

July 31, 1984

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. B. K. Kanga, Director
Three Mile Island Unit 2
GPU Nuclear Corporation
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Kanga:

Subject: Preparatory Activities for Plenum Assembly Removal

Reference: Letter, 4410-84-L-0032, B. Kanga to B. Snyder, Safety Evaluation Report for Preparatory Activities for Plenum Assembly Removal, dated June 18, 1984

By letter (referenced above) dated June 18, 1984, you submitted for our review and approval the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for preparatory activities for plenum removal. The preparatory activities include the following: (1) video inspection of potential plenum interference areas, (2) video inspection of the core void space, (3) video inspection of the axial power shaping rods (APSR's), (4) measurement of the LOCA restraint boss gaps, (5) measurement of the elevations of the APSR's, (6) cleaning of the plenum and potential interference areas, (7) separation of unsupported fuel assembly end fittings, and (8) movement of the APSR's.

Based on our preliminary review of your SER, we have determined that some of the described activities are similar in nature to activities (e.g., Quick Look video inspection of the damaged core and reactor vessel under-head characterization) which we have previously evaluated and approved (see letters B. Snyder to J. Barton, dated July 13, 1982, and L. Barrett to B. Kanga, dated July 13, 1983). Your prior experience in the conduct of core and plenum video inspections and other in-vessel activities (e.g., radiation measurements, reactor coolant sampling) has demonstrated that these are benign activities (i.e., environmental impacts are very small) which pose little risk to the onsite workers or offsite public. Accordingly, the corresponding plenum inspection activities do not warrant further review and, pending our approval of related procedures, the following preparatory activities for plenum assembly removal can be implemented: (1) video inspection of potential plenum interference areas, (2) video inspection of the core void space, (3) video inspection of the APSR's, (4) measurement of the LOCA restraint boss gaps, and (5) measurement of the elevations of the APSR's.

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Mr. B. K. Kanga

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This letter does not provide approval for the cleaning of the plenum and potential interference areas, the separation of unsupported fuel assembly end fittings or movement of the APSR's as we are still reviewing these activities and our safety evaluation of these activities will be documented by a separate letter.

Sincerely,

/s/ R.A. Weller for

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
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