

October 21, 1985  
NRC/TMI-85-079

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  
OCTOBER 12, 1985 - October 20, 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 (15½ feet above the top of the core region). The defueling platform is installed over the Internal Indexing Fixture in preparation for defueling.
- 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 71°F to 93°F with an average of 81°F.
- The average reactor building temperature is 58°F. The reactor building airborne activity is 1.5 E-7 uCi/cc Tritium and 2.0 E-10 uCi/cc particulate, predominantly Cesium 137.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) completed processing batch 124 from neutralizer tanks (NDL-T-8 A/B) to SDS monitor tanks (SDS-T-1 A/B). A total of 25,213 gallons was processed in this batch.

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- EPICOR II completed processing batch 269, 10,573 gallons from SDS-T-1A to CC-T-2. Commenced processing batch 270 from SDS-T-1B to CC-T-2. This process was placed in temporary shutdown due to high radioactivity chemistry results on all liners after processing 6,835 gallons.
- Total volume processed through SDS to date is 2,988,593 gallons, and the total volume processed through EPICOR II is 2,700,737 gallons.

### 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 395' level of the reactor building.
- Pressurizer mirror insulation is being removed prior to characterization.

### 4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- US Environmental Protection Agency (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 EPA at the plant discharge to the river consisted of seven daily composite samples taken from September 28 through October 5, 1985. A gamma scan detected no reactor related activity.
- The Lancaster water sample taken at the water works intake and analyzed by EPA consisted of a seven day composited sample taken from September 29 through October 5, 1985. A gamma scan detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor airborne particulate sampler at the TMI Site collected a sample between October 9 and October 15, 1985. No reactor related radioactivity was detected. Analysis showed Iodine-131 and Cesium-137 concentrations to be less than the lower limits of detectability.

### 5. REACTOR BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Defueling Water Cleanup System (DWCS) preoperational testing and modification continued.
- Installation of the vacuum defueling system is in progress.
- Work is in progress on the canister positioning system.
- Canister handling bridge indexing is in progress.
- Lower vessel debris samples have been shipped to Idaho National Engineering Laboratories for analyses.

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6. AUXILIARY AND FUEL HANDLING BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the DWCS continued. Partial DWCS turnover for processing RCS during early defueling is expected to be completed in October.
- Spent fuel pool was cleaned and filling with borated water is in progress.
- Fuel canister handling bridge indexing has been completed.

7. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Technical Specification Change Requests numbers 48 and 50.
- Recovery Operations Plan Change numbers 29, 31, and 32.
- Fuel Canister Technical Evaluation, Revision 1.
- Defueling Safety Evaluation.
- Application for seismic exemption.
- SDS Technical Evaluation and System Description Update.
- Core Stratification Sample Safety Evaluation.
- Heavy Load Handling Safety Evaluation Report.
- Boron Dilution Hazard Report.
- Defueling Water Cleanup System Technical Evaluation Report, Revision 7.
- Early Defueling Safety Evaluation Report, Revision 4.

8. PUBLIC MEETING

On the evening of October 16, 1985, the Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 held a public meeting at the Public Safety Building in Lancaster, PA. At this meeting, the Panel was briefed by Dr. B. J. Snyder, Director, Three Mile Island Program Office (TMIPO), on the impending reorganization of TMIPO.

Dr. H. A. Muller, State Health Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Health, provided a detailed summary of a recent study released by his department entitled, "Cancer Mortality and Morbidity (Incidence) Around TMI." The results of the Department of Health study, including both mortality and morbidity data, do not present evidence of an increased risk of developing cancer by local residents living near the TMI facility. Dr. Muller answered questions from the public.

Mr. F. Standerfer, Vice President/Director, GPU Nuclear Corporation, provided a status report on the licensee's efforts to begin fuel removal. The licensee expects to begin the early phases of fuel removal called "pick and place" by the end of October.

The next meeting of the Advisory Panel is scheduled for 11:00 AM, November 19, 1985, in Washington, DC, before the NRC Commissioners. The next meeting in the TMI area is scheduled for December 12, 1985, at the Harrisburg, PA Holiday Inn, 23 South Second Street, Harrisburg, PA, from 7:00 PM to approximately 10:00 PM.

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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.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY,**  
William D. Travers

William D. Travers  
Deputy Program Director  
TMI Program Office

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