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Writer's Direct Dial Number

July 7, 1980
TLL 323

TMI Program Office
Attn: Mr. John T. Collins, Deputy 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
Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

As you are well aware, the preparation of the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for cleanup and recovery activities at TMI-II is a difficult task for the NRC and its contractor, Argonne National Laboratory (ANL). Detailed planning and attendant licensing submittals have not been completed by Metropolitan Edison Company. In the normal licensing process, the NRC would have the benefit of a detailed PSAR or FSAR and attendant Environmental Report from the licensee as it went about the task of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement. However, since the PEIS is intended to be a criteria document as well as a document defining the environmental impact of TMI-II cleanup and recovery, it is necessary to prepare it in the absence of detailed licensing submittals from Metropolitan Edison Company.

In recognition of this problem, a technical meeting was held in Idaho Falls on March 24-25 among representatives of the NRC, ANL, Metropolitan Edison and Metropolitan Edison's contractors, Bechtel and Babcock and Wilcox, to discuss a portion of the draft PEIS dealing with the technical issues of defueling, reactor vessel internals and reactor coolant system decontamination. It was the opinion of all concerned that the meeting was useful and informative for all concerned. The exchange of technical information was useful in updating NRC/ANL personnel on the latest planning for these activities in order to insure the most accurate information available was incorporated into the draft PEIS.

Further to this end, in early June, 1980, Messrs. R. F. Wilson and L. J. Lehman, Jr., of GPU Service Corporation, met in your office and participated in a conference telephone conversation with Messrs. B. J. Snyder and O. D. C. Lynch, and yourself, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of that telephone conversation was to organize additional meetings between personnel responsible for development of the PEIS and Metropolitan Edison personnel to allow further exchange of technical information with the objective of having a draft PEIS that was as accurate as possible. We were informed at that time, however, that because of the very tight schedule for generation of the draft document, it was not possible to allocate any time for such meetings.

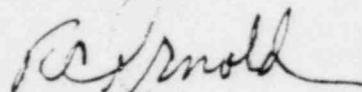
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We have subsequently been informed that the schedule for issue of the draft PEIS has been extended to the end of July, 1980. In view of this delay, it appears that it may now be possible to arrange appropriate technical discussion meetings. It is suggested that a maximum of two (2) days should be allocated to this effort.

It is requested that such a meeting be arranged between appropriate personnel responsible for preparation of the draft PEIS and Metropolitan Edison representatives. The purpose of the meeting would be to insure that the latest technical information is incorporated into the document, from which environmental impacts will be determined.

Sincerely,



R. C. Arnold
Senior Vice-President

RCA:LJL:dad

cc: B. J. Snyder
O. D. C. Lynch