

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: September 18, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-80-131

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  
Three Mile Island, Units 1 and 2  
Middletown, Pennsylvania  
Docket Nos. 50-389 and 50-320

Subject: RADIO STATION RE-BROADCAST OF NEWS REPORT OF TMI-2 ACCIDENT OF MARCH 28, 1979

At about 11:35 a.m. on September 18, 1980, an NRC Region I employee heard a news broadcast over radio station KYW (an all news radio station in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) that a general emergency had been declared at Three Mile Island and that State Police were responding.

It has been learned since, that the radio station had broadcast a taped recording of its original bulletin regarding the TMI-2 accident on March 28, 1979 in connection with the station's celebration of 15 years as a all-news station with various reporters reflecting upon their experiences over the years.

Upon hearing the broadcast, the Region I employee alerted regional management who responded by calling personnel in the NRC TMI Program Office who immediately established that no emergency situation existed at the site. The Region I Public Affairs Officer also called the radio station and established that the broadcast was a recording of their original bulletin.

Since 12:35 p.m., the radio station has repeatedly broadcast an explanation of the announcement and emphasized that no emergency exists at Three Mile Island today.

Public interest has been expressed. A press release is not planned by the NRC. The NRC and the licensee will respond to public and press inquiries.

This PN is issued for information only.

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