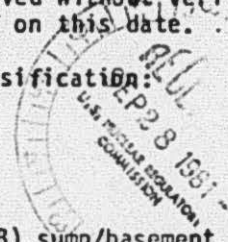


PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI- 81-20

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information 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  
Docket No. 50-320

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
 X  Not Applicable



Subject: REACTOR BUILDING SUMP/BASEMENT WATER PROCESSING

At 6:00PM today the licensee started processing Reactor Building (RB) sump/basement water using the Submerged Demineralizer System (SDS). The transfer of this water (PNO-TMI-81-019) to the SDS Feed Tanks was completed at approximately 2:00 AM today with no indication of radiological releases to the plant or offsite. The highest contact readings on the shielding of the transfer pipe in the Fuel Handling Building (FHB) was 10-15 mR/hr. The highest general area radiation reading was <1 mR/hr.

The SDS Feed Tanks are staging tanks for batch processing through the SDS zeolite beds. Approximately 14,000 gallons are to be processed.

Media interest will occur because of the RB sump water movement of September 22, 1981 and increased press attention to the SDS operation. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release at this time. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was informed.

The NRC staff will provide on-site coverage on a 24 hour basis and provide an updated report as information is received.

The NRC TMI Program Office received notification of this information by monitoring events as they occur and this information was current as of 9:00PM.

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