

IMMEDIATE  
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

April 25, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -PNO-79-67AF

This preliminary notification constitutes summary information of an event of safety or public interest significance. The information presented is a summary of information as of 7:00 a.m. on April 25, 1979.

Facility: Three Mile Island Unit 2  
Middletown, Pennsylvania (DN 50-320)

Subject: NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND

Plant Status

In the course of transferring feedwater flow to the auxiliary nozzles, a carryover of water into the steam line was experienced, resulting in water impingement in the main turbine. An operator-initiated turbine trip at about 3:00 p.m. stopped the impingement. The feedwater was being diverted to the auxiliary feedwater sparger in preparation for secondary system modification for adding a closed cooling system. Steam is currently being admitted to the main condenser through the turbine bypass valves. This change in cooling mode will not affect preparations for natural circulation operations. The average primary coolant temperature has increased to 224 degrees F. The highest incore thermocouple reading is 312 degrees F.

As a result of changing the charcoal filters in the A Trains of the Auxiliary and Fuel Handling Building Ventilation Systems, the iodine discharges have been reduced by approximately 80 percent. The charcoal filters of Auxiliary Building Ventilation System Train B have been replaced. This system was placed in service at 5:30 a.m. April 25.

Following a briefing of the Governor's Office, a press briefing was held to outline the anticipated schedule for achieving long term cooling status. A copy of the press release is attached.

Environmental Status

Three Aerial Measuring System (ARMS) Surveys were made on April 24, 1979. No radioactivity above natural background was detected.

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Iodine concentration at Unit 2 ventilation stack (Analyzed by NRC Mobile Laboratory).

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity (uCi/cc)</u>
4/24 (0408) - 4/24 (0637)	$3.0 \times 10^{-8}$
4/24 (0642) - 4/24 (0813)	$4.2 \times 10^{-8}$
4/24 (0815) - 4/24 (1215)	$3.1 \times 10^{-8}$
4/24 (1217) - 4/24 (1600)	$1.6 \times 10^{-8}$
4/24 (1602) - 4/24 (1955)	$2.4 \times 10^{-8}$
4/24 (1958) - 4/25 (0001)	$2.6 \times 10^{-8}$

Offsite Measurements

Radiation Levels

Offsite radiation levels identified by NRC survey teams continue to be consistent with natural background levels (0.02 mR/hr maximum). These results were obtained from routine daily surveys performed downwind on the east side of the Susquehanna River at distances up to five miles north and south of the site.

Dose rates (47 locations) as measured by NRC thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) for the past 24 hour period continue to be consistent with natural background levels.

NRC Environmental Samples (Samples taken offsite within 3 miles of site analyzed in mobile laboratory)

<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Date of Sample</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Results</u>
air	4/24-25	6	Less than MDA*
milk	4/23	3	Less than MDA
daily air	4/23-24	1	Less than MDA

EPA Environmental Samples (Analyzed at Remote Laboratory)

<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Date of Sample</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Results</u>
air	4/23	28	Less than MDA
air	4/23	3	Range from $2.3$ to $7.1 \times 10^{-13}$ microcuries per cubic centimeter (0.23 to 0.71 picocuries per cubic meter)
air	4/20	2	One sample was less than MDA. One sample indicated 168 picocuries per cubic meter of Xe-133.** Both samples indicated approximate background levels of Kr-85.

All EPA samples were taken at distances greater than 2 miles from this site.

\*MDA - minimum detectable activity.

\*\*Maximum Permissible Concentration for Xe-133 is 300,000 picocuries per cubic meter.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed of these results.

Attachment: Press Release Dated 4/24/79

Contact:

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