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HARRISBURG (April 1) -- Gov. Dick Thornburgh today issued the following statement:

"Based on my assessment of information given to me regarding the current status of the Three Mile Island situation, I am issuing the following directives, recommendations and advisories:

1. I am directing that state offices continue to conduct business as usual, beginning Monday morning. Recognizing the special difficulties some families may have returning to the area this weekend, however:

(A) Personal or vacation leaves will be granted, and charged, to all absentees.

(B) Pregnant women and mothers of pre-school children who live within a five-mile radius of the power plant, and who are also state employees, will be excused, with no loss of vacation time.

2. I am continuing to advise pregnant women and mothers of pre-school children to stay out of the area within a five-mile radius of the plant.

3. I am recommending that schools located within five miles of the plant remain closed until further notice, consistent with the precautions we took last Friday.

"I recognize that other schools have taken independent action in this regard. That is their prerogative. I wish to make it clear, however, that we have no evidence of hazards to health or safety that would require such action."

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