

NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-84-08A

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 Number 50-320

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
X Not Applicable

Subject: REACTOR VESSEL HEAD LIFT - UPDATE

At about 10:00 PM on July 24, 1984, the reactor vessel closure head was lifted clear of the reactor vessel flange. The vessel head was positioned about 36 inches above the reactor vessel flange to accommodate installation and attachment of a herculite "boot" to the underside of the head. Installation of the herculite "boot" required about 24 minutes. At 10:44 PM, lateral motion of the head commenced and the head was positioned over the support stand shortly before midnight. The licensee has experienced difficulty in being able to align the head over the storage stand alignment pins. The crane is against the stops which further complicates the ability to make proper alignment before lowering the head on the stand. The dose rates are running well below estimated and worker exposure is about half that anticipated.

Prior to attaching the lifting device to the head, the licensee experienced camera failure for one of the essential polar crane cameras. Workman had to climb to the polar crane to affect repairs. Also, a loosened plug caused a power failure to some detectors which required resolution. Some difficulty was experienced in adjusting the leveling devices prior to making the head lift.

The licensee is currently devising a means of aligning the vessel head with the storage stand guide pins in preparation for lowering the head to the stand.

The IMIPO is supplying NRC 24 hour/day coverage until the head is positioned on the storage stand and the modified indexing fixture is in place on the reactor vessel and filled with reactor coolant water.

Media interest occurred because of public sensitivity to TMI related events. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was informed.

This information is current as of 10:00 AM on July 25, 1984.

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

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