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February 29, 1980
TLL 102

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

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit I (TMI-1)
Operating License No. DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289
IE Bulletin 79-27

This letter is in response to the subject bulletin, dated November 30, 1979, concerning the loss of non-class-I-E instrumentation and control power system bus during operation. Our response, as reiterated below, was initially answered in the TMI-I Restart Report, Amendment 11, Supplement 1 Part 2, Question 38.

RESPONSE

The electrical distribution system to the ICS at TMI-I has been reviewed and it has been concluded that the ICS is vulnerable to an event of the type that took place recently at Oconee-3. This would occur upon loss of inverter 1A and failure of the automatic transfer switch. A modification is being made which will ensure that the operator can take prompt action to minimize the consequences of such an event. Manual transfer contactors, operable from the control room will be provided to transfer the ICS supply bus (Distribution Panel ATA) from the inverter bus (Distribution Panel VBA) to the Regulated AC Supply (Distribution Panel TRA). The contactors will be interlocked to prevent paralleling of the supplies. An alarm will be provided to indicate that voltage to Distribution Panel ATA has been lost. This modification will be installed before restart.

The following longer term actions are being pursued:

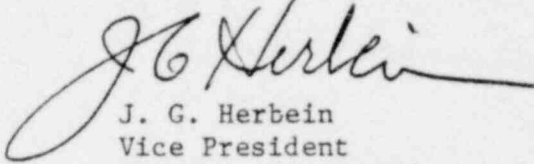
1. Investigation of the feasibility of modifying the ICS to allow some of ICS power feeds to be supplied from a separate source.

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2. Further review of the electrical distribution system to determine whether the reliability of the ICS/NNI power supplies can be improved.

An additional response covering those items not answered in this submittal will be submitted by May 30, 1980.

Sincerely,



J. G. Herbein
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

JGH:DGM:hah

cc: J. T. Collins