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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

July 6, 1979

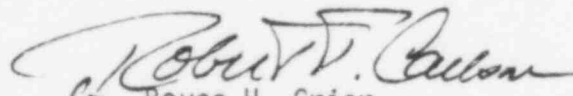
Docket No. 50-223

University of Lowell
ATTN: Dr. Leon E. Beghian
Acting Director, Nuclear Center
1 University Avenue
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854

Gentlemen:

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

Sincerely,


for Boyce H. Grier
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice No. 79-18
2. Listing of IE Information Notices
Issued in 1979

cc w/encls:

Dr. J. Phelps, Professor in Charge of Nuclear Reactor
T. Wallace, Reactor Supervisor

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

IE Information Notice No. 79-18
Date: July 6, 1979
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SKYLAB REENTRY

Description of Circumstances:

The most recent dates for reentry of Skylab are July 10 to 14, 1979, with July 12, as the most probable date. Recognizing that a hit on a nuclear power plant would be highly unlikely by Skylab debris, the NRC believes it would be prudent for licensees to review their contingency plans in case such an event should actually occur.

The NRC is in communication with the Department of Energy (DOE), and will receive notification from them as soon as the reentry corridor can be established. This notification may occur within 1 to 2 hours before reentry actually occurs. If it is determined that there are any licensed nuclear power plants in the reentry corridor, the plants will receive notification from their respective Regional Office via the dedicated phone line.

This Information Notice is provided as an early notification of a possibly significant matter. It is expected that recipients will review the information for possible applicability to their facilities. No specific action or response is requested at this time. If further NRC evaluations so indicate, an IE Circular or Bulletin will be issued to recommend or request specific licensee actions. If you have questions regarding the matter, please contact the Director of the appropriate NRC Regional Office.

No written response to this information notice is required.

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ENCLOSURE 2

IE Information Notice No. 79-18

Date: July 6, 1979

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LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN 1979

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued to
79-01	Bergen-Paterson Hydraulic Shock and Sway Arrestor	2/2/79	All power reactor facilities with an Operating License (OL) or Construction Permit (CP)
79-02	Attempted Extortion - Low Enriched Uranium	2/2/79	All Fuel Facilities
79-03	Limiterque Valve Geared Limit Switch Lubricant	2/9/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-04	Degradation of Engineered Safety Features	2/16/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-05	Use of Improper Materials in Safety-Related Components	3/21/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-06	Stress Analysis of Safety-Related Piping	3/23/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-07	Rupture of Radwaste Tanks	3/26/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-08	Interconnection of Contaminated Systems with Service Air Systems Used As the Source of Breathing Air	3/28/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL and Pu Processing fuel facilities
79-09	Spill of Radioactivity Contaminated Resin	3/30/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL
79-10	Nonconforming Pipe Support Struts	4/16/79	All power reactor facilities with a CP

LISTING OF IE INFORMATION NOTICES
ISSUED IN 1979

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued to
79-11	Lower Reactor Vessel Head Insulation Support Problem	5/7/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-12	Attempted Damage to New Fuel Assembly	5/11/79	All Fuel Facilities, Research Reactors, and Power Reactors with an OL or CP
79-13	Indication of Low Water Level in the Oyster Creek Reactor	5/29/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-14	Safety Classification of Electrical Cable Support Systems	6/11/79	All applicants for, and holders of a power reactor CP
79-15	Deficient Procedures	6/7/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
79-16	Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island	6/22/79	All research and test reactors with an OL
79-17	Source Holder Assembly Damage from Misfit Between Assembly and Reactor Upper Grid Plate	6/20/79	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP