluation Report, which involves large amounts of Staff time through the final stages of its publication, and the complexity of the task involved in responding to the Board's Memorandum, the Staff estimates that it will need 40 additional days in which to complete its answer.

Accordingly, the Staff moves the Licensing Board to extend the time set forth in its Memorandum by which the Staff was directed to file its answer until June 1, 1980.

The Staff wishes, however, to confirm its approach with the Board in order to ensure that it is complying with the intent of the Memorandum. For this reason,

^{1/} The Licensing Board also asked the Staff to explain within 10 days any reasons it may have to believe--if the Staff does indeed have such a belief--that it is inappropriate, for jurisdictional or other reasons, for the Licensing Board to make this inquiry concerning specific Class 9 sequences that relate to the long or short term items enumerated in the Commission's August 9, 1979 Order and Notice of Hearing, Metropolitan Edison Company (Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1), CLI-79-8, 10 NRC 141 (1979). Memorandum at 3.

the Staff intends to submit to the Board an outline of what the Staff expects to discuss in its response to the Memorandum. The Staff expects to file this preliminary outline with the Board on May 2, 1980.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa N. Singer

Lisa N. Singer
Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 15th day of April, 1980

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO THE LICENSING BOARD'S MEMORANDUM AND ORDER TO NRC STAFF REGARDING CLASS 9 ACCIDENTS DATED MARCH 31, 1980" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following by deposit in the United States mail, first class, or, as indicated by an asterisk, through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system, this 15th day of April, 1980:

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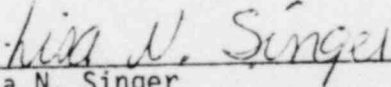
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