



Chesler UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

No. 79-64
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Mailed - March 28, 1979)

NOTE TO EDITORS: The information below was issued at approximately 10:30 a.m. EST and was accurate at that time.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received preliminary information on an emergency situation at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. There has been a release of radioactivity inside the reactor containment system. Measurements are still being made to determine if there has been any radioactivity detected off the site. There is no indication of release off the site.

Metropolitan Edison Company, operator of the plant, has reported that the turbine of Unit 2 at the plant tripped off early this morning, closing off the steam flow from the reactor to the turbine. The cause is not known at this time.

There was a release of primary coolant water into the containment. The emergency core cooling systems are being used to provide water to the reactor. The Unit 2 reactor is shut down. Unit 1 at the plant is shut down for refueling.

NRC has dispatched a team from the regional office in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, and they have arrived at the site.

State and other Federal agencies have been notified.

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