

William G. Kuhns  
Chairman



GENERAL  
PUBLIC  
UTILITIES  
CORPORATION

260 Cherry Hill Road  
Parsippany New Jersey 07054  
201 263-4900

*Denton*  
*Cyr: LVE*  
*Rehm*  
*Stella*  
*TMI Group*

June 26, 1979

The Honorable Richard Thornburgh  
Governor of the State of Pennsylvania  
State House  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Thornburgh:

We understand and share the concerns for the health and safety of Pennsylvania residents as outlined in your letter to Chairman Hendrie. These concerns, and their satisfactory resolution, have been the primary criteria in the company's proposed program for resumption of operations of Unit 1 at TMI under discussion with the NRC.

The company's recommendations, which parallel your own, include equipment, training and procedural modifications as follows:

1. Modifications covering all those ordered by NRC for the other B&W designed plants.
2. Modifications reflecting the learning from the Unit 2 accident covering:
  - 1) Operator retraining and retesting
  - 2) Procedure modification and improvements
  - 3) Instrumentation improvements
  - 4) Revised containment isolation criteria
  - 5) Shift coverage with degreed engineers
  - 6) Emergency plan changes
3. Modifications separating Unit 1 from Unit 2 with respect to common facilities of safety significance.

It is expected that the NRC will closely review this proposed program, as well as its step by step accomplishment. This review and approval process is scheduled to be conducted in the Middletown area and should provide local citizens an

8002180025

*P*

No. 79-1937 Logging Date 6/29/79

NRC SECRETARIAT

TO:  Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exec. Dir./Oper. \_\_\_\_\_  Gen. Counsel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cong. Liaison \_\_\_\_\_  Solicitor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  Secretary \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Incoming: William G. Kuhns, Chairman  
From: GPU

To: Gov. Richard Thornburgh Date 6/26/79  
Subject: Restart of TMI-1

- Prepare reply for signature of:
  - Chairman
  - Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_
  - EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY
  - Signature block omitted
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Return original of incoming with response

- For direct reply\*
- For appropriate action
- For information
- For recommendation

Rec'd Off. EDO  
 Date... 7/2/79  
 Time... 11:30 AM

Remarks: Cpys to: Chm, Cmrs, PE, OGC, OCA, PA,  
Rogovin TMI Task Force

For the Commission: Combs

\*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Mail Facility

June 26, 1979

opportunity to witness the proceedings first hand and thereby gain a measure of understanding to assist in answering their concerns.

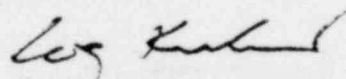
We sincerely believe that our company's response to the lessons of the accident and the full review and approval process of the NRC will serve the public's interest and permit Unit 1 to be operated as safely as any other nuclear plant in the country.

While assigning safe operation of our nuclear facilities the number one priority, we would be remiss to ignore the economic interests of the 850,000 Pennsylvania customers we serve. Although the purchased power costs passed on to customers as a result of the Public Utility Commission's action of June 15 is less than the increase the customers would have experienced if the accident had not occurred, the impact on customers for purchased power while Unit 1 remains out of operation is large. To get a better understanding of the significance of these costs, it is estimated that Metropolitan Edison Company, for example, will see a reduction of \$6.1 million a month when TMI Unit No. 1 returns to service. All of these savings are ultimately reflected in lower energy clause charges to the Met-Ed customers; this amounts to approximately 0.9¢ per kilowatt hour or \$6 per month per average residential customer. We believe it is incumbent on us to pursue the safe restart of Unit 1 in order to minimize this financial burden on our customers.

The safety and welfare of Commonwealth citizens places combined obligations on our company to both operate its facilities in a safe manner and to provide a secure and affordable supply of electricity. We intend to continue to meet both of those obligations, and we certainly want to work together on the particular concerns you have expressed.

We believe it would be in the public interest, as the Unit 1 review and modification proceeds, to establish a specific, direct communications channel between the company and you and your staff. This would assist in assuring the maximum flow of information, discussion, and understanding. I am prepared immediately to discuss and place in effect whatever mechanism appears desirable to accomplish this end. Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely,



William G. Kuhns

WGK:mn

cc: J. Hendrie, NRC ✓  
W. Scranton, Lt. Gov.