

August 19, 1985  
NRC/TMI-85-062

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
  
Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director  
TMI Program Office

FROM: William D. Travers, Deputy Program Director  
TMI Program Office

SUBJECT: NRC TMI PROGRAM OFFICE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT FOR  
AUGUST 12, 1985 - AUGUST 18, 1985

1. PLANT STATUS

- The facility remains in long term cold shutdown with the Reactor Coolant System (RCS) vented to the reactor building atmosphere and the reactor vessel head and plenum assembly removed from the reactor vessel.
- The plenum is on its storage stand in the deep end of the fuel transfer canal. A dam has been installed between the deep and shallow ends of the fuel transfer canal. The deep end is filled with water to a depth of about 20 feet (about 5 feet above the top of the plenum).
- The modified internals indexing fixture is installed on the reactor vessel flange and is flooded to elevation 327 feet 6 inches (15½ feet above the top of the core region).
- Calculated reactor decay heat is less than 12 kilowatts.
- RCS cooling is by natural heat loss to the reactor building ambient atmosphere. Incore thermocouple readings range from 70°F to 91°F with an average of 80°F. Average cold leg temperature is 56°F.
- The average reactor building temperature is 57°F. The reactor building airborne activity is 1.6 E-7 uCi/cc Tritium and 5.5 E-10 uCi/cc particulate, predominantly Cesium 137.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- The Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS) and EPICOR II were shutdown this period.
- Total volume processed through SDS to date is 2,963,375 gallons, and the total volume processed through EPICOR II is 2,547,671 gallons.
- Preparations are being made to transfer the contents of condensate tank 1A (COT-1A) to EPICOR II. The tank will be desludged and used as a storage tank for borated makeup water.

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3. DOSE REDUCTION/DECONTAMINATION ACTIVITIES

- Decontamination activities are continuing on the 281' level of the Auxiliary Building.
- Average general area radiation dose rate is 40 mrem per hour on the 347' level of the reactor building and is 67 mrem per hour on the 305' level of the reactor building.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- EPA sample analysis results show TMI site liquid effluents to be in accordance with regulatory limits, NRC requirements, and the City of Lancaster Agreement.
- TMI water samples taken by the US Environmental Protection Agency at the plant discharge to the river consisted of seven daily composite samples taken from July 27, to August 3, 1985. Gamma scans detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The Lancaster water sample taken at the water works intake and analyzed by the US Environmental Protection Agency consists of a seven day composite sample taken from July 28 to August 3, 1985. A gamma scan detected no reactor related radioactivity.
- The NRC outdoor airborne particulate sampler at the TMI Site collected a sample between August 7 and August 15, 1985. No reactor related radioactivity was detected. Analysis showed I-131 and Cs-137 concentrations to be less than the lower limits of detectability.

5. REACTOR BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the rotating work platform and service platform (over the reactor vessel) has been completed.
- Equipment was staged into the reactor building and installation is almost complete on the cable management system.
- Installation of tool racks for defueling tools continues.
- Defueling Water Cleanup System (DWCS) preoperational testing continued this week. On August 14, 1985, a hose connection separated, spilling 3,000 gallons of water from the test rig to the reactor building basement. The portion of the DWCS being tested used the fuel transfer canal (FTC) as its water source. The FTC level dropped 10 inches as a result of the spill. No environmental releases nor increases in reactor building radiation levels resulted from the event. The FTC water level was restored by transferring water from the borated water storage tank.

6. AUXILIARY AND FUEL HANDLING BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the DWCS continued. Partial DWCS turnover for processing RCS during early defueling is scheduled to be completed in late August.
- The first of four fuel canister racks are on site with further deliveries scheduled through August.

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7. REINSTATEMENT OF WASTE BURIAL IN WASHINGTON STATE

On Friday, August 16, 1985, GPU Nuclear's burial privileges at Hanford, Washington were restored. The suspension, involving three misclassified drums, was reported in the August 12, 1985 Weekly Status Report. The waste burial permit was reinstated after Washington State officials reviewed GPU Nuclear's corrective actions.

8. NRC EVALUATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Technical Specification Change Requests numbers 48, 49, and 50.
- Recovery Operations Plan Change numbers 29, 31, 32, and 34.
- Fuel Canister Technical Evaluation.
- Fuel Handling Senior Reactor Operator Training Program.
- Defueling Safety Evaluation.
- Application for seismic exemption.

9. PROJECTED SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Start of Defueling: October 1985

10. PUBLIC MEETING

The next meeting of the Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of Three Mile Island Unit 2 is scheduled for September 11, 1985. The meeting will be at the Environmental Matters Committee Room (Room 160), House Office Building, College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public of progress being made in the THI-2 cleanup and to allow the public to voice concerns and make comments on any aspects of the cleanup. The status of the processed water will also be discussed.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
William D. Travers

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Deputy Program Director  
THI Program Office

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Harold R. Denton  
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4

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