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May 13, 1985  
NRC/TMI-85-036

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  
MAY 6, 1985 - MAY 12, 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 73°F to 94°F with an average of 83°F. Average cold leg temperature is 61°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 59°F. The reactor building airborne activity is 1.3 E-7 uCi/cc tritium, and 1.4 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) completed processing batch S-117, which was 58,630 gallons from the RCS.
- EPICOR II completed processing batch 253, which was 6,845 gallons from the 'B' reactor coolant bleed tank (RCBT), and batch 254, which was 7,029 gallons from the 'B' RCBT.
- Total volume processed through SDS to date is 2,863,782 gallons, and the total volume processed through EPICOR II is 2,447,788 gallons.

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3. DOSE REDUCTION/DECONTAMINATION ACTIVITIES

- General cleanup continued in the control and service building.
- Scabbling and painting was completed in the 'B' and 'C' RCBT cubicles.
- Decontamination of the auxiliary building elevator shaft continued.
- Cleanup is in progress in the 'A' RCBT cubicle.
- Decontamination is in progress in the tendon access gallery.
- 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 21, to April 27, 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 20, to April 27, 1985. Gamma scans detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor air sampler at the TMI Site collected a sample between May 3, 1985 and May 8, 1985. Analysis showed I-131 and Cs-137 concentrations less than the lower limits of detectability. No reactor related radioactivity was detected.
- 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

- The pace of work inside the reactor building has increased to seven working days per week. Most of the in-containment work involves preparations for plenum removal, scheduled for the week of May 12, 1985.
- Work is in progress to correct mechanical problems identified during testing of the modified fuel transfer system. The fuel transfer system problems must be resolved before the deep end of the fuel transfer canal can be flooded.

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.
- Boration of the processed water storage tank number 1 is in progress. The chemistry of this water is being adjusted to provide a source of RCS quality water for flooding of the 'A' spent fuel pool.

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7. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- 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
- Defueling Safety Evaluation

8. PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Flooding of deep end of FTC: May 14, 1985
- Plenum Removal: May 16, 1985
- Start of Defueling: September 1985

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.

William D. Travers  
Deputy Program Director  
TMI Program Office

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