

ACC	MRN	DTG	SIGNATURE
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UNCLASSIFIED	CLASSIFICATION
	SPECIAL CHARGES

USNRC: JDLAFLEUR
 4/3/79: 492-7788
 OES/NET/EIC: DHCOOPER

EUR/RPE: WBARMON {INFO}
 NEA/RA: HENGELBRECHT {INFO}
 IO/SCI: CAJILLSON C {INFO}

EA/RA: PCLEVELAND {INFO}
 ARA: MR/SZNIGG/JHENNEKE {INFO}
 L/N: RJBETTAUER {INFO}

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

USIAEA, USOECD, USEEC - PASS TO PARA 1 PARTIES ASAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: THREE MILE ISLAND REACTOR STATUS

REF: A-0221

1. ADDRESSEES REQUESTED TO PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO OFFICIAL NRC CONTACTS IN HOST GOVERNMENTS AND TO VISITING SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS, ASAP, DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS, AND TO USE AS APPROPRIATE IN ANSWERING INQUIRIES. PLEASE NOT THIS INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND NOT FULLY EVALUATED.

2. PLANT STATUS AS OF 7 A.M. APRIL 3.

A. REACTOR PRESSURE REMAINS NEAR 1000 PSI, WITH BULK CORE COOLANT INLET AND OUTLET TEMPERATURES AT 280 F. CORE THERMOCOUPLE READINGS ARE RELATIVELY UNCHANGED AND INDICATE A MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 477 F WHICH IS WELL BELOW SATURATION TEMPERATURE FOR THIS PRESSURE. (ONLY 3 THERMOCOUPLES READ ABOVE 400 F). THE GAS BUBBLE STILL APPEARS TO BE PRESENT AT A MUCH REDUCED VOLUME, WITH BUBBLE SIZE CALCULATIONS STILL BEING EVALUATED. DEGASIFICATION CONTINUES. CONTAINMENT ATMOSPHERE MEASUREMENTS INDICATE ABOUT 1.9 PERCENT HYDROGEN. ONE HYDROGEN RECOMBINER IS OPERATING, AND A 12 DAY TIME PERIOD IS PROJECTED FOR 7905160128, P REDUCTION OF THE HYDROGEN CONCENTRATION TO ABOUT 1%.

B. PLANS TO USE A ROBOT DEVICE TO OBTAIN A PRIMARY COOLANT

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SAMPLE ARE BEING EVALUATED. PREOPERATIONAL TESTING WITH ROBOT IS IN PROGRESS.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

A. NO SURVEILLANCE FLITHS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED SINCE 6:00 AM ON APRIL 2 BECAUSE OF WEATHER. ALL OFFSITE GROUND SURVEYS INDICATE ABOUT 0.02 MILLREM/HOUR, EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF PERIOD DURING PERIODIC VENTING OF THE PRIMARY SYSTEM MAKEUP TANK TO THE VENT HEADER. DURING THIS VENTING, AN OFFSITE TEAM DETECTED A BRIEF, DOWNWIND 1.5 MILLIROENTGEN/HOUR GROUND LEVEL DOSE RATE WITH A RAPID RETURN TO 0.02 MR/HOUR. THIS LEVEL IS LESS THAN OTHERS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY FOR SIMILAR OPERATION ACTIVITIES.

B. DOSE RATES IN POPULATED AREAS AS MEASURED BY NRC THERMOLUMINESCENT DOSIMETERS (TLD) SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS DAY.

C. ON APRIL 2, THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REPORTED CONCENTRATIONS OF RADIOIODINE IN EIGHT MILK SAMPLES. THE RESULTS RANGED FROM 10 PICOCURIES PER LITER (THE MINIMUM DETECTABLE ACTIVITY) TO 20 ± 10 PICOCURIES PER LITER.

D. SINCE MARCH 30, THERE HAVE BEEN CONTROLLED RELEASES OF SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND GALLONS OF WATER FROM THE INDUSTRIAL WASTE TANK TO THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER. THE EFFLUENTS CONTAIN RADIOIODINE. ON APRIL 2, THE FDA REPORTED THAT A SAMPLE OF RIVER WATER COLLECTED TWO MILES FROM THE PLANT WAS ANALYZED AND FOUND TO CONTAIN 3.9×10^{-8} MICROCURIES PER MILLILITER OF IODINE-131, OR ABOUT 13% OF MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE CONCENTRATION (MPC).

3. OTHER INFORMATION

LOW EXPOSURES IN THE CONTROL ROOM AND IN OTHER SITES AROUND THE PLANT CONTINUED TO DECREASE SIGNIFICANTLY AS DID RADIOACTIVITY CONCENTRATIONS IN THE CONTAINMENT BUILDING. 44

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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 BUENOS AIRES
IMMEDIATE TEHRAN
IMMEDIATE TEL-AVIV
IMMEDIATE THE HAGUE
IMMEDIATE TOKYO
IMMEDIATE VIENNA