

May 6, 1985
NRC/TMI-85-035

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

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
TMI Program Office

FROM: William D. Travers, Deputy Program Director
TMI Program Office

SUBJECT: NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR
APRIL 29, 1985 - MAY 5, 1985

1. PLANT STATUS

- The facility remains in long term cold shutdown with the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) vented to the reactor building atmosphere and the reactor vessel head removed.
- RCS cooling is by natural heat loss to the reactor building ambient atmosphere. Incore thermocouple readings range from 69°F to 96°F with an average of 83°F. Average cold leg temperature is 63°F.
- Calculated reactor decay heat is less than 14 kilowatts.
- The modified internals indexing fixture is installed on the reactor vessel flange and is flooded to elevation 327 feet 6 inches (15½ feet above the top of the core region).
- The average reactor building temperature is 58°F. The reactor building airborne activity is 1.3 E-7 uCi/cc tritium, and 2.5 E-10 uCi/cc particulates, predominantly cesium 137.
- The reactor vessel plenum has been raised 7½ inches by hydraulic jacks and cleared of fuel assembly end fittings in preparation for final removal.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) continued processing batch S-117, which will consist of about 60,000 gallons from the IIF.
- No EPICOR II processing occurred this week.
- Total volume processed through SDS to date is 2,811,398 gallons, and the total volume processed through EPICOR II is 2,433,814 gallons.
- Thirteen shipments of radioactive material/waste were sent from the site during the month of April:
 - April 3, 1985 - a contaminated laundry shipment in 99 drums and 4 boxes was sent to Royersford, Pennsylvania.
 - April 4, 1985 - a combined shipment of dewatered Unit 1 resins in a steel liner and 14 boxes of non-compactible Unit 1 and Unit 2 waste was sent to Hanford, Washington.

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- April 9, 1985 - a Unit 1 shipment of contaminated steam generator repair equipment in nine drums was sent to Apollo, Pennsylvania.
- April 9, 1985 - a Unit 1 shipment of contaminated steam generator camera equipment in a box was sent to Lynchburg, Virginia.
- April 12, 1985 - a Unit 2 shipment of contaminated steel in one container was sent to Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- April 15, 1985 - a Unit 1 shipment of dewatered resin was sent to Barnwell, South Carolina.
- April 16, 1985 - a Unit 1 radioactive sample was sent to Westwood, New Jersey.
- April 17, 1985 - a contaminated laundry shipment in 99 drums and 3 boxes was sent to Royersford, Pennsylvania.
- April 22, 1985 - a Unit 1 shipment of dewatered resin in a steel liner was sent to Barnwell, South Carolina.
- April 24, 1985 - a contaminated laundry shipment of 96 drums and 2 boxes was sent to Royersford, Pennsylvania.
- April 25, 1985 - a Unit 1 shipment of non-compactible waste in 16 steel boxes was sent to Hanford, Washington.
- April 26, 1985 - a dewatered SDS vessel was turned over to DOE for shipment to a DOE facility in Richland, Washington.
- April 30, 1985 - a dewatered resin liner from EPICOR II was sent to Richland, Washington.

3. DOSE REDUCTION/DECONTAMINATION ACTIVITIES

- Scabbling of hot spots continued in the control and service building.
- Scabbling and painting is in progress in the 'B' and 'C' reactor coolant bleed tank cubicles.
- Decontamination of the auxiliary building elevator shaft continued.
- Reactor building entries during the month of March 1985 resulted in an average dose rate of 59 mrem per entry man-hours.
- Average general area radiation dose rate on the 347' level of the reactor building is 36 mrem per hour. Average dose rate on the 305' level is 160 mrem per hour.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- The Lancaster water sample taken at the water works intake and analyzed by the US Environmental Protection Agency consisted of a seven day composite sample taken from April 14, to April 20, 1985. A gamma scan detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- TMI water samples taken by the US Environmental Protection Agency at the plant discharge to the river consisted of seven daily composite samples taken from April 13, to April 20, 1985. Gamma scans detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor air sampler at the TMI Site collected a sample between April 24, 1985 and May 3, 1985. Analysis showed I-131 and Cs-137 concentrations less than the lower limits of detectability. No reactor related radioactivity was detected.

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- Based on EPA's sampling results listed above, TMI site liquid effluents are in accordance with regulatory limits, NRC requirements, and the City of Lancaster Agreement.

5. REACTOR BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Reactor building entries are being conducted six days per week to prepare for plenum removal, tentatively scheduled for May 15, 1985.
- A dam, 6 feet high by 22 feet wide, was installed across the fuel transfer canal in the reactor building. The dam will permit the deep end of the canal to be filled with water to a depth of 20 feet. The deep end of the canal will serve as a storage area for the plenum, defueling water cleanup system filter cannisters, and fuel canisters.
- A personnel elevator was suspended from the polar crane for contingency use in the event that access is required to the polar crane during plenum transfer.
- Reactor Coolant System (RCS) water is being processed through the Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) to further reduce dose rates in the vicinity of the reactor vessel. Prior to processing RCS water activity levels were predominantly 0.24 uCi/cc Cesium-137 and 5.0 uCi/cc Strontium-90.
- During the week of May 5, 1985 the work platform above the reactor vessel will be removed and disassembled. A defueling support structure will be placed around the internals indexing fixture. The structure will serve as a support for the defueling work platform.

6. AUXILIARY AND FUEL HANDLING BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the Defueling Water Cleanup System (DWCS) continued.
- Testing of the fuel transfer system and upenders is in progress in the 'A' spent fuel pool.

7. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Plenum Removal Safety Evaluation
- Defueling Water Cleanup System Technical Evaluation
- Technical Specification Change Requests numbers 46 and 48
- Equipment Hatch Removal Safety Evaluation
- Recovery Operations Plan Change number 27
- Fuel Canister Technical Evaluation
- Fuel Handling Senior Reactor Operator Training Program

8. PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Flooding of deep end of FTC: May 12, 1985
- Plenum Removal: May 15, 1985
- Start of Defueling: September 1985

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9. PUBLIC MEETING

- The Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 will meet on May 16, 1985 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The meeting, which will be at the Holiday Inn, 23 South Second Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, will be open to the public. At this meeting the Panel will discuss and formulate a position on the level of the Panel's inquiry into health effect studies and data related to the radioactive release during the TMI-2 accident. The Panel will also receive a presentation from representatives of General Public Utilities Nuclear Corporation on plans for reactor fuel removal and storage. The Department of Energy will brief the Panel on the current status of fuel shipping casks that will be used for offsite transport of fuel and debris removed from the reactor. The NRC staff will provide the Panel with an update on the status of NRC investigations and enforcement actions.

Persons desiring the opportunity to speak before the Panel are asked to contact Mr. Thomas Smithgall at 717-291-1042 or write to him at 2122 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603. Persons desiring to submit topics or questions for consideration by the Panel are asked to contact, in writing, Mayor Arthur Morris, 120 North Duke Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

William D. Travers
Deputy Program Director
TII Program Office

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