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September 27, 1984

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Administrative Judges Ivan W. Smith, Chairman Sheldon J. Wolfe Gustave A. Linenberger, Jr. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

> In the Matter of Metropolitan Edison Company (Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1) Docket No. 50-289 (Restart - Remand) SP

Dear Chairman Smith and Administrative Judges Wolfe and Linenberger:

At the September 24 prehearing conference, I committed to provide to the Board and the parties a further clarification by the Reconstituted OARP Committee as to its reliance on the NRC licensed operators exams. See Tr. 27491-98. In accordance with my commitment, I have discussed this issue with the Committee. The Committee has authorized my transmitting to the Board and the parties its response to the following question:

Q. In evaluating the adequacy of the current licensed operator training program at TMI-1, is the Committee placing reliance on the NRC licensed operator exams?

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Ivan W. Smith, Esquire Sheldon J. Wolfe, Esquire Mr. Gustave A. Linenberger, Jr. September 27, 1984 Page 2

A. The Committee recognizes that passing the NRC exam is a legal requirement in order for an operator to operate the plant. However, in evaluating the substantive adequacy of the current licensed operator training program at TMI-1, the Committee is not placing reliance on TMI-1 operators' performance on the NRC exams or on the content of those exams.

I am hopeful this information is responsive to the concerns raised during the prehearing conference, and resolves any ambiguities that may now exist as to the Committee's reliance on the NRC exams.

Sincerely,

Deborah B. Bauser

Deborah B. Bauser Counsel for Licensee

DBB:jah Enclosure cc: Service List