

NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE-PNO-TMI-85-06

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: SUSPENSION OF WASTE BURIAL IN WASHINGTON STATE

On August 6, 1985 the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services notified NRC TMIPO of the suspension of GPU Nuclear's Three Mile Island Nuclear Station permit to ship radioactive waste to U. S. Ecology's Hanford Waste Management Facility at Richland, Washington.

The State action was taken as a result of a radioactive waste shipment of 104 barrels, dispatched from TMI on July 18, and received at the U. S. Ecology site on July 23, 1985. Contrary to NRC and Washington State requirements, three barrels were incorrectly classified, labeled and certified by GPUN. The three barrels exceed the 10 CFR 61.55 requirements for Class A waste containing strontium-90 and should have been classified and handled as Class B waste. Class B waste must be segregated from Class A waste and meet stability requirements which do not apply to Class A waste. The three barrels will be segregated from the balance of the shipment. The 101 barrels will be buried, and the three barrels will be returned to TMI. No further shipments will be permitted until approval is received from the State. Among the requirements for reinstatement of burial privileges is a description of the Quality Assurance program to be applied to radioactive waste shipments made from the TMI site which will prevent future violations of shipping and classification requirements.

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

This information is current as of 4:00 PM, August 6, 1985.

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

Contact: *DJ Collins* D. Collins 590-1145 *R. Cook* R. Cook 590-1125 *W. Travers* W. Travers 590-1120

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Comm. Asselstine	ELD			INPO <u>5:52</u>	MAIL:
Comm. Bernthal				NSAC <u>5:59</u>	DCS Processing
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