

LPDR



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

January 23, 1980  
NRC/TMI-80-003

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. R. C. Arnold  
Senior Vice President  
Metropolitan Edison Company  
100 Interpace Parkway  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Subject: Penetration R-401 Temporary Seal

Reference: 1. NRC letter, J. T. Collins to J. G. Herbein, dated  
October 12, 1979  
2. GPU letter, TMI-11-R-1129, R. F. Wilson to J. T. Collins,  
dated November 12, 1979

Item three of our comments, NRC letter, J. T. Collins to J. G. Herbein, dated October 12, 1979, addressed the need to seal Penetration R-401 to contain the Reactor Building sump water if procedure EP-33, "Core Cooling with No Reactor Coolant Pumps or Natural Circulation", were initiated. Procedure EP-33 calls for the injection of water from the Borated Water Storage Tank into the primary system. The injected water is ultimately released to the Reactor Building sump through the pressurizer vent/relief valve pathway.

Your response to our concern, GPU letter, TMI-11-R-1129, described a means to seal Penetration R-401 and you assured us that a procedure was being drafted to perform this operation if necessary. To date we have not received this procedure.

We are concerned that without the capability to seal Penetration R-401 at the containment end, the problems associated with EP-33 implementation will be increased. Additionally a concern exists, even though the Reactor Building water level seems to have stabilized one and one-half feet below penetration R-401, that a seal may be necessary should the level begin to rise from in-leakage.

In your response, please specify when a procedure to seal Penetration R-401 will be available for our review and when the associated hardware will be ready for use.

*J. T. Collins*  
J. T. Collins, Deputy Director  
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

cc: See Service Distribution List

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