

August 14, 1979

INFORMATION REPORT

To: The Commissioners

From: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Thru: Executive Director for Operations

Subject: GPU/METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY PROGRAM FOR SHIPMENTS OF
RADIOACTIVE SOLID WASTE FROM THREE MILE ISLAND, UNIT NO. 2

Purpose: To inform the Commission of planned shipments of radioactive
solid waste from Three Mile Island, Unit No. 2.

Discussion: Shortly after the Three Mile Island Unit No. 2 (TMI-2) incident
of March 28, 1979, Governor Richard Riley of South Carolina
placed a restriction on the Barnwell site which prohibited the
disposal of radioactive solid waste from TMI-2. No post-incident
shipments of solid waste were made until mid-April, when three
liners were shipped to the Richland, Washington, disposal site.
The three liners were potentially contaminated with waste orig-
inating from TMI-2 and, thus, could not go to Barnwell. Further,
shipments of TMI-2 solid waste were suspended because of public
concern in the states along the route, including the State of
Washington. To minimize this concern and ensure that all ship-
ments meet Federal regulatory requirements, the licensee has
developed a program for solid waste shipments from TMI.

The program consists of three elements: (1) pre-shipment actions
at TMI and in Pennsylvania, (2) notifications and information to
enroute states, and (3) preparations and notifications at the
Richland site in the State of Washington.

The elements of the program are presented in Enclosure 1. The
procedural aspects developed by the licensee to implement the
program details are listed in Enclosure 2. Enclosure 3 is a copy
of the licensee's radioactive material shipment checklist.

Note from Enclosure 3 that prior to a shipment of waste leaving
the site, the NRC onsite representatives (NRR and IS) must sign
the checklist. Detailed instructions for completing the check-
list are contained in Met-Ed's operating procedure 1618.A which
has been reviewed and approved by the licensee's Plant Operations
Review Committee and by the NRC TMI staff.

This program was reviewed and concurred in by NRR. The shipment
of Unit 2 waste resumed on August 7, 1979.

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