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Docket No. 50-320

Professor H. Paul Friesema  
Northwestern University  
2040 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, Illinois 60201

Dear Professor Friesema:

I am writing in response to your letter to Mr. Vollmer regarding Three Mile Island, Unit 2. I regret that this answer to your letter has been delayed for so long. The accident and its consequences have created a substantial increase in the agency's workload, which has prevented me from responding to you as promptly as I would have liked.

Enclosed as you requested is a copy of NUREG-0647 "Safety Evaluation and Environmental Assessment." I am also enclosing a copy of proposed Technical Specifications which more accurately reflect the present condition of the facility and a copy of the Order which requires that the facility be maintained in accordance with the requirements of the proposed Technical Specifications.

The present condition of TMI-2 is described in the "Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement related to decontamination and disposal of radioactive wastes resulting from the March 28, 1979, accident, Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2" (PEIS), a copy of which is enclosed. As noted in the PEIS, the reactor is presently in a stable, shutdown condition. As such it does not pose an immediate threat to public health and safety. However, as indicated in the PEIS, the plant must be decontaminated regardless of its future use (whether it be decommissioned or returned to service).

If conditions at the plant should warrant evacuation of the surrounding area, the residents would be advised by state and local authorities who would tell them what to do and where to go.

I appreciate your concerns and assure you that every effort is being made to ensure the continued protection of the health and safety of the public, not only at the Three Mile Island Station, but also at all nuclear power plants.

Sincerely,

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS  
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director  
Three Mile Island Program Office  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosures:  
1. NUREG-0647

2. Order dtd 2/11/80

3. Proposed Technical Specifications

4. PEIS

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