



Metropolitan Edison Company
Post Office Box 480
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
717 944-4041

Writer's Direct Dial Number:

June 25, 1980
TLL 302

TMI Program Office
Attn: J. T. Collins, Deputy Program Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
c/o Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit II (TMI-2)
Operating License No. DPR-73
Docket No. 50-320
Change in TMI Site Discharge Water Composite Sampling Frequencies

REFERENCE 1: Telecon to John Collins from S. W. Porter, Jr., of 6/23/80, same subject.

REFERENCE 2: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Station Health Physics Procedure 1699A entitled, "Liquid Release From TMI - Administrative Controls", Attachment 2.

A. BACKGROUND

During the early days of the TMI-II accident, a meeting was held between TMI staff, the NRC, and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Radiological Health, with other government agencies present to discuss sampling of TMI Station Liquid Discharge. This discharge point is called 001 on several of the FSAR maps and is known at TMI as the RML-7 sampling and monitoring point. This same point is station 13S1 utilizing the off-site Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program polar coordinates. The frequency of four (4) hours was chosen for taking composite samples and then analyzing them by gamma spectrum analysis. The reason for this frequency was the fact of the inadvertent TMI-II accident-caused radiocontamination of the IWTS and IWPS, as well as the concern for the downstream water users. Later in 1979, the requirement was added to analyze this 4-hour composite sample for gross beta activity because of the fact that strontiums were beginning to become a significant percentage of the total activity of the Unit-II primary coolant.

Presently, no water is being discharged from Unit II. All discharges originate only from Unit I. Discharges only occur in the batch mode, after each batch has been carefully sampled by gamma spectrum analysis and by liquid scintillation analysis for tritium.

Acc 5-10

B. REQUESTED CHANGE FOR THE RML-7 COMPOSITE SAMPLING PERIOD

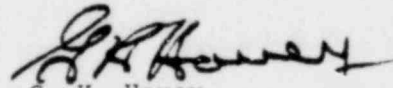
It is requested that the RML-7 continuous composite sample be changed from the present 4-hour period to a 24-hour period. It is also requested that the long-term composite sample for tritium, low-level gamma scan, gross beta, and strontium -90 be changed from once per 24 hours to once per month. These changes will be made to Attachment 2 of Reference 2.

C. JUSTIFICATION

No TMI accident produced radionuclides have been seen in the station discharge for almost one year. The downstream water users are now being monitored with continuous composite samplers at the frequency of once per month. The TMI station discharge long-term composite sample should be at the same frequency as the downstream water users in order to have a valid comparison of water station sampling results.

The Pennsylvania Bureau of Radiological Health has concurred with this suggested reduction in composite sampling rates as well as the Radiological Controls Manager for Unit I, W. E. Potts, and John Barton, Unit II Superintendent. Also concurring have been J. G. Herbein and W. E. Riethle, III.

Sincerely,


G. K. Hovey
Director, TMI-II

GKH:EDF:RH:dad

cc: J. G. Herbein
W. E. Potts
J. Barton
W. E. Riethle, III
M. Reilly, PA BRH
E. Elam
P. Ruhter
E. D. Fuller
S. W. Porter, Jr.
T. Cintula
D. DiIanni
B. H. Grier
R. W. Reid
H. Silver
B. J. Snyder
V. Stello