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NRC/TMI-30-145

Docket No. 50-320

Hr. R. C. Arnold Senior Vice President Metropolitan Edison Company 100 Interpace Parkway

Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Dear Mr. Armold:

Subject: Submarged Demineralizer System

YUK. 7 1980 Local PDR TERA TMI Program Office HO r/f

TMI Site r/f J. T. Collins

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Your letter TLL-478 dated October 13, 1980, concluded that the Technical Evaluation Report (TER) for the Submarged Demineralizer System (SDS) contains the necessary information to facilitate NRC review of the SDS. Since this TER was issued, however, ORNL/TH-7448 has been published containing conflicting information that leads us to conclude that the TER is outdated, and in some cases inaccurate. For example, CRNL/TM-7448 indicates that the performance of the SDS for cartain isotopes (particularly strontium) may not be as high as expected. Differences in performance may be as high as 100, which would impact the storage of the effluent of the SDS in the processed water storage tanks. Other specific concerns with the TER are included as an enclosure to this letter.

We request that the TER be updated to address and include the information contained in ORNL/TN-7448, and also our concerns as indicated in the enclosure. We are prepared to meet with you at your convenience to discuss our comments and concerns.

> Uriginal signed by John P. Collins John T. Collins Deputy Program Ofrector THE Program Office

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: See Service Distribution List

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- Letter TLL-283 provided a list of piping and instrument drawings and general arrangement drawings. An up-to-date listing of these drawings are requested along with the latest revision of the drawing if the drawing has a later revision date than the one provided in TLL-283.
   Most of the drawings provided were "Issued for Approval". "Approved for Fabrication" drawings should now be available and we request that these drawings be provided.
- Conflicting data is available concerning the estimated amount of water to be processed, the estimated activity in the water, the total activity to be retained in each bed and the total number of each type of bed required. For example:

Total amount of water to be processed:

Source	Data
TER	Approximately 1,000,000 gallons
Drawing No. 527 O-A-5005 Issue 1	540,000 gallons in Containment Sump (CS)
	85,000 gallons in RCS
ORNL/TM-7081 (Referenced in	540,000 gallons in CS
TLL-283 response to question 16)	90,000 gallens in RCS
ORNL/TM-7448 (Transmitted by	700,000 gallons in CS
TLL-408 dated August 22, 1980)	90,000 gallons in RCS
Activity in the water:	

Source	<u>Data</u>
TER (Table 1.1: summation of all	110.15 uCi/ml or 0.43 Ci/gal in RCS
all listed activities)	259.73 uCi/ml or 1.01 Ci/gal in CS
Drawing No. 527D-A-5005 Issue 1	2.0 Ci/gal in RCS
	3.75 Ci/gal in CS
ORNL/TM-7448 (Table 1: summation	97.31 uCi/ml or 0.38 Ci/gal in RCS
of all listed activities)	189.85 uC/ml or 0.74 Ci/gal in CS

Some of the discrepancies are undoubtably due to changing conditions and better information obtained at later dates. However, the effect of this variation in data is that the authors of the documents have come to differing conclusions concerning the amount of activity contained in each bed and total beds required. An up to date estimate of the activity to be retained in each bed (zeolite, cation, polisher, and any other bed proposed to be used) and the total number of columns of each type of bed is requested. Data that is used to develop this estimate should be clearly stated and justified, including bed size, throughput and techniques to be used to determine bed loading where throughput is limited by bed loading.

- 3. The system design objectives in the TER include reducing concentrations in the processed water to levels that meet existing regulatory requirements for release to the environment. The preliminary projected stream analysis for intermediate streams and product water provided in TLL-283 showed that the proposed system will not meet its design objectives. ORNL/TM-7448 indicates even more pessimistic projection in Table 17 and provides proposed modifications to improve system performance even though these modifications will not be enough to meet the system design objective. In view of the above, indicate your plans to improve system performance. Any proposal which does not meet the system design objectives should be thoroughly justified.
- 4. The TER, TLL-283 (in the response to question 2 (a)), and ORNL/TM-7448 do not all agree in the expected system OF's, in some cases differing by a factor of 100. An updated process flow diagram of the same format as Table 4 in the response to question 2 (a) in TLL-293 is requested along with justification of the values used.
- 5. The TER indicates that filtration is necessary to achieve designed decontamination factors. ORNL/TM-7448 states that because of flocculent in the containment sump water, the filters proposed for the SOS might be inadequate. Provide plans to ensure adequate filtering of the process water and the expected radioactivity loading of the prefilter and final filter based on this updated information. Based on this loading provide an estimate of the total number of prefilters and final filters needed to process the water.
- 6. TLL-283 (in the response to question 3) provided the radioactivity loading of the cation bed and the polishing unit for 15,000 gallons of water. Is the throughput of these columns to be limited to 15,000 gallons? If not, what is the criteria to be used for replacement of these columns. Include in the discussion the ORNL/TM-7448 finding that "very little decontamination, if any, will be obtained in either the organic resin column or in the polishing column" and the TER statement that. "the remaining strontium (after the zeolite beds) is effectively removed by the organic cation resin".

- 7. TLL-283 (in the response to question 6) indicated that the processing method for decontamination of the RCS water would be similar to the method planned for the containment sump water. GRNL/TM-7448 gave another recommendation concerning how to process the water in the RCS. In view of this recommendation, provide your plan for processing RCS water.
- 8. By mid-1981, burial grounds will require such wastes as the polishing unit resin to be solidified prior to disposal. Provide plans for meeting this projected requirement for the polishing unit resin.
- 9. Provide an accident analysis of dropping a cask containing a loaded zeolite resin liner from the maximum height of crane travel onto (a) the 305' level of the fuel handling building and (b) the SDS system and its supporting components (eg. 1, system). Include in the response a summary of the health and environmental effects on the public and on operators in the area and the effect on the reactor coolant system.
- Provide an accident analysis of lifting a loaded zeolite resin liner above the pool surface.