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March 30, 1981
NRC/TMI-81-022

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director,
TMI Program Office

FROM: Lake H. Barrett, Acting Deputy Program Director,
TMI Program Office

SUBJECT: NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

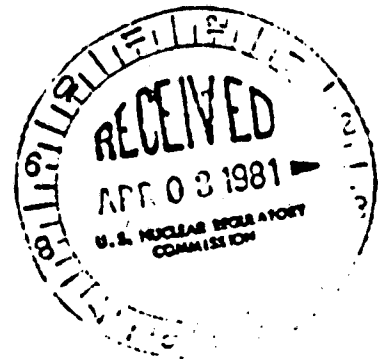
Enclosed is the status report for the period of March 22-28, 1981.

Original signed by
Lake H. Barrett

Lake H. Barrett
Acting Deputy Program Director
TMI Program Office

Enclosure: As stated

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BY: JWilde/Imp	RConte	MShanbaky	AFasano	RBellamy	LBarrett
DATE: 3/30/81	3/30/81	3/30/81	3/30/81	3/30/81	3/30/81

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NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

Week of March 22-28, 1981

Plant Status

Core Cooling Mode: Heat transfer from the reactor coolant system (RCS) loops to reactor building ambient.

Available Core Cooling Modes: Long-term cooling "B" (once through steam generator-B); decay heat removal systems.

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

Backup Pressure Control Modes: Mini Decay Heat Removal (MDHR) System.
Decay Heat Removal (DHR) System.

Major Parameters (as of 0500, March 27, 1981) (approximate values)

Average Incore Thermocouples: 121°F

Maximum Incore Thermocouple: 151°F

RCS Loop Temperatures:

	A	B
Hot Leg	117°F	120°F
Cold Leg (1)	67°F	67°F
(2)	67°F	67°F

RCS Pressure: 107 psig

Reactor Building: Temperature: 67°F

Water level: Elevation 290.6 ft. (8.1 ft. from floor)
via penetration 401 manometer

Pressure: -0.17 psig

Concentration: 9.2×10^{-6} uCi/cc (Krypton-85 (Kr-85))
(sample taken 3/23/81)

Effluent and Environmental (Radiological) Information

1. Liquid effluents from the TMI site released to the Susquehanna River after processing, were made within the regulatory limits and in accordance with NRC requirements and City of Lancaster Agreement dated February 27, 1980.

During the period March 20, 1981, to March 26, 1981, the effluents contained no detectable radioactivity at the discharge point although individual effluent sources which originated within Unit 2 contained minute amounts of radioactivity. Calculations indicate that less than one millionth (0.000001) of a curie of cesium-137 (CS-137) was discharged. This represents less than 0.00001% of the permissible total liquid activity as specified in Technical Specifications for operational commercial reactors.

2. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Data. Results from EPA monitoring of the environment around the TMI site were as follows:

- The EPA measured Kr-85 concentrations (pCi/m^3) at several environmental monitoring stations and reported the following results:

<u>Location</u>	<u>March 13 - March 20, 1981</u> (pCi/m^3)
Bainbridge	23
Goldsboro	23
Observation Center	25
Middletown	25

All of the above levels of Kr-85 are considered to be background levels.

- No radiation above normally occurring background levels was detected in any of the samples collected from the EPA's air and gamma rate networks during the period from March 20, 1981, through March 26, 1981.

3. NRC Environmental Data. Results from NRC monitoring of the environment around the TMI site were as follows:

- The following are the NRC air sample analytical results for the onsite continuous air sampler:

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>I-131</u> (uCi/cc)	<u>Cs-137</u> (uCi/cc)
HP-260	March 18, 1981 - March 25, 1981	<8.6 E-14	<8.6 E-14

4. Licensee Radioactive Material and Radwaste Shipments. The following shipments were made:

- On Monday, March 23, 1981, a 40 ml Unit 2 reactor coolant sample was sent to Babcock and Wilcox (B&W), Lynchburg, Virginia.
- On Tuesday, March 24, 1981, three-one liter, Unit 2 containment sump samples were sent to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- On Wednesday, March 25, 1981, 46 drums and 6 boxes of compacted and non-compacted Unit 1 LSA waste were shipped to Chem Nuclear Systems, Inc., Barnwell, South Carolina.
- On Thursday, March 26, 1981, 65 drums and 10 boxes of compacted and non-compacted Unit 2 LSA waste were shipped to U.S. Ecology, Richland, Washington.

Major Events

1. Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS). Region I specialists in instrumentation and preoperational testing performed preliminary inspections on the SDS this week. These inspections are expected to continue for the next three weeks. The fuel pool, which contains the SDS is expected to be filled with water near the end of April.
2. EPICOR-II Spent Resin Disposal. On March 25, 1981, the NRC revised the Unit 2 License to provide alternatives to on-site processing prior to ultimate disposal of radioactive EPICOR-II resins. When the NRC approved the operation of EPICOR-II in October 1979, the NRC required that the spent resins be mixed with a binder material, e.g., cement, prior to shipment for off-site disposal. This special requirement was established because it was expected that the EPICOR-II resin radioactivity loadings would be much higher than normal reactor waters and that they would be disposed of by routine low-level waste land burial practices. Since October 1979, much has been learned about the EPICOR-II resins. The actual radioactivity loadings of the spent EPICOR-II resin liners are grouped into either highly loaded resin prefilters or lower loaded polishing resin beds. The curie content of the lower loaded EPICOR-II polishing resins are within the normal range of reactor resin wastes. Consequently, there is no need for the addition of a binder material provided that the resin liners are dewatered and meet all DOT and NRC transportation rules and also meet applicable state burial site criteria. This amendment allows prompt shipment of these lower loaded polishing resins off-site for disposal.

The higher loaded prefilters are the subject of on-going waste disposal characterization by DOE. This work will determine the method of ultimate off-site disposition.

Meetings Held

1. On Tuesday, March 24, 1981, Lake Barrett met with area mothers to discuss various issues related to nuclear power. The mothers stated that the TMI accident has caused severe mental stress and that this stress will continue especially if TMI Unit 1 is restarted.
2. On Tuesday, March 24, 1981, Harold Denton and Lake Barrett attended a meeting of the American Society of Zoological Park Managers in Hershey, PA. Mr. Denton gave an invited after dinner talk and responded to questions concerning nuclear power.
3. On Friday, March 27, 1981, Congressman Morris Udall and members of the Energy and Environment subcommittee made an inspection tour of TMI Unit 1 and TMI Unit 2. During their visit, the subcommittee members met with representatives of General Public Utilities and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to discuss various issues related to the cleanup process of TMI Unit 2 and the possible restart of TMI Unit 1. Later in the day they met with representatives of the Coalition of Greater Harrisburg Labor Union, TMI Alert, Building Trades Union, Friends and Family of TMI, TMI Public Resource Center and other groups to be briefed on their concerns regarding TMI and then held a press conference for media representatives and the public.
4. On Saturday, March 28, 1981, Lake Barrett participated on a call-in radio show marking the second anniversary of the accident on CBS affiliated WCAU in Philadelphia.

Future Meetings

1. On Monday, March 30, 1981, the NRC's Citizens Advisory Panel will meet with Congressman Morris Udall and members of the Energy and Environment subcommittee to discuss various issues related to the cleanup program for TMI Unit 2.
2. On Wednesday, April 1, 1981, Lake Barrett will meet with members of the Susquehanna Valley Alliance to discuss the TMI Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. Representatives of EPA's Independent Scientific Advisory Panel will also discuss their findings.