

March 17, 1986  
NRC/THI-86-025

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

Frank J. Miraglia, Director  
Division of PWR Licensing-B

FROM: William D. Travers, Director  
THI-2 Cleanup Project Directorate

SUBJECT: NRC THI-2 CLEANUP PROJECT DIRECTORATE WEEKLY STATUS  
REPORT FOR MARCH 10 - MARCH 16, 1986

50-324

1. DEFUELING

- As of March 16, 1986, 25 canisters with an approximate net weight of 26,490 lbs have been transferred from the reactor vessel to the spent fuel pool storage racks.
- Defueling remains hampered by poor visibility in the reactor vessel because of biologic growths. The "mature colony" contains aerobes, anaerobes, fungi, algae and bacteria. Research continues in an effort to identify treatments to remove the growths. This colony is about the same as found in river water.
- Early in the week the debris bucket hanger apparently became jammed in the canister positioning system, preventing movement. Upon removal and inspection, the canister system was unloaded, and a Quality Assurance (QA) inspection of the system was conducted. Upon QA release, the canister system was reloaded with five empty fuel canisters and defueling resumed. The pick and place operation now uses a wide-mouthed funnel to guide debris into the canister opening with a resultant increase in loading efficiency.

2. PLANT STATUS

- The reactor remains in long term cold shutdown, vented to atmosphere. Core cooling is by natural heat loss to ambient building atmosphere. Calculated decay heat is 10.7 KW. Incore thermocouples average is 81°F.
- The defueling platform is mounted above the modified internals indexing fixture which is mounted on the reactor vessel flange. These provide water coverage of 15½ feet over the core region. This water level is about 5 feet over the top of any debris canisters in

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the reactor vessel. The airborne radioactivity on the platform is 8.9 E-8 uCi/cc Tritium and 2.8 E-11 uCi/cc particulates, predominately Cesium-137.

3. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) completed processing batch 129, (neutralizer tanks) to the monitor tanks (8,579 gallons) and began processing batch 130 ("C" reactor coolant bleed tank) to the monitor tanks. SDS total processed to date is 3,842, 869 gallons.
- EPICOR II completed processing batch 277 (10,877 gallons); batch 278 (9,763 gallons); and batch 279 (8,937 gallons) from the SDS monitor tanks to CC-T-2. EPICOR II total processed to date is 2,854,371 gallons.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sample analysis results show THI site liquid effluents to be in accordance with regulatory limits, NRC requirements, and the City of Lancaster Agreement.
- THI water samples taken by EPA at the plant discharge to the river consisted of seven daily composite samples taken from February 22 through March 1, 1986. 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 February 22 through March 1, 1986. A gamma scan detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor airborne particulate sampler at the THI site collected a sample between March 5, and 13, 1986. No reactor related radioactivity was detected. Analysis showed Iodine-131 and Cesium-137 concentrations to be less than the lower limits of detectability.

5. AUXILIARY AND FUEL HANDLING BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the balance of Defueling Water Cleanup System (DWCS) continued.
- Preparations are being made for decontamination in the Seal Injection Room, 281' auxiliary building.

6. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Technical Specification Change Request number 49.
- Recovery Operations Plan Change number 31.
- SDS Technical Evaluation and System Description Update.
- Core Stratification Sample Safety Evaluation.
- Containment Air Control Envelope Technical Evaluation Report, Revision 5.

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3

March 17, 1986  
HRC/TMI-86-025

- Solid Waste Facility Technical Evaluation Report.
- Reactor Building Sump Criticality Safety Evaluation Report.
- TMI-2 Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System Safety Evaluation Report, Revision 1.

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

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Director  
TMI-2 Cleanup Project Directorate

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4

March 17, 1986  
NRC/TMI-86-025

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