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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

April 21, 1980
NRC/TMI-80-070

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. Denton, Director,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
B. J. Snyder, Program Manager, TMI Program Office

FROM: J. T. Collins, Deputy Program Manager,
TMI Program Office

SUBJECT: NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

Enclosed is the status report for the week of April 12-18, 1980.

John T. Collins
John T. Collins
Deputy Program Manager
TMI Program Office

Enclosure: As stated

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NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

Week of: April 12 - 18, 1980

Plant Status

Core Cooling Mode: Cyclic 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-A and 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 (Emergency use only due to RCP seal injection isolated due to suspected leaks in system).

Major Parameters (As of 0400, April 18, 1980) (approximate values)

Average Incore Thermocouples: 143°F

Maximum Incore Thermocouple: 181°F

RCS Loop Temperatures:

	A	B
Hot Leg	142°F	148°F
Cold Leg (1)	105°F	120°F
(2)	105°F	119°F

NOTE: A and B loop recovering from flow period ("burp")

RCS Pressure: 196 psig (Heise)

Pressurizer Temperature: 305°F (Saturation Pressure 59 psig)

Reactor Building: Temperature: 80°F
Pressure: -1.2 psig (Heise)
Water level: Elevation 290.5 ft. (8.0 ft. from floor) via decay heat system
Elevation 290.1 ft. via penetration 401 manometer

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 the environment around the TMI site were:
-- EPA environmental stations registered background levels for air and water samples.

- Gas air sample results (Kr-85) for the weekly period ending April 15, 1980, were: Goldsboro - 34 pCi/l, and the Observation Center - 24 pCi/l. Both results are well within the average values reported for the past six months.
- Instantaneous direct radiation readings showed no levels above background except for one transient increase at a monitor in Middletown. An NRC investigation revealed no apparent correlation between this increased reading and plant operations at TMI. The cause of this reading is still under investigation by EPA.

4. Radwaste shipments off site were as follows:

- On Monday, April 14, 1980, a Unit 2 reactor coolant sample was sent to the B&W facility, Lynchburg, Virginia for chemical and radiochemical analysis.
- On April 16 and 18, 1980, casks containing EPICOR I demineralizer liners were sent to the NECO facility at Richland, Washington.

5. EPICOR II processing status: (Auxiliary building approximate quantities)

Amount processed this week:	18,000 gallons
Amount processed to date:	200,000 gallons
Amount to be processed:	240,000 gallons

Major Activities (Past and Present)

1. As of 8:30 p.m., on April 13, 1980, the fuel handling building ventilation system could not be restored to operable status in accordance with Technical Specification 3.9.12.b. The system was declared inoperable at 8:30 p.m., on April 6, 1980, when it failed to meet the TS surveillance requirement (TS 4.9.12.c) for HEPA filter and charcoal absorber bank flow of 46,000 cfm + 10%. In accordance with the action statement of TS 3.9.12.b all liquid and gas movements in the fuel handling building were suspended. The licensee is pursuing this area to achieve the required flow rate.
2. On April 15, 1980, the reactor coolant system (RCS) was reduced in pressure to approximately 200 psig. This was a first step in the licensee's plan to achieve 100 psig to support mini-decay heat removal system (MDHR) operation. Further pressure reduction is dependent on a review of data for the next RCS sample (scheduled for April 21, 1980) and revision of the existing procedure to reflect current information. The MDHR system is scheduled to be operational by May 12, 1980.
3. The period of public comment on the staff's Environmental Assessment for Decontamination of the TMI-2 Reactor Building Atmosphere (NUREG-0662) was scheduled to end on April 17, 1980. The NRC staff has recommended to extend the comment period through May 16, 1980.

4. On the morning of April 15, 1980, while removing a contaminated filter inside the TMI-2 fuel handling building (FHB), airborne particulate activity increased to a maximum of 1×10^{-8} uCi/cc. The FHB was evacuated and 12 individuals involved in the operation were found to have skin contamination. All individuals were decontaminated and are currently undergoing appropriate bioassay.
5. Ground water samples are being collected periodically by the licensee from eight sample wells around TMI-2 for gamma isotopic and tritium analyses. The NRC had a concurrent sample collected at all wells on Thursday, April 17, 1980, for independent analyses by the NRC Region I laboratory. Samples continue to show only background levels of tritium, except for the anomalously high levels from well MW-2. These levels remain relatively constant at about 1500-2500 pCi/l which is well below drinking water standards. On April 14, 1980, representatives of Met-Ed, PA-DER and NRC reviewed a proposal for an expanded sampling system to identify the source of the tritium. Installation of new wells will begin on April 21, 1980.

