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May 8, 1985

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: THREE MILE ISLAND UNIT 2

Dear Mr. Denton:

The TMI-2 Safety Advisory Board (SAB) was established in early 1981 to provide "a high level appraisal of the technical aspects of the TMI-2 program and how it fulfills the responsibility to protect public and worker health and safety". It consists of Dr. James Fletcher, former Administrator of NASA, as Chairman and nine other nationally recognized scientists and engineers organized into four sub-groups: the Core Removal Panel, the Source and Waste Identification Panel, the Radiation Hazards Panel and the External Affairs Panel. The Board has met approximately every three months since its formation to receive reports on TMI-2 program activities and plans for the important tasks in the TMI-2 Cleanup.

The Board met at TMI-2 on April 11 and 12, 1985. The Chairman and several members attended the meeting of the NRC's Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 in Lancaster on the evening of April 11. Following that meeting the SAB provided, as a part of its report of the April 11-12 meeting, the following statement:

The Safety Advisory Board has been increasingly impressed with the quality of the TMI-2 recovery work in progress. The successful head lift, the preparations for plenum and fuel removal, and the studies of fuel translocation within the reactor system are gratifying evidence that the recovery operations are being carefully planned, well directed and judiciously executed. Moreover, the work is being performed with full concern for public and worker safety and their radiation exposures. It is gratifying that, as each milestone is achieved, the radiation exposures to the workers are proving to be less than those projected originally. The Board congratulates the GPUN/Bechtel management and the professional engineering staff and workers.

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I thought this statement would be interesting to you and others within the NRC in view of your special interest in the safe, but expeditious, Cleanup of TMI-2. Dr. Fletcher has provided it to Mayor Arthur Morris, the Chairman of the Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2, in a personal letter dated, April 26.

Very sincerely,



P.R.Clark
President

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