

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

W/W

July 12, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-238

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Metropolitan Edison Company  
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 2  
Middletown, Pennsylvania  
DN 50-320

Subject: SMALL FIRE IN CONTROL ROOM RADIATION MONITOR READOUT PANEL

At 7:40 a.m. hours on July 12, 1979, a small fire occurred in the radiation monitoring readout panel for the auxiliary building waste gas system monitor. The readout panel is located on a back panel in the Unit 2 Control Room. The fire was extinguished immediately by control room personnel using a carbon dioxide fire extinguisher. The readout panel's circuit boards sustained substantial damage and the entire readout panel will be replaced today. No damage to other instrumentation panels occurred. The cause is suspected to be an overheated resistor. The radiation monitor is still in service and can be read locally.

This PN is issued for information only. Inspectors from the NRC TMI Resident Office will monitor installation and testing of the replacement panel.

Media interest is expected because of public interest in events at the Three Mile Island Station. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. A press release is not planned by the licensee nor the NRC.

NRC, Region I, (Philadelphia) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the NRC TMI Resident Office at 10:45 a.m. on July 12, 1979.

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