UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 17, 1980
NRC/TMI-80-043

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. Denton, Director,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

R. H. Vollmer, Director,
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

FROM: J. T. Collins, Deputy Director,
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

SUBJECT: NRC/TMI WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

Enclosed is the status report for the week of March 8-14, 1980.

John T. Collins
Deputy Director
NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff

Enclosure: As stated

cc: EDO
Office Directors
Commissioner's Technical Assistants
NRR Division Directors
NRR A/D's
Regional Directors
IE Division Directors
XOOS
XOMA
G. Sanborn
TMI Technical Support Staff

NRC/TMI TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF
STATUS REPORT

Week of: March 8-14, 1980

Plant Status

Core Cooling Mode: Natural Circulation in the "A" Reactor Coolant System (RCS) Loop via the "A" Once Through Steam Generator (OTSG), Steaming to the Main Condenser; and RCS Loop-B Cyclic Natural Circulation to Reactor Building ambient.

Available Core Cooling Modes: OTSG "B" to the Main Condenser; Long Term Cooling "B" (OTSG-B); Decay Heat Removal.

RCS Pressure Control Mode: Makeup system in conjunction with letdown flow.

Backup Pressure Control Mode: Standby Pressure Control (SPC) System.

Major Parameters (As of 0500, March 14, 1980) (approximate values)
Average Incore Thermocouples: 146°F
Maximum Incore Thermocouple: 187°F

RCS Loop Temperatures:

	A	B
Hot Leg	147°F	150°F
Cold Leg (1)	125°F	111°F
(2)	132°F	108°F

RCS Pressure: 291 psig

Pressurizer Temperature: 344°F (Saturation Pressure 110 psig)

Reactor Building: Temperature: 78°F
Pressure: -.5 psig
Water level: Elevation 290.4 ft. (7.9 ft from floor)

Environmental & Effluent Information

1. Liquid effluents from TMI-1 released to the Susquehanna River, after processing, were within the limits specified in Technical Specifications. No water was discharged on 3/10/80, 3/12/80 and 3/19/80.

2. No liquid effluents were discharged from TMI-2.

3. Approximately 57 mCi of Kr-85 were released from TMI-2 personnel airlock No. 2 in a controlled release lasting approximately 72 hours.

Major Activities (Past and Present)

1. The mini decay heat removal system (MDHR) has been installed, hydrostatically tested and turned over to QA. Certain minor items must still be completed including a rehydro test after additional piping modifications are completed. Completion of the system including design documentation and operating and emergency procedures is targeted for April 1, 1980. Any delays much beyond that date become questionable in that primary heat losses to the reactor building can adequately maintain core cooling.

2. On Wednesday, March 12, 1980, the NRC/TMI staff presented to the Commission the Environmental Assessment for the Decontamination of the Three Mile Island Unit 2 Reactor Building atmosphere. The staff recommended that the reactor building atmosphere be decontaminated by controlled purging to the environment. The Commission established a 15-day period during which public comments on the assessment would be accepted. April 8, 1980, has been set as the target date for presenting an update of the EA with response to comments to the Commission.

3. On Thursday, March 13, 1980, the licensee started a planned outage for the EPICOR II liquid radwaste system to initiate a variety of system tasks. The outage is scheduled to last until March 28, 1980.

4. On Thursday, March 13, 1980, the first entry into the reactor building personnel airlock No. 2 was made. Prior to the entry, the airlock was purged of a small quantity of Kr-85 gas (approximately 57 mCi) which started on March 10, 1980 and lasted until March 13, 1980. Radiation surveys taken in the airlock indicated no surface or airborne contamination. The average area reading in the airlock was 50 mr/hr with a maximum reading of 180 mr/hr (localized to a 1 ft square area). Visual observations through the observation port in the inner airlock door did not reveal any visual damage. The area in front of the door appeared clean and dry. Additional entries into the air lock are anticipated.

5. On Thursday, March 13, 1980, a manometer system was installed through penetration 401 as a second means of measuring reactor building water level. The measured value, using this technique, was calculated to be 290.1 ft. This correlates to 290.4 ft. using decay heat system piping from the containment sump. Periodic correlation will be ongoing.

6. On Thursday, March 13, 1980, the licensee shipped a 6' x 6' liner of dewatered spent resins from the EPICOR-I liquid waste processing system to the Richland, Washington, low level waste burial facility. The shipment was escorted by licensee employee.

7. An NRC Task Force reviewed the licensee's program for man-entry into the TMI-2 reactor building. The Task Force recommended to the Deputy Director, NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff, that entry not be attempted unless it is established that containment atmosphere will sustain life in the event of a malfunction of the respiratory protection equipment. The Task Force also made recommendations to improve the entry program in the event an emergency entry is required.

Future Evolutions

On March 20, 1980, the licensee intends to conduct a casualty drill at TMI-2 requiring implementation of the Emergency Plan. The licensee committed to the NRC to conduct these types of drills on a quarterly basis. Offsite notification during the drill are anticipated. The NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff monitored the January 1980 drills. The staff will be looking for the correction of a majority of the material and personnel problems identified during those drills.

Public Affairs

1. On Friday, March 14, 1980, J. T. Collins participated in a town meeting in Goldsboro, along with representatives of PA-DER, PEMA, EPA, Met-Ed and Civil Defense to discuss future activities at TMI and emergency planning. Approximately 300 people were in attendance at this meeting.

2. On Friday, March 14, 1980, J. T. Collins and A. Smith, EPA On-Site coordinator, met with Dan Tanel, representing Congressman Ertel's office to discuss more community involvement in environmental mon. ring programs and better ways of diseminating environmental monitoring data. The meeting was arranged as a result of discussions held between Congressman Ertel and Commissioner Gilinsky.

3. On Sunday, March 16, 1980, J. T. Collins presented a discussion of the NRC role at TMI at a symposium on nuclear energy sponsored by the Trinity United Church of Christ, York, Pennsylvania.

4. On Monday, March 17, 1980, J. T. Collins will attend a press conference sponsored by EPA to discuss the updating of the long term environmental monitoring program at TMI. The press conference will be held at the capitol newsroom, Harrisburg, PA, beginning at 1:00 P.M..

5. On Wednesday, March 19, 1980, R. Vollmer, J. T. Collins and other NRC staff members will participate in a public meeting at the Liberty Fire Hall in Middletown to review and discuss the reasons behind the staff's recommendation for purging the containment building atmosphere. A second public meeting will be scheduled at a later date to elicit additional comments on the staff assessment.

6. On Thursday, March 20, 1980, J. T. Collins will participate in the DER sponsored briefings to discuss clean-up activities at TMI. The briefing will be held in the cafetorium of the Elizabethtown Area Middle School, Elizabethtown, PA, and will include representatives from PA-DER and Met-Ed.

7. On Thursday, March 20, 1980, R. Vollmer, along with representatives of DES, will participate in a meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, to discuss the scoping of the Environmental Impact Statement for the TMI-2 Recovery Program.

Public Affairs (cont)

8. A meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 21, 1980, in Middletown with local officials from the Middletown-Lancaster-Harrisburg area to discuss community involvement in monitoring programs during the recovery operations. J. T. Collins will represent the NRC at this meeting.