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

April 23, 1980
NRC/TMI-80-072

Docket Nos.: 50-320, 50-289

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

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Subject: Interim Criteria for Radiation Release at TMI

On April 7, 1980, the NRC Commissioners approved radiological effluent criteria for TMI-2 for the interim period prior to the issuance of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the purpose of data gathering and maintenance operations (see SECY-80-175, copy attached).

In essence, these criteria can be summarized as follows:

The licensee must request approval from the NRC to perform data gathering and maintenance operations. In addition, separate procedures must be developed for each operation and submitted to the NRC for approval. These procedures must contain a description of the need for the operation; estimates of on-site and off-site doses that may occur as a result of the operation. The procedures for each operation should be designed to conform to the existing NRC Technical Specifications as well as to the "As Low As" concepts of 10 CFR Parts 20 and 50. The procedures developed by the licensee should not interfere with the applicability of other limitations, conditions, or agreements that the licensee may have regarding the releases of radioactive gaseous or liquid effluent with NRC or with other federal, state or local authorities.

These interim criteria are no different from previous requirements in effect since the accident on March 28, 1980, consequently, our working relationship remains the same. In addition, these criteria provide that the Deputy Program Manager, on-site, will have the authority to permit weekly releases, which result in off-site doses that are not greater than 5% of the annual Appendix I 10 CFR Part 50 design objectives normalized to a weekly rate (i.e., 0.05 times the annual design objective divided by 52). These permitted releases will allow the on-site Deputy Program Manager the flexibility to continue or authorize decontamination procedures while keeping releases at a small fraction of those evaluated in the FES of 1972 for Units 1 and 2 and the Supplement to the FES of 1976 for Unit 2.

Mr. R. C. Arnold

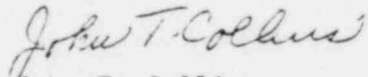
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Recognizing the sensitivities of the local citizens to any activities at TMI, we will expect that you will continue to inform the appropriate local governmental officials of any releases before allowing them to take place in accordance with your standard notification listing for items which may have potential public interest. We will also notify the public through appropriate press channels. This notification activity will be done in conjunction with our established working relations with the Environmental Protection Agency.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John T. Collins
Deputy Program Manager
TMI Program Office

cc: See Distribution List

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