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August 17, 1983
5211-83-220

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: J. F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

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

This letter is to notify you that GPUN has been informed by Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) that there has been a loss of traceability between original equipment test data and the summary test reports supporting Topical Report BAW 10003 which addresses RPS instrument errors and provides the basis of the FSAR analyses. Consequently, B&W has performed retesting of certain modules employing updated IEEE testing methods and new calculational methods of combining module errors into instrument string errors. This reassessment resulted in certain errors larger than those previously used in safety analyses for TMI-1. Based upon previous plant-specific analyses performed for other B&W 177 Fuel Assembly plants, application of the new calculated errors could result in certain RPS setpoint limits more conservative than the current TMI-1 settings, although the differences would be small.

In light of the above, we are currently reviewing the information received from B&W and are pursuing a more detailed evaluation of the RPS instrument accuracies. In the interim, as a prudent measure, we will administratively limit RPS setpoints to values that are consistent with bounding calculations received from B&W that are based on worst-case instrument string errors determined previously for other 177 FA plants. The limits affected, and their respective interim administrative limits, are:

	Current RPS Setpoint	Interim Admin. Limit
1. Overpower Trip	105.5%	104.9%
2. Flux Flow Trip	108%	107%
3. Hi RCS Temp Trip	619°F	618°F

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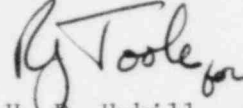
Mr. J. F. Stolz

-2-

5211-83-220

We anticipate that the detailed evaluation of RPS instrument errors for TMI-1 will be completed in March, 1984. At that time, we will determine if technical specification changes are appropriate and will notify the NRC accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. D. Hukill", written over the typed name.

H. D. Hukill
Director, TMI-1

HDH:LWH:vjf

cc: R. Conte
J. Van Vliet
J. Allen