



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

December 27, 1989

Docket No. 50-289

Mr. Henry D. Mukill, Vice President
and Director - TMI-1
GPU Nuclear Corporation
P. O. Box 480
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Dear Mr. Mukill:

SUBJECT: RELIEF ON CHECK VALVE INSPECTIONS - THREE MILE ISLAND UNIT 1
INSERVICE TESTING (IST) PROGRAM (TAC NO. 68379)

Your letters dated June 7, 1988 and April 17, 1989 provided justification for not adding a set of four emergency diesel generator air system check valves (EG-V10) to the Three Mile Island Unit 1 (TMI-1) IST program and for reducing the frequency of inspection for four other sets of valves (DH-V14A/B, BS-V30A/B, BS-V52A/B, MS-V9A/B). The actions requested would constitute a change to previous requirements imposed by the NRC as part of the IST program and documented in staff safety evaluation reports dated October 3, 1986, March 19, 1987 and March 31, 1988.

The additional justification provided in your letters included a review of past inspection history for these valves at TMI-1, a review of industry experience with similar valves and photographs of the internals of these valves taken during the most recent inspections. In addition, a check valve specialist from NRC headquarters personally witnessed a valve inspection during the July 1988 refueling outage.

The staff has completed its review of your request regarding these check valves and has documented the results of the review in the enclosed SER. In summary, the following relief is hereby granted:

- 1) If the EG-V10 valves are retained in the air receiver system, they are required to be included in the IST Program but specific Section XI tests are not required because the air receivers are monitored by a continuous pressure monitoring system, which provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. Accordingly, relief is granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i).
- 2) The partial flow testing of DH-V14 A/B is an acceptable deviation from the full flow test provided they are performed, monitored and analyzed in a certain repeatable manner and complemented by periodic internal inspections. The relief request for extending the inspection frequency to every 10 years is denied, but a review of the partial flow test and past inspection results of these valves justify an extension to a 10 year interval for inspecting both of these valves.

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- 3) The licensee's relief request for extending the inspection frequency of valves BS-V52A/B, BS-V30A/B and MS-V9A/B to every 10 years is denied, but based on Generic Letter 89-04 and a review of past inspection results of these valves, the staff finds that it is acceptable to extend the inspection frequency to every other refueling outage.

Sincerely,

***ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
JOHN F. STOLZ***

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

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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* See previous concurrence sheet