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July 15, 1980
TLL 343

TMI Program Office
Attn: Mr. John T. Collins, 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 II (TMI-2)
Operating License No. DPR-73
Docket No. 50-320
Reactor Building Entry

In your letter of May 16, 1980, NRC/TMI-80-088, approval was granted for one (1) entry into the TMI-II reactor building scheduled for May 20, 1980. As you are aware, the actual entry was delayed due to a malfunction of the reactor building inner door. Subsequently, corrective action on the malfunctioning door has been performed and purging of the reactor building atmosphere is completed.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of our intention to make a reactor building entry during the week of July 21, 1980. The purposes to be accomplished during this entry are to verify the inner door operability and to gather data on radiation levels and contamination levels in the vicinity of the door.

We intend to enter the reactor building in a two-phase approach:

PHASE I - Operating the inner door (opening and closing), then verifying an acceptable seal leakage rate.

PHASE II - Manned entry of the reactor building.

A. PHASE I

1. A Temporary Change Notice will be issued to Procedure 2104-4.55 to incorporate the inner door operability checks into the procedure.
2. The inner door seals will be tested in accordance with Procedure 2311-5. If the door seals fail to provide adequate sealing, duct tape or caulking of the inner door will be performed as outlined in the approved entry procedure.
3. Back-up lighting and breathing equipment is not required.
4. One breathing zone air sampler will be utilized.

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5. Health Physics personnel will serve as the back-up team.
6. Protective clothing will be plastic and/or cloth anti c's with multiple hand and foot protection.

B. PHASE II

For entering the reactor building -

1. The inner air lock door will be closed but unlatched. A Health Physics Technician will remain inside the air lock during the entry.
2. The initial entry will be 20 minutes in duration from entering the reactor building inner door.
3. No back-up oxygen supply is required.
4. One of the two entry personnel will carry a breathing air zone sampler.
5. The expected gamma dose rate is reduced from 2.2 R/hr. to 1.6 R/hr. In no case will the planned dose be allowed to exceed 1 R for each entry team member (no change from original program).
6. Protective clothing will be plastic and/or cloth anti c's with multiple hand and foot protection.
7. NIOSH approved self-contained breathing apparatus will be utilized either MSA, Bio Marine, or Scott.

The required revisions to the reactor building entry procedure to incorporate the above discussed changes will be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for approval.

Upon completion of this first reactor building entry, it is anticipated that additional entries will be required on a frequent basis for data acquisition purposes. NRC notification of subsequent entries would be made through already established communication channels: POD meetings, procedure approvals, work requests, ECM's, etc.

Sincerely,

/s/ G. K. Hovey
G. K. Hovey
Director, TMI-II

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cc [REDACTED]