

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

August 15, 1979

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

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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, Units 1 and 2
 Middletown, Pennsylvania
 (Docket Numbers 50-289/50-320)

SUBJECT: LIQUID DISCHARGE TO SUSQUEHANNA RIVER (UPDATED INFORMATION)

This supplements information previously discussed in PNO-79-297 issued July 31 and PNO-297A issued August 3, 1979.

A sample taken at the request of an NRC inspector from the Waste Evaporator Condensate Storage Tank (WECST) late on July 25, 1979, was sent to the Analytical Services Laboratory of Brookhaven National Laboratory for a Strontium 89 and Strontium 90 analysis. This sample was representative of the discharge from the WECST on July 26, 1979. Results of this analysis are tabulated below along with supplied licensee analytical results:

	WECST Tank Licensee (uCi/ml)	NRC (uCi/ml)	After Dilution Licensee (uCi/ml)	After Dilution NRC (uCi/ml)
Sr89	--	5.1×10^{-5}	--	1.6×10^{-8}
Sr90	--	5.7×10^{-6}	--	1.8×10^{-9}
Sr89 & 90	8.5×10^{-5}	--	2.6×10^{-8}	--

The NRC results indicate that the concentration of strontium isotopes in the discharge to the river was actually about 1% of the maximum permissible concentration (MPC) for the average annual release (10 CFR 20). (Previously, the percent of MPC was reported as approximately 10%. This was based on the licensee's reported combined concentration of Sr89 & 90 being evaluated against the more restrictive MPC of Sr90.) Review of liquid discharges since July 26, 1979 by NRC inspectors indicates that beta analysis is being performed routinely by the licensee; the results of which have been within limits. NRC inspectors will continue to review liquid discharges.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was informed of these results on August 15, 1979 at 1300 hrs. Media interest has been experienced.

NRC, Region I, (Philadelphia) received notification of this occurrence by a telephone call from BNL at 9:30 a.m. on August 15, 1979.

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This Preliminary Notification is issued for information only and no further action by IE is anticipated.

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