

Paulus

March 20, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PHO-TM1- 80-17

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: INCREASED AUXILIARY BUILDING AIR PARTICULATE ACTIVITY

About 3:15 A.M., on March 20, 1980, several local air particulate monitors located in the auxiliary building alarmed. The highest reading AMS-3 monitor indicated 1.8×10^{-7} uCi/cc, vice the normal reading about 1×10^{-10} uCi/cc. This monitor samples the "B" Makeup Pump cubicle, where a Makeup System leak is suspected. Preparations are in progress to locate and isolate the leak. Seal injection and letdown has been isolated, and reactor coolant system pressure has been decreased to reduce leakage. The Makeup System is in recirculation operation. RCS pressure is being maintained by the Standby Pressure Control System.

The licensee's emergency plan has not been activated. NRC/TM1 staff personnel are monitoring the licensee's activities at the Control Room and Health Physics Control Point.

Media interest is expected because of continuing public interest in Three Mile Island. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. A press release is planned by Met-Ed.

The NRC/TM1 Technical Support Staff was notified at 8:00 A.M. by the Unit 2 Shift Supervisor.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 9:15 A.M..

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Contact Section Chief Deputy Director

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