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April 7, 1980

Nuclear Regulatory Agency
Washington, D. C. 20013

Gentlemen:

While I have no idea of the volume of krypton gas that must be gotton rid of, it occurred to me that perhaps large high pressure compressors along with "secure" tanks such as those used for oxygen or acetylene might be filled until the level of gas was safely diluted with fresh outside air let in during compression of the krypton.

Obviously it would be a costly process and much fresh air would have to be brought in to reduce the excess negative pressure while pulling out the krypton.

Then, the tanks could be buried. Hopefully, the tanks would last the one-half life of the radioactive gas.

If there is no way to contain the gas for a long period, then perhaps the cylinders could be taken to a "remote area" where they could be vented slowly and safely.

Yours respectfully,

Julien E. Marx

JEM/ja
cc: Honorable Paul Doutrich
Mayor, Harrisburg, Pa.
Mr. Bob Wilcox, Repair Division, Three Mile Island

EA 430

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
WALTERS,E. Environmental Policy Center
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
Commission

SUBJECT: Opposes proposed release of radioactive gases & water into atmosphere & Susquehanna River

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ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CENTER
317 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 547-6500

EA430

March 20, 1980

50-320

Statement of Eleanor Walters, Washington Representative
Presented at the Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meeting, Baltimore, MD

The Environmental Policy Center opposes the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposal to release radioactive gases and water from the Three Mile Island reactor into the atmosphere and Susquehanna River. It is our belief that entombing the radioactive wastes within the containment is an option which has not been throughly explored by the NRC. By keeping the radioactivity on-site, it will not pose a threat to the health and safety of persons living down wind or down stream.

The reasoning behind the proposal to slowly vent the krypton is that the gases must be removed before clean-up operations can begin and that this will keep health hazards to a minimum. It does not matter, however, what the rate of venting is because the total radicactivity vented is the same. There is an increasing amount of scientific data which suggest the amount of genetic damage in the exposed population will be maximized by slow releases over an extended period of time.

More specifically, spreading out a given total dose minimizes the short-term biological effects but actually maximizes the much more serious long-term effects which include genetic damage. This is because the immediate cause of radiation-induced disease is damage to the DNA. Reproduction of mis-information eventually results in a visible effect such as cancer. At low levels of ll be so damaged that it c sure, however, cell killing i er or future genetic defect.

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EA485

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

Dupe of 8004020903

MAR 2 4 1980

Docket No. 50-320

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard H. Vollmer, Director
TMI-2 Support

FROM: Jan A. Norris, Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Projects Branch 2, DSE

SUBJECT: COMMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR TMI-2 DECONTAMINATION (NUREG-0662)

After having read the Environmental Assessment for Decontamination of the Three Mile Island Unit 2 Reactor Building Atmosphere, NUREG-0662, I would like to point out that for the gas compression method the volume of contaminated air to be stored could be drastically reduced by introducing the replacement volume of gas in containers in order to prevent mixing and dillution of the contaminated air. The replacement gas (such as helium) could be contained in flexible (or rigid) baloons. Varying the sizes of baloons would minimize the interstitial volume.

Theoretically, only one reactor building volume would have to be compressed and disposed. Practically, only the bulk of the gas could thus be purged, however, the remaining volume to be drawn off by feed and bleed operation would be significantly reduced. After purging, the baloons could be collapsed and after decontamination disposed as low level waste.

Jan A. Norris, Sr. Environmental
Project Manager
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis

- NASA Barge / [illegible]
- Canadian Solution