

August 12, 1985
NRC/THI-85-059

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

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

SUBJECT: NRC THI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR
AUGUST 5, 1985 - AUGUST 11, 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 and plenum assembly removed from the reactor vessel.
- The plenum is on its storage stand in the deep end of the fuel transfer canal. A dam has been installed between the deep and shallow ends of the fuel transfer canal. The deep end is filled with water to a depth of about 20 feet (about 5 feet above the top of the plenum).
- The modified internals indexing fixture is installed on the reactor vessel flange and is flooded to elevation 327 feet 6 inches (15 1/2 feet above the top of the core region).
- Calculated reactor decay heat is less than 12 kilowatts.
- RCS cooling is by natural heat loss to the reactor building ambient atmosphere. Incore thermocouple readings range from 70°F to 91°F with an average of 80°F. Average cold leg temperature is 56°F.
- The average reactor building temperature is 59°F. The reactor building airborne activity is 2.2 E-8 uCi/cc Tritium and 4.1 E-9 uCi/cc particulate, predominantly Cesium 137.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) and EPICOR II were shutdown this period.
- Total volume processed through SDS to date is 2,963,375 gallons, and the total volume processed through EPICOR II is 2,547,671 gallons.

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3. DOSE REDUCTION/DECONTAMINATION ACTIVITIES

- Decontamination activities are continuing on the 281' level of the Auxiliary Building.
- Average general area radiation dose rate is 40 mrem per hour on the 347' level of the reactor building and is 67 mrem per hour on the 305' level of the reactor building.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- EPA sample analysis results show TMI site liquid effluents to be in accordance with regulatory limits, NRC requirements, and the City of Lancaster Agreement.
- 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 July 20, to July 27, 1985. Gamma scans detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The Lancaster water sample taken at the water works intake and analyzed by the US Environmental Protection Agency consists of a seven day composite sample taken from July 31 to August 8, 1985. A gamma scan detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor airborne particulate sampler at the TMI Site collected a sample between July 31, and August 8, 1985. No reactor related radioactivity was detected. Analysis showed I-131 and Cs-137 concentrations to be less than the lower limits of detectability.

5. REACTOR BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the rotating work platform and service platform (over the reactor vessel) has been completed.
- Equipment was staged into the reactor building and installation is almost complete on the cable management system.
- Installation of the reactor building service platform jib cranes was completed.
- Loop calibration of Defueling Water Cleanup System (DWCS) instrumentation and final preparations for system preoperational testing continued this week.
- Installation of tool racks for defueling tools has begun.

6. AUXILIARY AND FUEL HANDLING BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the DWCS continued. Partial DWCS turnover for processing RCS during early defueling is scheduled to be completed in late August.
- The first of four fuel canister racks are on site with further deliveries scheduled through August.

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7. SUSPENSION OF WASTE BURIAL IN WASHINGTON STATE

On August 6, 1985 the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services notified NRC THPO of the suspension of GPU Nuclear's Three Mile Island Nuclear Station permit to ship radioactive waste to U. S. Ecology's Hanford Waste Management Facility at Richland, Washington.

The State action was taken as a result of a radioactive waste shipment of 104 barrels, dispatched from TMI on July 18, and received at the U. S. Ecology site on July 23, 1985. Contrary to NRC and Washington State requirements, three barrels were incorrectly classified, labeled and certified by GPUN. The three barrels exceed the 10 CFR 61.55 requirements for Class A waste containing strontium-90 ($>.04$ uCi/cc) and should have been classified and handled as Class B waste. Class B waste must be segregated from Class A waste and meet stability requirements which do not apply to Class A waste. All of the barrels met Department of Transportation (DOT) shipping requirements. The three barrels will be segregated from the balance of the shipment. The 101 Class A barrels will be buried, and the three Class B barrels will be returned to TMI. No further shipments will be permitted until approval is received from the State. Among the requirements for reinstatement of burial privileges is a description of the Quality Assurance program to be applied to radioactive waste shipments made from the TMI site which will prevent future violations of shipping and classification requirements.

8. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Technical Specification Change Requests numbers 48, 49, and 50.
- Recovery Operations Plan Change numbers 29, 31, 32, and 34.
- Fuel Canister Technical Evaluation.
- Fuel Handling Senior Reactor Operator Training Program.
- Defueling Safety Evaluation.
- Application for seismic exemption.

9. PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Start of Defueling: October 1985

10. PUBLIC MEETING

The next meeting of the Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 is scheduled for September 1985 at a location in Annapolis, Maryland, the specific date and location will be identified later.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
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