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July 24, 1986
NRC/TMI 86-074

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. F. R. Standerfer
Vice President/Director, TMI-2
GPU Nuclear Corporation
P. O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Standerfer:

Subject: TMI-2 Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System Operation

- References: (a) GPUN letter, F. R. Standerfer to W. D. Travers, Operation of the Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System, dated June 17, 1986
- (b) GPUN letter, F. R. Standerfer to W. D. Travers, TMI-2 Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System, Revision 2, dated April 14, 1986
- (c) NRC letter, W. D. Travers to F. R. Standerfer, TMI-2 Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System, NRC/TMI 86-036, dated April 18, 1985

Reference (a) forwarded, for NRC staff approval, a proposal to modify the manning requirements for the Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System (TRVFS) which had been previously established in reference (b). NRC staff approval for the operation of the system as described in reference (b) was documented in reference (c).

To reduce the man-rem expended for operation of the system, GPU Nuclear proposed that the system be monitored from the SDS control station and command center by use of closed circuit TV's, as opposed to personnel directly operating and monitoring the system. To this end, the proposal indicated that the system would have the capability to be shutdown remotely from the SDS control station. To facilitate surveillance of the system, the filter radiation monitor, pressure gauge and an alarming air sampler in the area would be oriented in such a manner as to be visible via the closed circuit TV monitors.

Monitoring the operation of the TRVFS remotely using closed circuit TV's in the manner proposed is equivalent to having a local operator. The parameters monitored are the same in both cases. The required locally alarming airborne radioactivity monitor would alert personnel in the immediate vicinity of a potential spill before any hazard is experienced as described in reference (b). The design of the system is such that if there was an unobserved piping

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failure, the reduction in IIF water level would be limited to two feet or approximately 4000 gallons. Subsequent loss of pump suction and the consequential syphon break would prevent further water loss from the reactor vessel. An immediate shutdown of the system can be performed remotely as necessary.

We have completed our review of reference (a) and have concluded that your proposed operation of the TRVFS presents no adverse impact on public health and safety and does not involve an unreviewed safety question.

We, therefore, approve the proposed operation of the system as described in reference (a) contingent upon the submittal of related procedures subject to Technical Specification 6.8.2. These procedures shall address the surveillance requirements using closed circuit TV.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY,
William D. Travers

William D. Travers
Director
TMI-2 Cleanup Project Directorate

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