

**Cartwright, William**

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**From:** Sigmon, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2009 8:27 AM  
**To:** Ross-Lee, MaryJane  
**Cc:** Thomas, Eric; Thorp, John; King, Mark  
**Subject:** NEWS Reporting Criteria

Reading through our guidelines on this, though NEWS was set up for newsworthy events that might not otherwise meet submission criteria, from RIS 2002-01 (and reiterated in IN 2009-27),

"Only events rated at Level 2 or higher will be reported to the IAEA, unless another member country specially requests the rating of a particular event."

It's possible that the amount of media interest generated (and the fact that it's TMI) may result in another country requesting a rating. I'm not sure if we've ever submitted an event after an outside request before, but the option is there.

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**From:** Ross-Lee, MaryJane  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2009 8:06 AM  
**To:** NRR DIRS IOEB Distribution  
**Subject:** FW: CNN Headline news- TMI leak contaminates 100 \_ NRR- Pls check to see if INES reportable- see my comments

Good morning. there was a lot of news and phone calls on this over the weekend. I'm not sure the threshold for putting something up on the NEWS sight, but that may be worth looking into. Beth Hayden in OPA may be able to help as I think that website was designed for public communication of news worthy items....

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**From:** HOO Hoc  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 22, 2009 7:39 AM  
**To:** Jones, Cynthia  
**Cc:** Ross-Lee, MaryJane  
**Subject:** RE: CNN Headline news- TMI leak contaminates 100 \_ NRR- Pls check to see if INES reportable- see my comments

Cynthia,

*Handwritten signature/initials*

Attached is a copy of the event report. I have also quoted the HOO highlight we sent out below. This contamination event involved very low contamination and dose to a number of workers (highest reported level is 26mR). There was no release outside of containment and no exposure what-so-ever to members of the public. We will contact Mary Jane Ross-Lee this morning to make sure NRR evaluates the event. However, our read is that this is not reportable (less than level 2) under the INES scale.

HOO HIGHLIGHT: "Three Mile Island - 1 is in a steam generator replacement and refueling outage. Sometime this evening, during maintenance activities, radiation alarms alerted inside containment and containment was evacuated. Personnel are being whole body counted out of the area. There is no public health and safety issue and no evidence of release to the environment. There has been significant media and federal partner interest in this evolution. The licensee is investigating the cause and Region 1 is following."

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**From:** Jones, Cynthia  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 22, 2009 7:02 AM  
**To:** Sigmon, Rebecca; HOO Hoc  
**Cc:** Dean, Bill; Wiggins, Jim  
**Subject:** CNN Headline news- TMI leak contaminates 100 \_ NRR- Pls check to see if INES reportable- see my comments  
**Importance:** High

Rebecca, HOOs

Just saw this on CNN and if the 100 people (as mentioned in the writeup) were members of the public (not occupational workers) it would an event we would rate and transmit to IAEA under INES. I look forward to your input on the event making news below to hold off Qs from IAEA IEC staff tomorrow, and hope they were all occupational workers....- thanks Cyndi

See

<http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=7131935>

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