Docket No. 50-320

MAY 20 1981

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Mr. Takeshi Seo RESEARCH REACTOR INSTITUTE Kyoto University Kumatori-Cho, Sennan-Gun Osaka, 59G-04 Japan

Dear Mr. Seo:

This is in response to your inquiry of May 8, 1981, regarding estimates of the noble gas source term for the TMI-2 accident.

Most early noble gas source terms for the accident suffered from lack of direct measurements and adequate time for more precision. Thus, for purposes of conservatism, these estimates were purposely indicated on the high side.

The NRC's Special Inquiry Group examined the release in great detail, as did the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island. These evaluations were summarized in the Special Inquiry Group's report at Part II, Volume 2, pages 358-360. I am enclosing a copy of these pages for your information. The best estimates to date seem to be about 2.37 x 10^6 Ci of total noble gases being released because of the accident. Both the President's Commission and the Special Inquiry Group estimates yield this number using different techniques.

Sincerely,

Original signed by O D. T. Lynch, Jr.

Oliver D. T. Lynch, Jr., Section Leader Environmental Review Section Three Mile Island Program Office, NRR

Enclosure: As stated

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