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August 5, 1979

In Reply Refer to: NTFTM 790806-01

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lee V. Gossick, Executive Director for Operations

FROM:

Richard C. DeYoung, Deputy Staff Director

MRC/TMI Special Inquiry Group

SUBJECT:

TMI ACCIDENT PRECURSOR

On March 29, 1973, an incident occurred at TMI-2 that caused the PORV to fail open due to a loss of control power. As a result of this incident, the licensee proposed changing the plant design so that the valve would close on loss of control power. The FSAR for TMI Unit 2 (particularly Sections 7.4.1.1.6 and 7.7.1.1) seems to imply that although the PORV and the automatic control system are not safety related, the manual control system is required for safe shutdown and should be classified as safety related equipment. In addition, Section 7.4.1.1.6 seems to imply that the safe shutdown analysis assumes that the PORV will fail open on loss of control power. Based on licensing practice that existed in 1978:

- 1. Should the PORV manual control system have been classified as a safety related system?
- 2. Was the PORV manual control system classified as safety related
- 3. What does classification as "safety related equipment" im-1y?
- 4. Was the NRC aware that the PORV had been changed to fail snut on loss of control power?
- 5. What analyses and/or licensing actions, if any, should have taken place before the licensee changed the PORV to fail shut on loss of control power? (See Metropolitan Edison Company letter to Mr. B. H. Grier, IE:RI, dated June 27, 1978, for
- 6. What analyses and/or licensing actions, if any, were completed . before the change discussed in 4. above was made?



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Lee V. Gossick

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August 6, 1979

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Ur. Fred Hebdon (492-8947) of my staff.

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Richard C. DeYoung, Deputy Staff Director NRC/TMI Special Inquiry Group

Enclosure: cc of 1tr dtd 6/27/78 from Mat-Ed to Mr. B. H. Grier, IE:RI

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