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October 14, 1998

1920-98-20582

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)  
Operating License No. DPR-50  
Docket No. 50-289  
10 CFR 50 Appendix R Exemption Request – Additional Information

As previously discussed, this letter provides GPU Nuclear's commitment to isolate the source of acetylene gas from the 1/2 inch supply line routed through fire zone CB-FA-1 when the line is not in use. Additionally, a combustible gas detector will be installed in the radiochemistry lab in fire zone CB-FA-1, which is the point of use for the gas, to detect leakage. A remote combustible gas detector alarm will be provided in the hallway outside the radiochemistry lab to ensure that it is audible at the local health physics station which is normally manned. This commitment supercedes the proposed modifications previously described in GPU Nuclear's letter to the NRC dated May 21, 1998 (1920-98-20225).

Proposed plant modifications as described above would be completed by December 31, 1999, consistent with the TMI-1 Thermo-Lag resolution schedule, to provide the additional safety margin to support the basis for the requested 1-hour Thermo-Lag fire barrier exemption in CB-FA-1. If additional information is required, please contact Mr. David J. Distel, GPU Nuclear Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, at (973) 316-7955.

Sincerely,

James W. Langenbach  
Vice President and Director, TMI

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cc: Administrator, Region I - H. Miller  
TMI Senior Resident Inspector - W. L. Schmidt  
TMI-1 Senior Project Manager - T. G. Colburn  
File No. 94032

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