

Friday, April 13, 1979

Issue #13

Trailer City NEWS

DO YOU HAVE TRISKALDENAPHOBIA?

Those who fear Friday the 13th suffer from triskaldenaphobia. And, if you are one of those persons you're probably not here to read this item. People who fear the 13th, more particularly when it falls on Friday, generally don't show up for work.

The phobia causes some persons to refuse to board planes, ships, trains; some businessmen won't close a deal; some women won't go shopping; some people won't eat in a restaurant. That's not particularly true of the Trailer City folk. The Timbers was packed this morning for breakfast which included "steak and eggs" among other things. steak was the warmed over roast beef of yesterday.

If you are superstitious, here are some well-known things to avoid: Don't spill salt; don't step on a crack; don't open an umbrella indoors and worse yet, don't stand under one indoors; don't walk under a ladder; and don't cross the path of a black cat. I probably can think of others.

Well, anyway, it's Good Friday and the third day of Passover. Have a happy.

C, LOCAL, PENELEC PERSONNEL TAKE NOTE

Supplies of time sheets and expense reports plus credit union withdrawals can be handled by the Manpower Resources Department working in Dewey's basement. Telephone numbers are: 944-6824, 944-5612, or PBX ext. 175-176.

BT NEW REGULATIONS

According to the New York Times, nuclear experts interviewed believe the TMI #2 accident will ultimately result in new laws, new regulations, new cadres of safety experts and the possible development of new procedures and structures in the industry.

STOCK

GPU stock closed yesterday at 13 7/8 up 1/8 with a volume of 253,700 shares.

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All area surface and ground water tested following the accident has been found to be of radioactive contamination according to reports issued by D.E.R., U.S. Geologic Survey and water suppliers.

More than 300 samples of drinking water and water from rivers, streams and the sea have been collected and analyzed during the last two weeks and "in each case 60 activity was detected," according to a joint statement by the agencies.

TIME SHEETS

Met-Ed employees here on a daily or weekly basis should complete their time sheets at the site...sign and deposit in the marked basket at the Observation Center. Joyce at 244-4041, ext 220 is available to answer questions.

INSURANCE CARRIERS ESTIMATE DAMAGES

The companies that insure the damaged Unit #2 reactor yesterday reported that the cost to the facility will probably exceed \$140 million and liability claims are likely to exceed \$1 billion. The insurers are American Nuclear Insurers and Mutual Atomic Energy Liability Underwriters.

WABC, CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?

A Philadelphia TV station (Ch.48) today re-ran a program of a week or so ago that featured an emergency bulletin... "possible meltdown at TMI and a radiation release... radiation etc...." The bulletin of course caused a bit of excitement today, but after a telephone call to the station--they apologized and put an announcement on to clear up the situation..

TRAILER VEHICLES NEED GAS ?

Regular and unleaded gasoline can be obtained at Crawford Station, Middletown on a first-come, first-served basis. If you need directions to Crawford Station drop into Trailer #1. This is for Pemco, Met-Ed, JCP&L and GPUSC vehicles only.

LITIGATION SUIT FILED

DU has disclosed that four people who live near TMI have filed a class action suit against the company, the three subsidiaries and Babcock & Wilcox. The suit was filed in the U.S. District Court. The suit asks that radiation medical examinations be made every 10 years; that businessmen be paid for goods they couldn't sell because of radiation. The suit was brought on behalf of all those who have businesses within 10 miles of TMI and, while it did not ask for a specific amount of money, the suit did ask that "damages to plaintiffs and the members of the class are believed to be in the amount of at least equal to \$500 million," according to the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post.

1979-80 CONSTRUCTION CUT OF \$375 MILLION ANNOUNCED

In light of the significant costs anticipated as a result of the Three Mile Island Unit 2 accident, the GPU System is taking a number of steps to conserve its cash resources and otherwise improve its cash flow.

To do this, GPU has suspended construction activity involving additional generating and transmission facilities, suspended all but the most critical construction programs at existing stations, and has postponed or reduced maintenance activities which are not absolutely essential to meeting current customer needs. The Company has also initiated a system-wide hiring freeze and is cutting back in a number of other areas to further reduce operating and maintenance (O&M) expenditures.

GPU estimates that its 1979 construction budget of \$453 million will be cut by approximately \$125 million (28% of budget) to \$328 million. The largest cuts will come in the budgets for the Forked River nuclear station construction, for transmission and distribution system construction activities and for non-essential construction at existing generating facilities. The \$516 million construction budget for 1980 is being reduced by about \$250 million.

On the (O&M) side of the picture, the Company is deferring or reducing the scope of scheduled maintenance outages at the Company's generating stations. This will also increase the kilowatt hours generated from these stations, which would in part offset the increased energy costs associated with replacing the generation lost at TMI. Tree trimming and other TED maintenance activities for the balance of the year will be reduced to the minimum level required to handle emergencies. Other O&M curtailments for such things as outside contractor work (in addition to that related to scheduled outages in generation), research and development programs, preventive maintenance on equipment and facilities, employee travel, and advertising programs are being undertaken.

GPU Chairman William G. Kuhns explained, "We hope to achieve the necessary payroll cost reductions mainly through reduced overtime, a general freeze on hiring and attrition."

WEEK-END SCHEDULE FOR JITNEY SERVICE

From Reading to Trailer City & Hershey, April 13, to April 15

Met-Ed Reading Office Coverage - Phone Number is Rdg. 921-6422:

FRIDAY 7 - 9 AM	JUDY IBACH
1 - 3 PM	
SATURDAY 7 - 9 AM	DICK DEAS, JR.
1 - 3 PM	
SUNDAY 7 - 9 AM	JIM RUDOLPH
1 - 3 PM	

JITNEY SERVICE (cont'd)

On call at home for Emergencies only, during the day will be:

- FRIDAY - Harold Seldowidge
Phone: 682-6755
- SATURDAY - Will Vollertsen
Phone: 777-2506
- SUNDAY - Judy Botvin
Phone: 921-0053

ADDITIONAL TELECOPIER

Trailer #13 has a telecopier--the number is 944-7901. If you have any questions call Ext. 120.

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Where do you get office supplies? We hope we finally have the right dope. Office supplies are at Trailer #1. Charlie O'Neill is still handling requests for other materials and equipment (not office supplies). Charlie is at Trailer #13, ext. 158.

TINNERS QUESTION

F U N E M N X Answer in Trailer City News tomorrow.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

The following letter appeared in Thursday's New York Daily News "Voice of the People" column:

"Let's take our hats off to the personnel of the Three Mile Island plant who stayed on the job during the emergency. They are the real heroes."

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