

April 24, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-81-09

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: EPICOR-II RESIN LINER SHIPMENT

The first EPICOR-II resin liner left the TMI site at 8:45 p.m., April 23, 1981. The EPICOR-II resin liner is destined for Hanford, Washington, for burial. The EPICOR-II System was used to process the 500,000 gallons (approximate) of contaminated water in the Auxiliary Building as a result of the March 28, 1979, accident. The system utilized a resin bed (ion exchange) process with the resin contained in 4' x 4' or 6' x 6' cylindrical liners.

This is the first of 25 lower radioactivity content liners, that were approved by the Commission in March 1981, for shipment and low level waste disposal. The licensee plans to ship the remaining low radioactivity content liners to the burial site within the next 2-3 month.

Media interest is expected because of public sensitivity to this issue 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.

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

The NRC TMI Program Office personnel inspected the licensee's onsite shipping activities and escorted the shipment to I-83, on April 23, 1981. The information in this PN was current as of 8:00 a.m., today.

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April 24, 1981

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