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December 1, 1983
5211-83-354

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attn: D. G. Eisenhut
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
TMI-1 Restart Schedule

On June 10, 1983, we provided a Restart Milestone Schedule. In our letter (5211-83-182) we noted that we would keep the NRC apprised of any significant changes in our schedule via discussions with the TMI-1 NRC Project Manager. Preparations for restart are now essentially complete.

The only remaining milestones for restart are the final heatup and testing (7 days), followed by criticality and Zero Power Physics Testing (10 days) and the Power Escalations Test Program (65 days). These milestones, of course, cannot begin until permission for restart has been obtained, any remaining restart items are completed and the necessary final surveillances/system lineups are made.

A Management Review Meeting for the final heatup is scheduled for December 16, 1983. We currently expect that by that time the remaining plant modifications and administrative items will be completed or can be handled by subsequent signoff and verification by specified management. We anticipate that our review on December 16 will show that any items not then complete can be completed before the end of December.

Assuming that approval for restart were to be given by December 23, 1983, final preparations for heatup (i.e. complete surveillance, complete valve/system lineup, etc.) will require about 2 weeks to complete. We believe this could be done in parallel with resolving the final few restart items that extend beyond December 16, 1983. The plant could then be ready for final heatup and testing prior to criticality by the first week in January. Our schedule for this testing would then lead to being ready to go critical about January 15th.

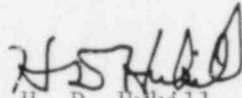
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In summary, restart can occur about 2 weeks following NRC approval, or January 15, 1984 whichever is later.

To further reduce the calendar time to criticality (or alternately to minimize the impact of a potential further deferral of restart approval) we are currently contemplating a request for permission to perform non-nuclear hot testing in advance of final approval for plant startup. We believe NRC could grant such a request on the same basis that permission to do non-nuclear hot testing of the steam generators was granted on August 25, 1983. We will keep you informed of our plans in this regard via discussions with the TMI-1 NRC Project Manager.

Sincerely,



H. D. Hukill

Director, TMI-1

HDH:CWS:vjf

cc: J. F. Stolz
J. Van Vliet