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

PROD. & UTIL. FAC. 50-369/370

June 23, 1981

J. Michael McGarry, III, Esq.
Debevoise and Liberman
1200 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. McGarry:

The Commission has scheduled an open meeting for Wednesday, June 24, 1981 at 2:00 p.m. as part of its consideration whether the Licensing Board's May 26, 1981 decision should become effective. At this meeting the Commission requests that the parties address orally the following questions:

1. In view of the fact that substantial quantities of hydrogen were evolved during the TMI accident before containment pressure significantly exceeded 3 psig, what is the basis for selecting the 3 psig containment pressure signal as the appropriate trigger for energizing the igniter system? Should the trigger instead be safety injection?

2. In view of the fact that the effectiveness of the hydrogen control system depends in part on operation of air return fans and the hydrogen skimmer fans in conjunction with the igniters, is it reasonable to switch on the igniters at a lower pressure than the trigger set point for the air return fans and the hydrogen skimmer fans? Is it feasible to switch on the air return fans and hydrogen skimmer fans at containment pressures less than 3 psig without the possibility of negative containment pressure or other adverse factors?

Sincerely,

Leonard Bickwit, Jr.
General Counsel

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