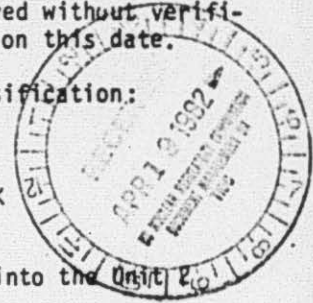


PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-82-09

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 Not Applicable



Subject: POSTPONEMENT OF REACTOR BUILDING ENTRY DUE TO DOOR INTERLOCK MECHANISM FAILURES.

On April 14, 1982, onsite NRC staff observed a planned entry (No. 57) into the Unit 2 reactor building.

At 9:21 a.m. a radiation control technician entered the reactor building, RB, to complete a preliminary radiation survey and to take grab air samples (tritium and particulate). His activities were being monitored from the reactor building command center via closed circuit television. At 9:31 a.m. it was noted by support technicians that the interlock mechanism to the personnel airlock door was jammed. Attempts to use the emergency exit, the equipment airlock door, failed when this emergency exit interlock mechanism jammed. The technician was instructed via the command center, to remain in the personnel hatch airlock (a low dose area) until one of the RB airlock doors could be used. At 10:23 a.m. the mechanism for the personnel airlock door interlock was freed, and the technician exited the building.

The technician's exit was delayed for 52 minutes. His radiation dose for the entry was 89 mRem.

Entries into the Unit 2 reactor building have been postponed, by the licensee, until the RB airlock doors and interlocks (the personnel hatch normally used, and the equipment hatch door) are inspected, repaired, and tested.

Media interest may occur because of public sensitivity to TMI related events. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release at this time. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the NRC plans to continue monitoring events as they occur.

The NRC TMI Program Office received notification of this occurrence by continuous onsite reviews and this information was current as of 12:30 p.m. today.

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