

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

May 16, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL CONCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-80-29

This preliminary notification constitutes FAVORABLE 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

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
 POOR QUALITY PAGES

Subject: UNIT II REACTOR BUILDING ENTRY

The licensee plans to make the first entry into the Unit II reactor building (RB) at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 1980. In preparation for the entry, the RB personnel airlock will be purged beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 19, 1980. It is estimated that the airlock purge will release less than 10 millicuries of krypton 85 to the environment. Approximately 25 curies of krypton 85 will be released to the environment when the entry team leaves the RB and exits through the outer door of the personnel airlock. Each of the two members of the entry team is expected to receive a maximum of one Rem total body exposure.

The scenario of the planned entry is essentially the same as that of the original entry which was postponed when the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) withdrew the certification for the breathing apparatus which was to be used by the entry team. The licensee subsequently decided to use the Mine Safety Appliances Company (MSA) breathing apparatus. The MSA breathing units have a 30 minute service life. To provide a safety margin, the licensee decreased the duration of the planned entry to 15 minutes.

NRC TMI Program Office personnel will monitor the entry activities and the resultant radioactive releases to the environment.

Media interest is expected. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified. A press release has been made by the licensee. The NRC is planning to issue a press release.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 1:00 p.m., today.

Contact: G. Kalman 590-3995 A. Fasano 590-3950 J. Collins 590-3955

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