

TMIA long. exhibit 7
SD-289 SP

Memorandum

Exhibit I-TMIA-7
1/2/85

Subject: Observation of PSU TMI-2 Operator Training
February 24, 1984

Date: March 1, 1984
NA/556

DOCKETED
USNRC

From: Robert L. Long
Vice President - Nuclear Assurance

Location: Cherry Hill

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To: Mgr.-Plant Training - TMI, S. L. Newton

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

On Friday, February 24, 1984, I observed training of TMI-2 licensed operators and staff at Penn State University Training/Research Reactor. The following comments are provided for your review and appropriate followup.

1. Conduct of the training began as scheduled at about 1200 hours and was concluded at about 1845 hours.
2. The training observed consisted of each trainee (six were involved) manipulating the reactor through a sequence of operations, including pulsed operation, square wave operation, and temperature/power coefficient measurements.
3. The manipulations were performed under the direction of PSU senior reactor operations staff members. No member of the PSU faculty was present for any of the operations.
4. As I observed the last time I was at PSU, these senior operations staff members vary greatly in their instructional skills. The operator supervising the pulsed operations was passive and did not try to engage the trainees in dialog and discussion of the activities and results. The instructor for the power coefficient measurements was more active but limited in his theoretical knowledge. Both instructors were asked questions to which they responded, "We'll have to ask Dr. Levine." Since the students returned to TMI at the conclusion of the session, there was no opportunity to resolve these questions.
5. I talked briefly with Professor Penkala, Robison, and Levine, and indicated that we would initiate a careful review of the PSU training in the April-May 1984 time frame. I urged them to arrange a visit to TMI to see the Basic Principles Simulator after which we need to evaluate the appropriate mix of experiments and activities on the BPS and PSU Reactor for next year's TMI-2 Simulator Regual. Program.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

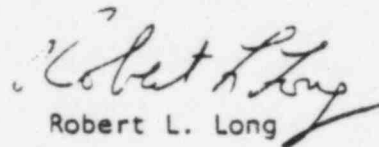
Docket No. *SD-289-SP* Official Exh. No. *TMIA-7*
In the matter of *TMI*

Staff _____ IDENTIFIED ☒
Applicant _____ RECEIVED _____
Server _____ ☒ REJECTED _____
Cont'g Off'r _____
Contractor _____ DATE *1-2-85*
Other _____ Witness *PANEL*
Reporter *STW*

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S. L. Newton
March 1, 1984
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6. In discussions with the trainees, it appears that the repetitive nature of the PSU annual programs is causing a decrease in interest. At the very minimum a more active role of the PSU instructors would stimulate and trigger new questions and insights.


Robert L. Long

RLL:kg

cc: Deputy Director-TMI-2, J. J. Barton
Director-T&E, R. P. Coe
Chrm., PSU Nuclear Engr. Dept., W. F. Witzig