

Docket No. 50-289

DEC 2 1988

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Mr. Phillip R. Clark
Chief Executive Officer
GPU Nuclear Corporation
100 Interface Parkway
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Dear Mr. Clark:

SUBJECT: LOSS OF DECAY HEAT REMOVAL

We have just issued Generic Letter 88-17 which addresses loss of decay heat removal (DHR) during nonpower operation.

This letter was issued because of the potential serious consequence of loss of shutdown cooling concurrent with significant core decay heat. Further, it is our belief that the industry as a whole has not aggressively responded to resolve the concern following its identification in our earlier Generic Letter 87-12. In particular, the industry's response to the Generic Letter 87-12 was deficient in the areas of (1) prevention of accident initiation, (2) mitigation of accidents before they potentially progress to core damage, and (3) control of radioactive material if a core damage accident should occur. Generic Letter 88-17 prescribes expeditious actions which should immediately ease the concern; and parallel, but longer term, programmed enhancements which effectively address the root cause of the problems and permit greater flexibility in operation.

We consider this issue to be of high priority and request that you assure that your organization addresses it accordingly.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Thomas E. Murley

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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GPU Nuclear Corporation

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station,
Unit No. 1

cc:

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