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 Docket No. 50-320
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March 9, 1984

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. B. K. Kanga, Director
 Three Mile Island Unit 2
 GPU Nuclear Corporation
 P.O. Box 480
 Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Kanga:

Subject: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2
 Operating License No. DPR-73
 Docket No. 50-320
 Final Rule on Licensed Operator Staffing at
 Nuclear Power Plants

The staff has reviewed your letter dated September 19, 1983, on your interpretation of the NRC's final rule on operator staffing which was published in the Federal Register on July 11, 1983. The rule modified 10 CFR 50.54 to give licensees guidance on what level of operator staffing is required at nuclear power plants. According to the rule, the required amount and level of staffing is dependent on the number of units, the number of control rooms, and the operating mode that the plant is in.

We agree with your assessment that since TMI-2 has an average coolant temperature of less than 200 °F, is at zero percent of the rated thermal power (excluding decay heat) and has a K_{eff} value of less than 0.99, the status of the TMI-2 meets the requirements for "cold shutdown" as defined by the NRC's Standard Technical Specifications for Babcock & Wilcox Plants. Therefore, we also agree with your interpretation that based on TMI-2's cold shutdown condition, only those requirements in 10 CFR 50.54 that are applicable to cold shutdown are applicable to TMI-2.

Since 10 CFR 50.54 does not state minimum operator staffing requirements while in cold shutdown, you should continue to follow the requirements of Section 6.2 of the TMI-2 Appendix A Technical Specifications which states

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Mr. B. K. Kanga

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operator staffing requirements during the recovery period. You should note that 10 CFR 50.54 requirements for core alterations are applicable to TMI-2.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
B. J. Snyder

Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director
Three Mile Island Program Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: J. Barton
J. Byrne
J. Larson
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