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JDL

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Original signed by
Donald D. Hauber

USNRC: JDLAFLEUR
3/26/79: 492-7788
OES/NET/EIC:

for

FOR ORIGINAL

IMMEDIATE ATHENS, BERN IMMEDIATE, BOMBAY IMMEDIATE, BONN IMMEDIATE, BRASILIA IMMEDIATE, BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE, COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

USIAEA, USOECD, USEEC

N/A

TECH

NUCLEAR POWER PLANT EMERGENCY SITUATION

REF: A-0221

1. MISSIONS REQUESTED TO CALL NRC OFFICIAL CONTACTS IN HOST GOVERNMENT EARLY MARCH 29 (REF: A-0221) AND FURNISH INFORMATION FROM NRC NEWS RELEASE. THE FULL TEXT FOLLOWS.

2. THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM ITS INSPECTORS AT THE THREE MILE ISLAND POWER PLANT IN PENNSYLVANIA WHERE AN ACCIDENT OCCURRED EARLIER TODAY.

3. NO INJURIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED. LOW LEVELS OF RADIATION HAVE BEEN MEASURED OFF THE PLANT SITE. THE MAXIMUM CONFIRMED RADIATION READING WAS ABOUT THREE MILLIROENTGENS PER HOUR ABOUT ONE-THIRD MILE FROM THE SITE. AT ONE MILE, A READING OF ONE MILLIROENTGEN PER HOUR WAS MEASURED. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS IS PRINCIPALLY DIRECT RADIATION COMING FROM RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WITHIN THE REACTOR CONTAINMENT BUILDING, RATHER THAN FROM RELEASE OF RADIO-

ACTIVE MATERIALS FROM THE CONTAINMENT. EXTENSIVE EFFORTS

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ARE CONTINUING BY THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, AND THE NRC TO MEASURE THE AMOUNT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM THE SITE. A HELICOPTER WITH SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS ALSO IS BEING USED.

4. IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE CAUSE OF THE TURBINE SHUTDOWN AT THE PLANT EARLY TODAY WAS A REDUCTION IN FLOW OF FEED-WATER TO THE STEAM GENERATORS.

5. THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVITY TO THE REACTOR CONTAINMENT BUILDING HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. THERE WAS A RELEASE OF PRIMARY COOLANT WATER TO THE CONTAINMENT. EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEMS ARE CONTINUING TO PROVIDE WATER TO COOL THE FUEL. THE REACTOR IS SHUT DOWN. THE PRESSURE IN THE REACTOR SYSTEM IS BEING SLOWLY REDUCED.

6. NRC HAS A TEAM OF SIX PERSONS AT THE SITE. THEY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE NRC INVESTIGATION OF THE EVENT. THE RESULTS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC. AN ANRSC TEAM ALSO IS BEING FORMED TO MONITOR THE SUBSEQUENT ACTIVITIES OF THE LICENSEE, THE METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY. 44

BCC: JRS
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SURNAME	WSLAVINE:EB	RDHAUBER	JDLAFLEUR			
DATE	3/28/79	3/28/79	3/28/79	UNCLASSIFIED		

ACTION PRECEDENCE CONTINUED:

IMMEDIATE HELSINKI
IMMEDIATE LONDON
IMMEDIATE MADRID
IMMEDIATE MANILA
IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY
IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI
IMMEDIATE PARIS
IMMEDIATE RIO DE JANEIRO
IMMEDIATE ROME
IMMEDIATE SEOUL
IMMEDIATE STOCKHOLM
IMMEDIATE TAIPEI
IMMEDIATE TEHRAN
IMMEDIATE TEL-AVIV
IMMEDIATE THE HAGUE
IMMEDIATE TOKYO
IMMEDIATE VIENNA

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