



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

8008130
DOCKET 50-320

FEBRUARY 9 8 1990

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Mr. Scott Sears
P. O. Box 155
Kimberton, Pennsylvania 19442

Dear Mr. Sears:

Thank you for your letter expressing your concern about the discharge of water from the Three Mile Island nuclear station into the Susquehanna River and the availability of documents related to TMI. I regret that this answer has been delayed. The accident and its consequences have created a substantial increase in the agency's workload, which has prevented us from responding to you as promptly as we would have liked.

Except for releases of liquids containing only low or nondetectable levels of radioactivity to the Susquehanna River, the release of contaminated water is not currently permitted. Before such releases take place, the impact will be evaluated by the NRC and the evaluation will be made available to the public. By this course of action, we will assure that a thorough assessment is completed prior to release of the contaminated liquids and that the health and safety of the offsite population will be protected.

As a result of releases containing only low or nondetectable levels of radioactivity, the levels of radioactivity in the Susquehanna are indistinguishable from existing background levels at public water supply intakes from the river. These levels have been confirmed by independent measurements made by the NRC, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

With regard to your request for information about TMI, all current information about the accident and its availability are listed in "Title List of Publicly Available Documents: Three Mile Island - Docket 50-320" (NUREG-0568), its revision, NUREG-0568, Revision 1, and Supplement 1 to Revision 1. These title lists can be obtained for \$4.50, \$5.50, and \$4.00, respectively, from the following address:

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Mr. Scott Sears

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Publication Sales Manager
Document Management Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555.

All documentation concerning the purging process is also available at NRC's Three Mile Island Public Document Room located in the Government Publication Section, Education Building (at Commonwealth and Walnut Streets), Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126 (telephone (717) 787-3752).

I am pleased to provide you with this information.

Sincerely,



Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation