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NOV 01 1993

Docket No. 50-320

Dr. R. L. Long
Vice President and Director, TMI-2
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 480
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057-0191

Dear Dr. Long:

Subject: Inspection No. 50-320/93-04

This letter refers to your August 17, 1993 correspondence, in response to our April 9, 1993 letter.

Thank you for informing us of the status of the testing by your solidification media supplier to determine the cause of excess free standing liquid in your radioactive waste shipment. We have noted the preventive and corrective actions described in your letter. Specifically, we understand that you have improved your Process Control Plan for the use of solidification media and that you do not plan to use either of the solidification media involved in the violation in the foreseeable future. These actions will be examined during a future inspection of your licensed facility.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
James H. Joyner

James H. Joyner, Chief
Facilities Radiological Safety
and Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

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cc:

R. E. Rogan, TMI Licensing Director

E. J. Scheyder, TMI-2 Site Operations Director

J. C. Fornicola, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Director

TMI-2 Licensing Department

E. L. Blake, Jr., Esquire

TMI-Alert (TMIA)

Public Document Room (PDR)

Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)

NRC Resident Inspector

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

bcc:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)

bcc (VIA E-MAIL):

R. Hernan, PM, NRR/PD 1-4

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V. McCree, OEDO

C. Weiss, NRR/PDNP

R. Dudley, NRR/PDNP

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RI:DRSS
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August 17, 1993
C312-93-2057
C000-93-2162

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 2 (TMI-2)
Operating License No. DPR-73
Inspection Report No. 50-320/93-02
Response to Notice of Violation

Dear Sir:

The subject Inspection Report identified a violation of the NRC requirements of 10 CFR 61.56 and 10 CFR 30.41 related to the allowable amount of free-standing liquid in solidified waste shipped for disposal to the Richland, WA disposal site. The violation resulted from the discovery of excess free-standing liquid in a radioactive waste shipment sent from TMI-2 on December 16, 1992 to the US Ecology waste disposal site in Richland, WA.

A Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued on January 29, 1993. The GPU Nuclear response to the NOV was issued on March 17, 1993. A revised NOV was issued on April 9, 1993. GPU Nuclear responded to the revised NOV on May 7, 1993. The GPU Nuclear response dated March 17, 1993, committed to provide the NRC the results of the testing performed by Fluid Tech, Inc., the supplier of the solidification media to determine the cause of the excess free-standing liquid. The GPU Nuclear response dated May 7, 1993, committed to abstain from use of the Fluid Tech, Inc. Aquaset II or Petroset solidification media until the testing had been completed and the corrective actions indicated by the results of the testing have been implemented.

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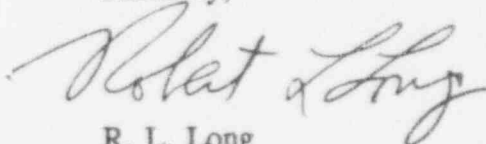
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On June 14, 1993, Fluid Tech, Inc. issued a progress report on their investigation of the solidification failure (Attachment 1). As stated in the progress report, Fluid Tech, Inc. did not identify a root cause for the solidification media failure. However, specific improvements in the Process Control Plan (PCP) for use of the media have been identified and will be implemented in the near future. Fluid Tech, Inc. is continuing their investigation of the solidification media failure.

GPU Nuclear has completed a review of the preliminary Fluid Tech, Inc. report of the testing of Aquaset II and Petroset. The testing by Fluid Tech, Inc. did not identify the root cause of the degradation of the solidification media. Notwithstanding improvements in the PCP, GPU Nuclear has no plans to use either solidification media in the foreseeable future. If either Aquaset II or Petroset are identified as the solidification media of choice for a future specific waste solidification application, GPU Nuclear will evaluate the PCP for that specific application and inform the NRC prior to use.

This completes the GPU Nuclear response to the subject Notice of Violation. The actions taken and commitments made by GPU Nuclear herein provide reasonable assurance that a similar event will not occur and that full compliance will be achieved.

Sincerely,



R. L. Long
Director, Services & TMI-2 Director

dlb

cc: M. Evans - Senior Resident Inspector, TMI
T. T. Martin - Regional Administrator, Region I
M. T. Masnik - Project Manager, PDNP Directorate
L. H. Thonus - Project Manager, TMI