Docket No. 50-320

Mr. M. B. Roche Vice President/Director, TMI-2 GPU Nuclear Corporation P. O. Box 480 Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Dear Mr. Roche:

Subject: THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 - REACTOR VESSEL LOWER HEAD SAMPLING SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT (TAC 74594)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has reviewed your August 18, 1989 submittal pertaining to obtaining metallurgical samples from the TMI-2 reactor vessel (RV). As stated in the enclosed Safety Evaluation issued by the staff, we conclude that the proposed activities can be accomplished without significant risk to the health and safety of the public provided that they are in accordance with the limitations stated in your submittals and in the staff's Safety Evaluation. These limitations include assuring that the defueling work platform off-gas system is functional and operating during metal disintegration machine operations.

Obtaining metallurgical samples from the RV falls within the scope of activities previously considered in the staff's the 1981 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement as supplemented. We, therefore, approve the proposed program to obtain samples from the TMI-2 RV as described in your Safety Evaluation Report and the limitations discussed above.

Sincerely,

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John F. Stolz, Director Project Directorate I-4 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

DISTRIBUTION DOCKET FILE S. Norris ACRS (10)

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Plant File M. Masnik S. Varga (14E4) B. Boger (14A2) OGC E. Jordan (MNBB 3302)

cc w/enclosure See next page OFOI

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