

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

July 16, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI- 80-40

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: PERSONNEL AIRLOCK NO. 2 INNER DOOR STATUS

At 2:56 p.m., the inner door for personnel airlock No. 2 was successfully opened. Opening of the door was precluded due to the stuck pin of the  $\Delta P$  safety interlock which was corrected on July 1, 1980, by drilling a small hole through the door.

However, upon closure of the door, the seal rings for the door failed a leakage test which was conducted following the test of the door operability.

The seals are of similar design to a Reactor Vessel to Vessel Head O-Ring Seal Arrangement comprising of an inner and outer seal. The test pressure source is applied between the two seals indicating that one or both of the seals are not providing a good mating surface with the door. Licensee and NRC review of this item continues.

Media interest has been expected because of public sensitivity to TMI related events and the licensee plans to issue a press release. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. The NRC has not made plans to issue a press release.

The NRC TMI Program Office staff received notification of this occurrence by monitoring the event as it occurred and this information was current as of 4:00 p.m. Reporting requirements are being reviewed by the licensee.

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