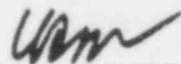


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Wilda R. Mullinix, NRC

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Revision 1
1683
09/30/77

THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION
STATION HEALTH PHYSICS PROCEDURE #1683
HANDLING OF CONTAMINATED VACUUM CLEANERS

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Unit 1 Staff Recommends Approval

Approval NA Date _____
Cognizant Dept. Head

Unit 2 Staff Recommends Approval

Approval NA Date _____
Cognizant Dept. Head

Unit 1 PORC Recommends Approval

A.E. Hartman Date 9-28-77
Chairman of PORC

PORC comments of _____ included
(date)

By _____ Date _____

Unit 2 PORC Recommends Approval

J.F. Hilbish Date 9-29-77
Chairman of PORC

PORC comments of _____ included
(date)

By _____ Date _____

Approval NA Date _____
Mgr., Operational
Quality Assurance

Approval J.P. Miller Date 9-30-77
Approval J.P. Miller Date 9-30-77
Unit Superintendent

THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION
RADIATION HEALTH PHYSICS PROCEDURE - 1683
HANDLING OF CONTAMINATED VACUUM CLEANERS

1.0 PURPOSE

This procedure outlines the proper use and maintenance of vacuum cleaners used in contaminated areas.

2.0 DISCUSSION

Special vacuum cleaners will be required for use in contaminated areas. Once these cleaners have been used, they become a source of external exposure and possible airborne contamination. Specific guidelines are required to prevent unnecessary exposure of personnel during the use and/or maintenance of these vacuum cleaners; as well as special precautions to prevent airborne contamination during the routine changing of filters (or bags) and emptying the collection reservoir of these units. Radiation problems could also arise if the filter or collection bag is punctured while the vacuum cleaner is in service. Periodic surveys by the Radiation Protection personnel will be required to ensure proper operation of these vacuum cleaners.

3.0 REFERENCES

TMI Radiation Protection Manual.

4.0 EQUIPMENT

- 4.1 Protective clothing.
- 4.2 Full face respirator.
- 4.3 New vacuum cleaner filter or bag.

5.0 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1 Cleaning and assembling of vacuum cleaners shall be performed under the surveillance of Radiation Protection personnel.
- 5.2 Personnel performing the cleaning operation shall be dressed in full protective clothing with full face respirator.
- 5.3 Only filters or bags that have been inspected and approved by the Radiation Protection Supervisor will be used.
- 5.4 The motor assembly or lid to collection container shall be sealed with masking tape to ensure that the cleaner is not leaking.
- 5.5 Radiation Protection personnel shall survey and properly tag vacuum cleaners during routine surveys of areas in which vacuum cleaners are located. If contamination level of an area in which the vacuum cleaner is being used is such that the radiation level of the vacuum cleaner may exceed the allowable limits set forth in Item 5.6, the vacuum cleaner shall be surveyed intermittently and at the end of a clean-up operation.
- 5.6 If the contact radiation level of the vacuum cleaner exceeds 25 mR/hr, the cleaner will be taken to a decontamination facility or a designated control area for cleaning.
 - 5.6.1 The 25 mR/hr may be exceeded if necessary to complete clean-up of a contaminated area in which it is being used. If, under these conditions the contact radiation level of the collection containers exceeds 50 mR/hr, the vacuum cleaner shall be removed from service until cleaned.

- 5.7 Disassembly of Vacuum Cleaners
 - 5.7.1 Personnel who disassemble the vacuum cleaner will be in full protective clothing dress with a full face respirator.
 - 5.7.2 In an area designated for clean-up--remove the motor housing or cover assembly and place it in a plastic bag.
 - 5.7.3 Tape a plastic bag around the opening of the collection container and turn it over slowly to remove contaminated material. Let dust settle before removing plastic bag and sealing it.
 - 5.7.4 Radiation Protection personnel shall survey the contaminated bag and tag as required. Contaminated material shall be disposed of in accordance with Radiation Protection procedures.
 - 5.7.5 Radiation Protection personnel will survey the outside of the vacuum cleaner for contamination.
 - 5.7.6 The above cleaning procedure shall be followed on all vacuum cleaners that have been used in contaminated areas, regardless of the radiation level emanating from the unit and regardless of the type of maintenance to be performed.