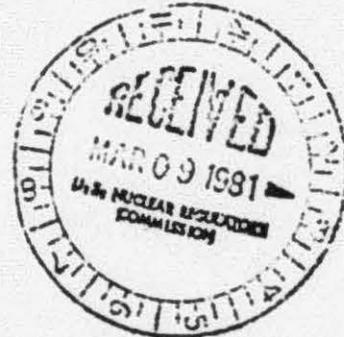




Metropolitan Edison Company  
Post Office Box 480  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Writer's Direct Dial Number

February 27, 1981  
LL2-81-0048



TMI Program Office  
Attn: Mr. Lake Barrett, Deputy Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
c/o Three Mile Island Nuclear Station  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (TMI-2)  
Operating License No. DPR-73  
Docket No. 50-320  
Containment Building Entries

This is in partial response to Chairman Ahearne's letter of January 12, 1981, and is intended to discuss our plans on entries into the Unit 2 Containment Building.

Chairman Ahearne expressed a belief that "Metropolitan Edison must take more positive action in planning and making entries into the now-vented containment." Items 4 and 14 on his attached Table 1 addresses decontamination efforts inside the containment building and the accomplishment of required maintenance activities. We believe these items are related to his concerns on containment entries.

To this point, six entries have been made into the containment. Four of these entries were within the last five months. These four entries included a total of 62 men. During these entries, activities included radiation surveys, photography, installation of video cameras, some required maintenance, and initial testing of decontamination solutions.

We consider that the maintenance which is done should be determined by weighing the possible impact of not doing a given maintenance job against the personnel exposure which would result from doing the job (ALARA). Based on the requirements of the ALARA principle and the exposure that would result from entry into the containment in its current configuration, we have concluded that the current frequency of entries provide for adequate opportunity to accomplish required maintenance yet still remain with the guidelines of ALARA.

Due to financial limitations, planned entries into containment are presently limited to approximately one per month unless circumstances require otherwise. Activities that are planned for the next two entries

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Mr. Lake Barrett

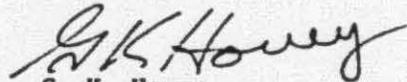
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include SDS resin column tests, sump and sludge samples, polar crane inspections, radiological surveys of the Incore Tunnel and CRDM service structure, valve maintenance, work on lighting and communications, and installation of the surface suction system. Approximately 15 man-hours are scheduled for each entry.

We feel this approach is appropriate and adequate to provide for necessary maintenance. For this reason, it is the approach we plan to utilize in planning future containment entries.

Sincerely,



G. K. Hovey  
Vice-President and  
Director, TMI-2

GKH:RBS:djb

cc: B. J. Snyder, Program Director-TMI Office