

October 10, 1995

Mr. James Knubel
Vice President and Director, TMI
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057-0191

SUBJECT: THREE MILE ISLAND PLANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW RESULTS

Dear Mr. Knubel:

On September 19, 1995, Region I performed a Plant Performance Review (PPR) for the Three Mile Island plant, covering the period of February 19, 1995 to September 19, 1995. The PPR process consists of a review of inspection findings, significant events, and other information that relates to licensee performance. The purpose of this process is to assess nuclear plant performance for trends, and to plan future inspection activities at the facility. This process will be performed for all plants approximately every six months so that two PPR assessments will be performed during the approximate 18-month Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) cycle.

From the review, we noted generally good performance of the plant and personnel. Improvements were recognized in the supervisory oversight and performance of auxiliary operators, and in your evaluations of and corrective actions for human performance related events. Some human errors continued to occur. Of these errors, the two instances of performance of maintenance activities on the incorrect components, the motor operated valve and the oil change on the wrong pump, were particularly disturbing. In addition, contrary to your procedures, in one case a worker contaminated by a hot particle was released from the radiologically controlled area and in another, a worker improperly entered a restricted area in which radiography was being performed. Plant material condition continued to be very good; however, improvements were noted to be needed in housekeeping. Your self-assessment of the service water systems was considered demanding and meaningful.

A number of issues have occurred that raise concern regarding the adequacy of your planning process for maintenance activities. Examples of these include, maintenance on instrument line fittings which resulted in a reactor coolant system leak, replacement of an emergency safeguards actuation system relay that resulted in an interruption of decay heat removal capability, and a weak initial response to the degraded condition of the nuclear river discharge check valve that resulted in a delay in identifying the degraded condition of the nuclear river water system. Most significant of the work planning issues was the work on the circulating water pumps that resulted in breaches of the security boundary.

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Mr. James Knubel

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Enclosure 1 provides the schedule and basis for NRC inspections of your facility planned for the next 12 months. We will inform you of any significant changes to the enclosed inspection schedule. The routine resident inspection effort is not included in this schedule.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact John Rogge at (610) 337-5146.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Richard W. Cooper II, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-289

Enclosure: Planned NRC Inspections at Three Mile Island 1

cc w/encl:

E. L. Blake, Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge (Legal Counsel for GPUN)
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

J. C. Fornicola, Director, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

M. J. Ross, Director, Operations and Maintenance

TMI-Alert (TMIA)

J. S. Wetmore, Manager, TMI Licensing Department

Mr. James Knubel

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OFFICE	RI/DRP	E	RI/DRP	E	RI/DRP	E
NAME	JDurr		RCooper		WKane	
DATE	10/11/95		10/4/95		10/6/95	

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EJC 9/27/95

JMR 10/4/95

ENCLOSURE

**Planned NRC Inspections at Three Mile Island
October 1, 1995 to October 1, 1996
(Excluding Resident Inspector Reviews)**

INSPECTION PROCEDURE NUMBER	TITLE	TYPE	START DATE
	OPERATIONS		
71001	Licensed Operator Re-qualification Program Evaluation	CO	01/29/96
	MAINTENANCE		
73753	Inservice Inspection	CO	09/25/95
73756	Inservice Testing of Pumps and Valves - Check Valve Performance Based on a History of Failures	RI	05/13/96
	ENGINEERING		
37550	Engineering (Visit 1) - Focus on Digital Instrumentation Modifications	CO	11/13/95
40500	Effectiveness of Licensee Controls in Identifying, Resolving, and Preventing Problems	CO	March 1996
37550	Engineering (Visit 2)	CO	03/04/96
TI2515/109	Motor Operated Valve Followup - Closeout of Past Open Issues	TI	04/08/96
37550	Engineering (Visit 3)	CO	05/13/96
	PLANT SUPPORT		
83750	Occupational Radiation Exposure - Outage	CO	09/25/95
64704	Fire Protection Program	CO	11/27/95
86750	Solid Radwaste Management and Transportation of Radioactive Materials	CO	12/11/95
84750	Radioactive Waste Treatment - Environmental Monitoring	CO	2 nd QT FY 96
81700	Physical Security Program (Visit 2)	CO	01/08/96
83750	Occupational Radiation Exposure - Non Outage	CO	02/26/96
82701	Operational Status of the Emergency Preparedness Program	CO	03/11/96

Abbreviations:

PR - NRR Program Requirement
SI - Safety Issues

CO - Core Requirement
RI - Regional Initiative
TI - Temporary Instruction