MAY 22 1989

Docket Nos. 50-289; 50-320

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jacque P. Durr, Acting Chief, Projects Branch No. 1, Division of Reactor Projects

FROM: Curtis J. Cowgill, Chief, Reactor Projects Section 1A

SUBJECT: TMI STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 16 - MAY 15, 1989

Enclosed is the TMI Resident Office monthly status report, which covers both TMI-1 and TMI-2. This report is to provide NRC management and the public with highlights of significant events at TMI-1 and TMI-2 from an NRC regulatory perspective.

Enclosure: As Stated

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Jacque P. Durr

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TMI-1 AND TMI-2 STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

APRIL 16 - MAY 15, 1989

1. TMI-1
   a. Facility Operations Summary
      TMI Unit 1 operated at full power during this report period. No significant events or challenges to plant safety systems occurred.

2. TMI-2
   a. Facility Activities Summary
      Following removal of the severed pieces of the elliptical flow distributor, the licensee air lifted debris from the lower head of the reactor vessel.
      
      Upon removing the accessible material from the bottom area of the reactor vessel, airlifting operations were stopped and a new in-vessel water filtration system (IVFS) was installed in the vessel. The IVFS is designed to augment the defueling water clean-up system and improve water clarity during future defueling operations. Following installation of the IVFS, defueling crews began breaking up the solid slab of material located at the bottom of the reactor vessel. This solid mass of fuel and core debris is estimated to weigh 15,000 pounds.
      
      The periphery of this five foot slab has been found to be easily fractured using conventional tools. Upon breaking this mass into smaller, manageable pieces, the material will be loaded into defueling canisters using air lift equipment and/or "pick and place" techniques.

3. NRC Staff Activities
   The NRC staff assigned on site at this period consisted of a senior resident inspector, two resident inspectors, and a project manager for TMI-2.
   a. Inspection Reports
      During this period, Region I issued the following inspection reports.
-- TMI-1 Inspection Report No. 50-289/89-07 on April 26, 1989, addressing the Environmental Qualification Program and related open items.


-- TMI-2 Inspection Report No. 50-320/89-02 on April 26, 1989, addressing routine inspections of unit activities.

-- TMI-2 Inspection Report No. 50-320/89-0? on May 9, 1989, addressing routine inspections of unit activities.

4. Public Meetings

On April 12, 1989, William O. Kuhns, the Chairman of the Board of General Public Utilities Nuclear (GPUN) Corporation, and several other top GPUN officers met with the NRC Commissioners in Rockville, Maryland. The Commissioners and GPUN officers discussed the status of the TMI-2 cleanup, projected future cleanup and storage activities, and research activities. Emphasis was placed on cleanup funding and cooperation from GPUN in enrolling an international group to obtain samples from the reactor vessel lower head.