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Writer's Direct Dial Number:

April 18, 1983
5211-83-120

Regional Administrator
Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI-1)
Operating License No. DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289
LER 83-11

This letter confirms the conversations on March 28, 1983 (R. J. Toole to R. Conte), April 11, 1983 (M. A. Nelson to A. Fasano and F. Young) and on April 15, 1983 (M. A. Nelson to A. Fasano, final declaration of reportability) concerning reportability of following event.

At 3 p.m. on April 15, 1983, it was determined that an incident involving the Decay Heat Removal Pumps was reportable per Tech Spec 6.9.2.A.9. The incident occurred on March 26, 1983 and has been under investigation since. On March 26, 1983, the Decay Heat Pump 1A shaft bearings failed, making the pump immediately inoperable. The investigation determined that a new design change that was made to the pump bearing lube oil system did not work correctly. Because of an inadequate understanding of the new oiling design, the operators removed the manual oiler from the pump and because of inadequate calibration of the new oiler, the bearing lost lubrication.

Action was required to return the lubrication system for both DH-1A & 1B to their original configuration. This failure is, therefore, reportable under Tech. Spec. 6.9.2.A.9, "Performance of structures, systems, or components that require remedial action...".

In addition to returning the system to their original configuration, a review of the existing oiler design is underway.

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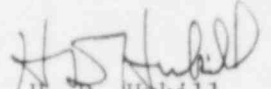
Regional Administrator

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The details of this occurrence and corrective action to prevent recurrence will be provided in a follow-up report.

Sincerely,


H. D. Hokill
Director, TMI-1

HDH:CWS:vjf

cc: J. Van Vliet
R. Conte