

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

August 3, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-297A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events 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
Middletown, Pennsylvania
Three Mile Island, Unit 1
50-289/50-320

Subject: LIQUID DISCHARGE TO SUSQUEHANNA RIVER (UPDATED INFORMATION)

This PN provides updated information related to PNO-79-297 issued July 31, 1979.

A sample was collected by the licensee from the Waste Evaporator Condensate Storage Tank (WECST) subsequent to termination of tank discharge on July 26, 1979. On July 30, 1979 the sample was sent to an analytical laboratory in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Radiation Management Corporation). On August 2, 1979, the licensee reported to the NRC the analytical results for this sample which showed a total strontium (Sr-89, 90) concentration of 8.5×10^5 microcuries/milliter (uCi/ml). The licensee's calculations showed that after dilution and prior to discharge to the river, the effluent concentration of Sr-89, 90 was 2.6×10^8 uCi/ml. This represented approximately 10% of the Maximum Permissible Concentration (MPC) for average annual release for strontium (10 CFR 20), indicating the release did not exceed limits at the point of discharge to the river. The NRC inspectors will evaluate and verify the licensee's calculations and results.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. A press release was made by the licensee.

NRC, Region I, (Philadelphia) received notification of this occurrence by a telephone call from IE Resident Office at TMI at 4:30 p.m. on August 2, 1979.

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