June 11, 1996

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: Response to Notice of Violation Inspection No. 50-289/96-03

Dear Mr. Knubel:

This refers to your April 24, 1996 correspondence, in response to our March 26, 1996 letter regarding Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1.

Your correspondence provided GPU Nuclear's reply to the Notice of Violation issued as a result of our inspection (No. 50-289/96-03) concerning a degraded security barrier that existed at the facility on February 5 and 6, 1996, and was discovered by a member of the security force. That event was similar to other events that occurred in September 1995.

Your assessment of the root causes of the event and the corrective actions already implemented and remaining actions planned as described in your letter, appear to be appropriate. In our review of your submittal, we were encouraged by your initiative to take a broad perspective and complete an engineering evaluation to determine the feasibility of installing similar physical controls in other plant systems which are known to traverse security barriers. We will review the effectiveness of those actions in a future inspection of your program.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely, Susan Shankma /for

Richard W. Cooper, II, Director Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-289

cc: 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

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Inspection Program Branch, NRR (IPAS)

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