

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ABNORMAL OCCURRENCE REPORT
SEVENTEENTH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the requirements of Section 208 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has published and issued the seventeenth periodic report to Congress on abnormal occurrences (NUREG-0090, Vol. 2, No. 2). The release date is November 20, 1979.

Under the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, which created the NRC, an abnormal occurrence is defined as "an unscheduled incident or event which the Commission (NRC) determines is significant from the standpoint of public health or safety." The NRC has made a determination, based on criteria published in the Federal Register (42 FR 10950) on February 24, 1977, that events involving an actual loss or significant reduction in the degree of protection against radioactive properties of source, special nuclear, and byproduct materials are abnormal occurrences.

The seventeenth report to Congress is for the second quarter of 1979. The report identifies the occurrences or events that the Commission determined were significant and the remedial action that was undertaken. The report indicates that the following incidents or events were determined by the Commission to be significant and reportable:

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- a) There were three abnormal occurrences at the 70 nuclear power plants licensed to operate. One involved an indication of low water level in a boiling water reactor, the second involved damage to new fuel assemblies, and the third involved deficient procedures. The latter item was determined reportable during report preparation and therefore has not previously been noticed in the Federal Register. Using the abnormal occurrence criteria published in the Federal Register on February 24, 1977 (42 FR 10950), the item satisfies example I.D.3 of Appendix A: Serious deficiency in management or procedural controls in major areas.
- b) There were no abnormal occurrences at fuel cycle facilities (other than nuclear power plants).
- c) There were no abnormal occurrences at other licensee facilities.
- d) There were two abnormal occurrences reported by the Agreement States. One involved releases of tritium and contamination of food and the second involved overexposures from a radiography source.

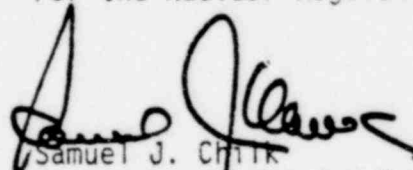
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The seventeenth report to the Congress also contains updating information on some abnormal occurrences reported in previous reports, including the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island.

Interested persons may review the report at the NRC's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. or at any of the 130 local Public Document Rooms throughout the country. The report, designated NUREG-0090, Vol. 2, No. 2, may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161, or from the GPO Sales Program, Division of Technical Information and Document Control, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, on or about December 4, 1979.

Dated at Washington, D. C. this 16th day of November 1979.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Samuel J. Chitt

Secretary of the Commission

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