

Mr. James W. Langenbach, Vice President
and Director, TMI
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

December 2, 1998

SUBJECT: SECOND 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM PLAN
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE EXAMINATION FOR THREE MILE ISLAND, UNIT
1 (TMI-1) (TAC NO. MA2006)

Dear Mr. Langenbach:

By letter dated June 3, 1998, GPU Nuclear, Inc., (the licensee) submitted a request for approval by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to perform an alternative at TMI-1 to the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section XI requirements regarding actions to be taken upon detecting leakage at a bolted connection during visual VT-2 leakage examinations.

The NRC staff has completed its review of the licensee's request to perform alternatives to the Section XI requirements and finds that it provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, the proposed alternative is authorized for the second 10-year interval pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i). The details of the staff's review are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

This completes the NRC staff's effort on this request and closes TAC No. MA2006. If you have questions regarding this submittal call Tim Colburn at (301) 415-1402.

Sincerely,
Original signed by Robert A. Capra
for Cecil O. Thomas, Director
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-289
Enclosures: 1. Safety Evaluation
2. Technical Letter Report

cc w/encls: See next page

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J. Langenbach
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1

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