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: GPU Nuclear Corporation  
Three Mile Island, Unit 2  
Docket No. 50-320  
Licensee Emergency Classification: 
X Notification of Unusual Event

Subject: APPARENT OXYGEN DEFICIENT ATMOSPHERE IN THE REACTOR BUILDING (UPDATE)

Prior to beginning this week's scheduled activities inside the reactor building (RB) licensee personnel made a special 16 minute entry on February 24, 1982, to verify the RB air quality. An entry team took grab air samples, and obtained readings (using portable gas monitors) on the 305' and 347' elevations. Results of these readings and laboratory analyses of the air samples indicate 20-21% O₂ and 78% N₂, and no detectable combustible gasses.

The RB purge, which had been secured since the morning of February 20, 1982, was put back in service at 9:15 AM, today, after completion of the special entry.

Previous licensee tests have confirmed that radio frequency transmissions interfered with past readings using the portable equipment, and today's special testing entry was conducted under radio silence.

Past media interest occurred because of licensee notification to local officials and the licensee's issuance of a press release. NRC continues to respond to inquiries.

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