

NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-82-15A

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 Licensee Emergency Classification:
Three Mile Island, Unit 2 X Not Applicable
Docket Number 50-320

Subject: AXIAL POWER SHAPING ROD TEST (UPDATE)

The licensee completed a portion of the Axial Power Shaping Rod (APSR) test procedure on the 3:00-11:00 PM shift last night. Between 8:04 and 8:34 PM, June 23, 1982, one of eight APSRs was moved from an initial position of 26% (approximately 3 feet from the reactor core bottom) to 5% (approximately 6 inches from reactor core bottom). Increased resistance to inward movement was observed just before the 5% rod position. In accordance with the test procedure, the APSR test was terminated due to reaching a 30 minute time limit for APSR motor energization. The licensee representatives were considering a minor change in test procedure methodology to permit rod motion with this increased resistance in an attempt to position the rod lower than 5%.

Rod testing will continue today on the 3:00-11:00 PM shift. NRC site staff will continue to monitor events as they occur.

Media interest occurred because the licensee issued a press release and conducted a press conference at 1:00 PM, yesterday. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was informed.

The NRC TMI Program Office received notification of this occurrence by monitoring events as they occurred and this information was current as of 10:00 PM, June 23, 1982.

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