

NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-84-09A

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: PERSONNEL DOSIMETER HIGH READING - UPDATE

The potential beta radiation overexposure of the skin of a TMI-2 worker, identified on September 6, 1984, has been discounted by the licensee following their investigation. Facts revealed during the detailed investigation indicate anomalies in the two thermoluminescent dosimeter (TLD) elements which monitor beta radiation. In addition to performing surveys of the individual's work areas, the licensee attempted to substantiate the high TLD readings by correlating them with the individual's self-reading dosimeter and with exposures recorded by co-worker TLDs. When these efforts failed to substantiate the high TLD readings, the licensee began to explore the possibility that the badge read an exposure not actually received by the worker. This phase of the investigation included research of the history of the high reading TLD badge. It was discovered that on two previous occasions the badge, which had not been issued, indicated high readings following periods of storage. (During the only other occasion the badge was issued for use, it appeared to have functioned normally.) The investigation of the high reading badge will continue in an attempt to identify the cause of the atypical behavior exhibited by the TLD elements. In addition, the licensee will check histories on the entire inventory of badges to identify other TLD element exhibiting similar behavior.

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

This information is current as of 9:30 AM, September 18, 1984.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only. NRC is currently inspecting all aspects of the use of the questioned TLD.

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