

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

March 5, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE - PNO-1M1 80-08A

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 NRC staff on this date.

Facility: Metropolitan Edison Company
Three Mile Island, Unit 2
Middletown, Pennsylvania
Docket Number 50-320

Subject: CONTAINMENT PERSONNEL AIRLOCK ENTRY (UPDATE)

On Monday, March 10, 1980, the licensee intends to commence preparations for entering TMI-2 Containment Personnel Airlock No. 7. The purpose of this entry is to conduct radiological surveys on the atmospheric side of the inner door and to conduct a visual survey of the containment interior through the inner door port.

The Personnel Airlock No. 2 atmosphere has been analyzed for radioactivity. The sample analyzed on January 31, 1980, indicates that the radioactivity is approximately 2.2×10^{-3} uCi/cc Krypton-85 with no detectable iodine or particulate concentrations. These results are essentially the same as the sample analyzed on August 8, 1979. The total Krypton-85 content of the airlock volume to be purged was calculated to be approximately 50 mCi.

These events will be controlled in accordance with a procedure approved by the NRC/TMI Technical Support Staff and will be monitored by the NRC/TMI staff. The procedure requires an additional sample to be taken upon commencement of the airlock purge. At that time an updated assessment of expected total release content will be computed.

The airlock purging should have a negligible effect on the environment. Preparations for this entry should last approximately 3 days in order to purge the airlock atmosphere to less than Maximum Permissible Concentrations (MPC) in accordance with 10 CFR Part 20 limits. This time period is necessary due to the low purge rate of the sample pump (approximately 2 cfm). During the survey the inner door will remain isolated, maintaining containment integrity. The data obtained will be used to assess conditions inside the containment in preparation for Containment entry later this year.

The licensee does not plan to issue a press release. NRC plans to hold a news conference at 3:30 P.M. today at the Middletown Office.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was notified.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 1100, March 5, 1980.

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