

February 27, 1981

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-81-06

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: EVIDENCE OF CONTAMINATED RODENTS IN THE UNIT 2 CONTROL AND SERVICE BUILDING

The licensee informed the Senior Resident Inspector, TMI, that several spots in the Unit 2 Control and Service Building were found to be contaminated. Radioactive contaminated rodent droppings were found in several locations in the Unit 2 Control and Service Building. The areas with the contaminated rodent droppings were roped off. A pest exterminator was called to the site to capture the contaminated rodents.

The licensee's management stated in their news release that "This is another situation that argues for moving ahead on the cleanup of Unit 2 as promptly as possible. So long as contamination is allowed to remain in Unit 2 we have the ingredients for possible risk to the public." After examination of this event the NRC onsite staff concluded that the contaminated rodents did not pose a radiological risk to the public or to the environment.

Media interest is expected because the licensee issued a press release. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and no further action by the NRC is expected.

The NRC TMI Program Office received notification of this event by the licensee at 2:00 p.m., and the information was current as of then.

Contact: M. Shanbaky 590-1140 A. Fasano 590-1123 C. Barrett 590-1120



*Kool/s/p*

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H ST BLDG 4:10  
 Chairman Ahearne  
 Commissioner Gilinsky  
 Commissioner Bradford  
 Commissioner Hendrie  
 ACRS  
 S. J. Chilk, SECY  
 C. C. Kammerer, CA

PHILLIPS BLDG 3:55  
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 F. Schroeder, NRR  
 D. F. Ross, NRR  
 D. Eisenhut, NRR  
 S. H. Hanauer, NRR  
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MARYLAND NATIONAL  
 BANK BUILDING 3:40  
 W. J. Dircks, EDO  
 C. Michelson, AEOD  
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 H. K. Shapar, ELD

WILLSTE BLDG 4:00  
 J. G. Davis, NMSS  
 T. Murley, RES  
 LANDOW BLDG (Fax by HQ)  
 (6 MIN/PAGE)  
 J. J. Cummings, OIA

IE:XOOS 4:05  
 (IE:H; Dist)

Region I 4:32  
 Region II 3:50  
 Region III 4:27  
 Region IV 4:20  
 Region V 4:42

(MAIL)  
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 Asst. Chief Hearing  
 Counsel, OELD

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