EAR REGULA,

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

August 8, 1979

TT.

Docket Nos. 50-289 50-320

> Metropolitan Edison Company ATTN: Mr. J. G. Herbein Vice President - Generation P. O. Box 542 Reading, Pennsylvania 19640

Gentlemen:

The enclosed Circular 79-15, is forwarded to you for information. If there are any questions related to your understanding of the suggested actions, please notify NIOSH at the telephone No. listed in the attachment to the Circular.

Sincerely,

R.W. NuDaughy R. Boyce H. Grier Director

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646 236

Enclosures: 1. IE Circular No. 79-15 w/attachment 2. Listing of IE Circulars Issued in the Last Six Months

cc w/encls: E. G. Wallace, Licensing Manager J. J. Barton, Project Manager R. C. Arnold, Vice President - Generation L. L. Lawyer, Manager - Generation Operations G. P. Miller, Manager - Generating Station - Nuclear J. L. Seelinger, Unit 1 Superintendent W. E. Potts, Unit 1 Superintendent J. B. Logan, Unit 2 Superintendent G. A. Kunder, Unit 2 Superintendent - Technical Support I. R. Finfrock, Jr. Mr. R. Conrad G. F. Trowbridge, Esquire Miss Mary V. Southard, Chairman, Citizens for a Safe Environment

ENCLOSURE 1

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

IE Circular No. 79-15 Date: August 8, 1979 Page 1 of 1

BURSTING OF HIGH PRESSURE HOSE AND MALFUNCTION OF RELIEF VALVE AND "O"-RING IN CERTAIN SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Description of Circumstances:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been informed by mailgram (copy attached) from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of occurrences of bursting of the high-pressure hose assembly, and malfunction of the relief valve and of the "O"-Ring in the main line assembly of the SurvivAir Mark I self-contained breathing apparatus. Anyone of these failures would result in immediate loss of air supply to a user.

Licensees who use the SurvivAir Mark I SCBA should:

- Discontinue use of the apparatus until the units have been inspected by the manufacturer and all recessary repairs or replacements have been made.
- Contact the manufacturer or supplier of the equipment for instructions on arranging for inspection and repair.

No written response to this circular is required. If you require additional information regarding this subject, please contact the office specified in the attached mailgram.

Attachment: Mailgram