

SEP 15 1978

Docket No.: 50-320

Mr. John G. Herbein, Vice President
Nuclear Operation
c/o Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Herbein:

My staff has reviewed your August 17, 1979, response regarding natural circulation stability. To complete our evaluation, additional information is necessary in two areas.

Please provide your predictions of reactor coolant system pressure response during the cyclic natural circulation mode for two cases assuming no operator action for one hour:

- a. Pressure control via make-up/letdown
- b. Standby pressure and volume control system

Provide the assumptions for your calculations and justify them.

Should operation of the normal decay heat removal system absolutely become necessary as one of the back up cooling modes, we would like to understand its availability and operability in all respects. Provide your evaluation of decay heat removal system operation including:

- a. Ability to be throttled and operated for long periods at low flows
- b. Hazards due to system leakage (packing, pump seals, etc.)

Please feel free to contact myself or members of my staff in trailer #7 if clarification of our concerns is necessary.

J. T. Collins, Deputy Director
TMI Support

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TMI Support

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