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Writer's Direct Dial Number

February 15, 1980
TLL 057

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: R. W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

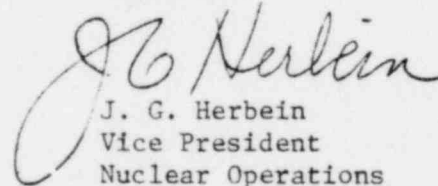
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Units I and II (TMI-1 and TMI-2)
Operating License Nos. DPR-50 and DPR-73
Docket Nos. 50-289 and 50-320
Concern for Voiding During Transients on B & W Plants

Your letter of January 9, 1980 identified a suspected concern that void formation may be taking place in the hotter regions of the reactor vessel during normal operating transients. It is our understanding that this letter is documentation of a concern which you expressed to Babcock and Wilcox in a November telephone conversation. Your letter also requested a response within 30 days of its receipt.

In response to the November discussion, Babcock and Wilcox analyzed several operating transients. As a result of these analyses Babcock and Wilcox concludes that voiding does not occur in the reactor coolant system during anticipated operational occurrences.

We have received the B&W results but have not yet completed our evaluation of same. Additionally, we have not completed an evaluation of the data provided in Enclosure 2 of your letter. We regret that we are unable to respond at this time and hereby request that an extension to reply by March 1, 1980 be granted.

Sincerely,


J. G. Herbein
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

JGH:CFM:hah

cc: J. T. Collins

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