

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

NRC PDR

March 24, 1980
NRC/TMI-CO-046

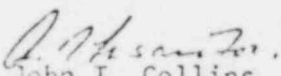
MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. Denton, Director,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

R. H. Vollmer, Director,
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

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

SUBJECT: NRC/TMI WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

Enclosed is the status report for the week of March 15-21, 1980.


John T. Collins
Deputy Director
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

Enclosure: As stated

cc: EDO
OCG
Office Directors
Commissioner's Technical Assistants
NRR Division Directors
NRR A/D's
Regional Directors
IE Division Directors
XOOS
XOMA
G. Sanborn
TMI Technical Support Staff

8004170 344

0471-6-14
JDB-5
TMI

R

NRC/TMI TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF
STATUS REPORT

Week of: March 15-21, 1980

Plant Status

Core Cooling Mode: Natural Circulation in the "A" Reactor Coolant System (RCS) Loop via the "A" Once Through Steam Generator (OTSG), Steaming to the Main Condenser, and RCS Loop-B Cyclic Natural Circulation to Reactor Building ambient.

Available Core Cooling Modes: OTSG "B" to the Main Condenser; Long Term Cooling "B" (OTSG-B); Decay Heat Removal.

RCS Pressure Control Mode: Standby Pressure Control (SPC) System.

Backup Pressure Control Mode: Makeup system in conjunction with letdown flow.

Major Parameters (As of 0400, March 21, 1980) (approximate values)

Average Incore Thermocouples: 148°F

Maximum Incore Thermocouple: 188°F

RCS Loop Temperatures:

	A	B
Hot Leg	149°F	152°F
Cold Leg (1)	104°F	107°F
(2)	115°F	123°F

RCS Pressure: 318 psig (Heise)

Pressurizer Temperature: 345°F (Saturation Pressure 114 psig)

Reactor Building: Temperature: 80°F
Pressure: -.4 psig (Heise)
Water level: Elevation 290.5 ft. (8.0 ft from floor)

Environmental & Effluent Information

1. Liquid effluents from TMI-1 released to the Susquehanna River, after processing, were within the limits specified in Technical Specifications.
2. No liquid effluents were discharged from TMI-2.
3. Results from EPA monitoring of environmental around the TMI site were:
 - EPA environmental stations registered background levels for air and water samples.
 - Results of last continuous gaseous sample (taken on a weekly basis on top of the Observation Center) for the period 2/25-3/8 was 26 pCi/m³ and 3/8 - 3/19 was 29 pCi/m³. Previous readings have been in the range of 20-30 pCi/m³ with a high of 41 pCi/m³.

- As a result of the Auxiliary Building high airborne event of March 20, 1980, the gaseous sample was analyzed for the week of 3/17. Results were 23 pCi/m³.
- Instantaneous direct radiation readings showed no levels above background.

Major Activities (Past and Present)

1. On March 19 and 21, 1980, exit interviews for the recent inspection, February 1 - March 16, 1980, were conducted with licensee management for Unit 2 and Unit 1 respectively. In the operations area two items of noncompliance were discussed, and in the health physics area five items of noncompliance were discussed.
2. About 3:15 A.M., on March 20, 1980, several local air particulate monitors located in the auxiliary building alarmed. The highest reading low volume air sample indicated 1.8×10^{-7} uCi/cc, versus the normal reading about 1×10^{-10} uCi/cc. This sample was taken in an area near the "B" makeup pump cubicle, where a makeup system leak was suspected. Seal injection and letdown were isolated, and reactor coolant system pressure was decreased to reduce leakage. At about 9:30 A.M. the airborne activity in the general area in the auxiliary building was restored to normal, indicating a successful isolation of the suspected leak.

On March 20, 1980, at approximately 7:42 P.M. the letdown system flow was restored and at 7:56 P.M. seal injection was reinitiated to determine source of leakage. A local air particulate monitor alarmed with resultant airborne activity increasing to approximately 10^{-7} uCi/cc. The letdown system and seal injection were subsequently isolated again at 8:50 P.M. without a determination of source of the leakage. During these events the final effluent monitors (AM 1-4) did not indicate an increase above normal.

The makeup system is in recirculation operation. RCS pressure is being maintained by the standby pressure control system. As of 10:00 A.M., on March 21, 1980, the general auxiliary building airborne levels indicate concentrations of 10^{-10} to 10^{-8} uCi/cc with a maximum concentration of 1.9×10^{-8} uCi/cc at the makeup pump cubicle area. The leakage source is still under review by the licensee and NRC.

Future Evolution

1. Next week will be the first anniversary of the March 28 accident. Increased public interest in site events is anticipated along with the gathering of large crowds in certain offsite locations.
2. The emergency drill scheduled for March 20, 1980, was rescheduled for the week of March 31 - April 4, 1980, due to the increase airborne activity in the auxiliary building on the morning of March 20, 1980.

Public Affairs

1. On Monday, March 17, 1980, John Collins represented the NRC at a press briefing in Harrisburg which was called to discuss the revised Long Range Monitoring Plan for TMI. EPA, the PA-DER and other agencies were represented.
2. On Wednesday, March 19, 1980, Richard Vollmer, John Collins and other NRC representatives conducted a public meeting in Middletown to discuss the NRC staff's recommendation to dispose of the radioactive krypton gas in the Unit 2 containment building by purging it to the atmosphere.
3. On Thursday, March 20, 1980, John Collins represented the NRC at a public meeting in Elizabethtown. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of cleanup operations at TMI-2. Officials from the PA-DER and Metropolitan Edison Company were represented at this meeting.
4. On Thursday, March 20, 1980, the NRC responded to inquiries concerning increased levels of airborne radioactivity in the TMI-2 auxiliary building.
5. On Tuesday, March 25, 1980, Richard Vollmer will participate in the town hall meeting sponsored by WHP as part of the anniversary program. The meeting will be held at the Capitol Campus Auditorium, Middletown. Other participants include Peter Duncan, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Environmental Resources, Thomas Gerusky, PA-DER, Mayor Robert Reid, of Middletown, and Anne Trunk, a member of the Kemeny Commission.
6. On Thursday, March 27, 1980, John Collins will participate in a panel discussion on TMI at the Lebanon Valley College.
7. On Thursday, March 27, 1980, Harold Denton is scheduled to meet with Governor Thornburgh to discuss cleanup activities at TMI.
8. On Friday, March 28, 1980, John Collins, along with Robert Arnold, will participate in a 2-hour call in program being sponsored by WHP-TV. The program will begin at 11:30 P.M. and conclude at 1:30 A.M., March 29, 1980.
9. On Monday, March 31, 1980, John Collins will meet with the Middletown Borough Council to discuss the proposed venting of krypton from TMI-2 containment building.