Future Evolutions

1. Recommencement of the pressure reduction of the reactor coolant system should start by April 24, 1980.
2. The licensee has requested NRC approval to enter the Unit 2 reactor building for initial visual and radiological surveillance on Thursday, April 24, 1980. This continues to be reviewed by the NRC staff.

Public Affairs

On Thursday, April 17, 1980, an NRC press release was issued to confirm that the Office of Inspection and Enforcement is actively pursuing inquiries into allegations made by Harold Hartman, a former Three Mile Island control room operator. The allegations related to calculations of primary coolant leak rate measurements that were made during the year prior to the TMI Unit 2 accident.

Meetings Held With Public Officials and Interested Groups

1. On Monday, April 14, 1980, J. Collins attended a meeting with the Dauphin County Commissioners to hear representatives of Met-Ed discuss clean up operations at TMI.
2. On Tuesday, April 15, 1980, J. Collins, T. Elsasser, M. Bills, EPA, met in Camp Hill with officials from Goldsboro and New Cumberland. Officials from Newberry Township, Lewisberry, Fairview Township and Camp Hill were invited, but did not attend. A total of 16 officials were invited; 2 attended.
3. On Tuesday, April 15, 1980, J. Collins, B. Snyder, and R. Weller met with representatives of Met-Ed and the Union of Concerned Scientists to discuss the decontamination of the TMI-2 reactor building. Governor Thornburgh has requested the Union of Concerned Scientists to review the various alternatives to purging the reactor building and submit a report to him within a month.
4. On Wednesday, April 16, 1980, J. Collins, T. Elsasser and M. Bills, EPA, met in Middletown with officials from Royalton, Middletown and Highspire. Officials from Londonderry Township, Steelton, Lower Swatara Township, Swatara Township and Derry Township were invited, but did not attend. A total of 22 officials were invited; 9 attended.

Future Meetings

1. On Monday, April 21, 1980, J. Collins will meet with representatives of PA-DER and DOE to discuss the status of the Community Monitoring Program.
2. On April 23, 1980, H. Denton, J. Collins and T. Elsasser will attend a meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Camp Hill with the Presidents of the Medical Society in the 5th Consular District.
3. On April 23, 1980, J. Collins, T. Elsasser and an EPA representative will conduct a briefing at 7:00 p.m. in Mount Joy for elected officials from the following communities: Conewago Township (East Shore), Conoy Township, East Donegal Township, Elizabethtown, Mount Joy, Mount Joy Township, West Donegal Township, the City of Lancaster and Lancaster County.
4. On April 24, 1980, at 9:00 a.m., H. Denton and J. Collins will meet with the Chamber of Commerce heads from: Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, York and the West Shore.
5. On April 24, 1980, in the evening, H. Denton will meet with various civic leaders from the Lebanon area.
6. On April 24, 1980, at 7:00 p.m., J. Collins, T. Elsasser and M. Bills, EPA, will conduct a briefing in Hummelstown for officials from the following communities: Harrisburg, Hershey, Hummelstown, Lower Paxton Township, Paxtang, Penbrook, South Hanover Township and South Londonderry Township.

7. On April 28, 1980, at 6:30 p.m., J. Collins will speak to the Elizabethtown Kiwanis Club on the clean up operations at TMI.
8. On April 28, 1980, at 7:30 p.m., J. Collins, T. Elsasser and an EPA representative will meet with representatives from area school boards at Middletown High School.
9. On April 29, 1980, J. Collins will appear on a talk program on WAHT radio called "Two Way Radio" to answer questions from listeners concerning the cleanup operations.
10. On April 30, 1980, at 9:00 a.m., J. Collins, T. Elsasser and M. Bills, EPA, will meet in Middletown with religious leaders from the Greater Harrisburg area.
11. On April 30, 1980, at 1:30 p.m., J. Collins, T. Elsasser and an EPA representative will meet with the York County Commissioner in York.
12. On May 2, 1980, at 9:30 a.m., J. Collins and T. Elsasser will meet with the Mayor of York.
13. On May 5, 1980, J. Collins will address the 9th grade Civic Classes at East Junior High School, Harrisburg.
14. On May 5, 1980, at 7:00 p.m., J. Collins, T. Elsasser and an EPA representative will conduct a briefing in Manchester for officials from the following communities: Conewago Township (West Shore), Dover Township, East Manchester Township, Hellam Township, Manchester, Manchester Township, Mount Wolf, Springettsbury, Warrington Township and York Haven.
15. On May 8, 1980, J. Collins will address the Lower Swatara Lions Club at 6:30 p.m. at the Skyways Inn.

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