

April 14, 1986
NRC/TMI-86-033

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

Frank J. Miraglia, Director
Division of PWR Licensing-8

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

SUBJECT: NRC TMI-2 CLEANUP PROJECT DIRECTORATE WEEKLY STATUS
REPORT FOR APRIL 7 - April 13, 1986

1. DEFUELING

- As of April 13, 1986, a total of 42 defueling canisters have been loaded with fuel debris and transferred to the canister storage racks in the fuel building. The total weight of debris transferred out of the reactor vessel is 47,500 lbs.
- Fuel debris in the form of small loose rubble which is amenable to "pick and place" defueling using a spade-bucket tool has been substantially depleted. The remaining loose rubble consists mainly of either fine debris, or pieces that would require some sizing operation before they can be placed into defueling canisters. Both vacuum defueling of the fine debris and sizing operations (e.g., cutting, shredding or separating) would require good underwater visibility which is not available due to the biologic growth. The licensee has halted the defueling operation to implement a micro-organism treatment and control program.
- Preparations are in progress to begin a program designed to kill the biological contamination in the reactor coolant system (RCS). The program includes manual brushing and hydrolazing to remove the adherent growth from the surfaces inside the reactor vessel, circulating the RCS water through a high pressure pump, and filtering the pump effluent through a diatomaceous earth filter to remove the dead organisms. Laboratory and pilot scale testing have demonstrated that the rapid pressurization and depressurization that occurs when the water passes through a high pressure positive displacement pump is effective in destroying most of the organisms and that the remaining biological debris is readily filterable. The entire operation is expected to take about one week.

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2. PLANT STATUS

- About 90% of the general area floor in the 281' elevation fuel handling building has been released for street clothing access.

6. RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL SHIPMENTS

- Laundry - Contaminated laundry was sent from THM site to Rogersford, PA on these dates:
 - March 4 - 92 drums and 2 boxes
 - March 11 - 86 drums and 5 boxes
 - March 18 - 78 drums and 5 boxes
 - March 25 - 130 drums and 3 boxes
 - March 31 - 107 drums and 4 boxes
- Samples - Unit 2 reactor building basement concrete core bore samples were sent to Scoville, ID for research analysis on March 14, 1986.
- Waste - A combined unit shipment of 72 drums and 6 boxes of waste were sent to Richland, WA for burial on March 17, 1986.
- Samples - Unit 2 samples of air inside the reactor building were sent to Pittsburgh, PA for analysis on March 13, 1986.

7. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Technical Specification Change Request number 49, and 51.
- Recovery Operations Plan Change number 31, 33, 35, and 36.
- Core Stratification Safety Evaluation.
- Solid Waste Facility Technical Evaluation Report.
- Reactor Building Sump Criticality Safety Evaluation Report.
- TH1-2 Temporary Reactor Vessel Filtration System Safety Evaluation Report, Revision 1.
- Underhead High Pressure Decon Safety Evaluation Report.
- Hydraulic Shredder Safety Evaluation Report.
- Canister Handling and Preparation for Shipment Safety Evaluation Report.
- Defueling Canister Technical Evaluation Report, Revision 2.
- Penetration 536 Modification Safety Evaluation Report.

8. PUBLIC MEETING

On the evening of April 10, 1986, the Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 held a public meeting at the Holiday Inn, Center City, Harrisburg, PA.

At this meeting the Panel received a briefing by T. Demmitt, Deputy Director, TH-2, on the status of defueling. The Panel expressed interest on the issue of micro-biological growths in the reactor coolant system. The licensee described the extent of the problem and presented their plans for controlled growth of the micro-organisms.

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Harold R. Denton
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The NRC staff provided a status report on regulatory issues related to TMI-2. This included a brief summary of the HRC Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards conclusions on the potential for recriticality during defueling.

The Panel also received comment from members of the public. The next meeting of the Advisory Panel is scheduled for June 11, 1986 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Holiday Inn, Center City, Harrisburg, PA.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
William D. Travers

William D. Travers
Director
TMI-2 Cleanup Project Directorate

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Harold R. Denton
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