EPRI

NV

August 29, 1979

Mr. Mitchell Rogovin Director NRC/TMI Special Inquiry Group Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mitch:

At our recent panel meeting to review the planned scope of work of your group (SIG), we were told that the equivalent of check engineering calculations were going to be done by the MARCH Code by Battelle Columbus.

Since I was not familiar with that particular code, I could not comment at the time. My inquiries do not instill confidence. The MARCH Code is being developed for big accidents - core melt, vessel eat through, concrete reaction, etc., and therefore may or may not be relevant to TMI. However, the more important point is that the code is not released; as far as we can tell, it has not been benchmarked or qualified in any way.

Therefore, I must question any use of it in a "fact finding" investigation.

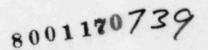
Very truly yours,

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Milton Levenson Director Nuclear Power Division

ML:pb

cc: Mr. Robert Budnitz



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