

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-82-05A

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: REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM LEAK RATE



An Unusual Event was declared at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 at 10:25 AM, today, because of an apparent leak in the reactor coolant system (RCS).

The leak (approximately 2.2 gpm) was from Make-up and Purification System (MU) isolation valves (seat leakage) to Seal Injection Filter, MU-F4A, during the filter removal evolution. Water drainage was expected but not the amount observed (150-200 gallons). Area and plant effluent monitors did not indicate any airborne increase apparently due to the relatively clean water from the Standby Pressure Control (SPC) System. SPC pressure (lineup) was exerted on the filter isolation valves/piping during the evolution. Apparently no one was contaminated, since leakage water was apparently collected in 55 gallon drums.

The licensee initiated leak isolation procedures and emergency response procedures. Final plant status was to establish additional isolation valve protection from the seal injection filter by routing SPC pressure through alternate High Pressure Injection Piping (MU-V16C and D) and torquing system isolation valves closed. Letdown sample system isolation valve, RC-V123, was also reopened for additional RCS pressure indication. Subsequent leakrate measurements were normal (0-.2 gpm). RCS pressure remained at approximately 100 psig throughout the event. Further, an onsite NRC Radiation Specialist was monitoring the make up filter removal operations prior to initiation of this event. The onsite NRC staff responded to this Unusual Event.

The Unusual Event was secured at 12:18 PM, today.

Media interest occurred because of public sensitivity to TMI related events and the licensee's notification to local officials. The licensee has issued press releases and the NRC responded to inquiries. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was informed.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only. Licensee and site NRC personnel plan to critique the event.

The NRC TMI Program Office received notification of this occurrence by the public address system at 10:25 AM, and this information was current as of 1:00 AM. A 10 CFR 50.72 report was made at 10:35 AM by NRC site personnel.

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