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October 21, 1982

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. B. K. Kanga
 Director, TMI-2
 GPU Nuclear Corporation
 P. O. Box 480
 Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Kanga:

Subject: Installation of Pressure Relief Device on Spent SDS vessels

Reference: Letter from B. K. Kanga to L. H. Barrett, Same subject, dated October 4, 1982, (4410-82-L-0019)

The NRC staff has reviewed the referenced letter which transmits GPU's plan to install a pressure relief device on all spent SDS vessels prior to shipment to the Rockwell Hanford Operations (RHO), Richland, Washington. The purpose of this pressure relief device is to provide over pressure protection during extended offsite storage periods at the RHO facility. Overpressurization may occur due to gas pressure accumulation because of loss of recombiner operation or non-stoichiometric gas generation in the spent SDS vessels. We understand the pressure relief device will be attached downstream of the SDS vessel vent line isolation valve and become part of the vessel pressure boundary prior to shipment. We recognize the device is solely for the purpose of long-term storage safety at the RHO site and not a requirement for the safe on-site handling and shipment of SDS vessels.

The staff concurs that the use of the proposed pressure relief configuration on spent SDS vessels does not reduce the safety margin for spent SDS vessel shipments. The relief device, made primarily of 300 series stainless steel, is designed for specifications equivalent to or greater than the actual SDS vessel. Since each device will be leak tested prior to use, and the SDS vent line/relief device will be contained within the upper shroud of the SDS vessel, the staff believes that adequate assurance of system integrity will be maintained. Additionally, no changes will be required on the certificate of compliance for use of the CNS-1-13C type B shipping cask because no additional safety margin credit was taken for the secondary container pressure boundary. Therefore the staff approves GPU's plan for installing pressure relief devices on spent SDS vessels.

Original signed by
 Lake H. Barrett

Lake H. Barrett
 Deputy Program Director
 TMI Program Office

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cc: J. J. Barton
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