

50-289

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DESCRIPTION

Ltr summarizing situation concerning the maintenance dredging project which was undertaken during july through Sept 76 for the low flow intake channels.....

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ENCLOSURE

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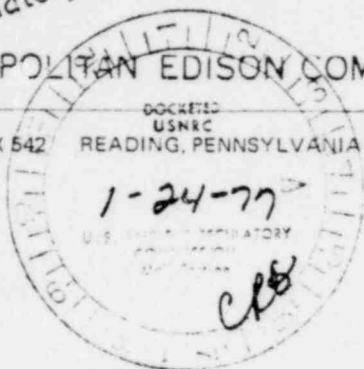
METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 542 READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19603

TELEPHONE 215 - 929-3601

January 21, 1977

GQL 0064



Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: R. W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Docket No. 50-289
Operating License No. DPR-50
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 1 (TMI-1)

At this time, we would like to summarize the situation concerning the Maintenance Dredging Project which was undertaken during July through September, 1976, for the low-flow intake channels at Three Mile Island Nuclear Station.

The chronological series of events regarding this dredging operation is as follows:

1. June, 1975

A hydrographic survey performed by Gilbert Associates, Inc., revealed the need for a dredging operation, and a report was filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. (GQL 1499 - September 11, 1975)

2. June, 1975 to June, 1976

Permits (for the dredging operation) were obtained from the U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Pennsylvania State Department of Environmental Resources.

3. June, 1976

A second hydrographic survey was performed by Gilbert Associates, Inc., in order to more clearly define the needed dredging operation.

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Mr. R. W. Reid, Chief
USNRC

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4. July, 1976 to September, 1976

A dredging operation was performed at Three Mile Island low-flow intake channel.

5. September, 1976

A third survey was performed by Gilbert Associates, Inc., in order to determine the successfulness of the dredging operation.

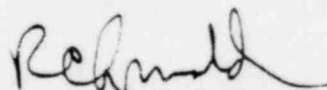
The most recent survey indicates that the excessive amount of sediment which had accumulated in the low-flow intake channel at TMI has been removed by the dredging process. (This low-flow intake channel was originally created to provide the station with adequate cooling water for emergency shutdown under conditions of low river flow and failure of the York Haven Dam to the south.)

We have therefore determined that the dredging operation performed July through September, 1976, has removed sufficient sediment from the low-flow channel at TMI to allow the channel to function adequately in providing the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station with cooling water for emergency shutdown under conditions of low river flow and failure of the York Haven Dam.

In order to avoid the problems associated with excessive amounts of sediment being deposited in the low-flow intake channel, we plan, in the future, to survey the channel twice (instead of once) each year. In this way, undesirable sediment accumulations can be discovered more quickly, and dealt with.

I trust that this submittal is satisfactory; however, should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



R. C. Arnold
Vice President

RCA:RAL:eg

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cc: Director of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555