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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

May 31, 1979

Docket No. 50-498
50-499

Houston Lighting and Power Company
ATTN: Mr. E. A. Turner, Vice President
Power Plant Construction and
Technical Services
Post Office Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is supplement AQ to Preliminary Notification PNO-79-67, "Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island," dated May 29, 1979.

Should you have any questions regarding this review, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

W. C. Seidle, Chief
Reactor Construction and
Engineering Support Branch

Enclosure:
PNO-79-67AQ

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IMMEDIATE
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

May 29, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF AN EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-79-67AQ

This preliminary notification provides updated information of safety or public interest significance.

Facility: Three Mile Island Unit 2
Middletown, Pennsylvania (DN 50-320)

Subject: NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND

Operational:

1. The average coolant temperature is 158 degrees F and being maintained around that temperature by natural circulation. Pressure is about 450 psi with the pressurizer in solid operation. Steam is being admitted to the main condenser through the turbine bypass valve from the A Steam Generator. The highest incore temperature reading is 291°F.
2. Water level in the reactor building is being measured daily, and was 6.8 feet above floor level this morning. The lowest decay heat system motor-operated valve (DH-V2) in the reactor building was opened on May 25 as a precautionary measure, due to increasing water level. Secondary sources of water into the reactor building have since been isolated, including the fan coolers water supply, to reduce water in-leakage.
3. Preoperational testing is in progress for the Spent Fuel Pool Tank Farm, Once-Through Steam Generator "B" Long-Term Cooling System, and the modified rad waste treatment system (EPICOR). The testing is scheduled for completion by June 1.

Environmental Status

Environmental radiation levels continue to be consistent with natural background levels. A slight change in background level on May 24 and 25 was shown to be due to changing levels of naturally occurring Ra-222 caused by a weather front moving through the area. Airborne releases have been below Technical Specification limits. During the period May 21-28, approximately 35 air samples were collected by the NRC and all were less than MDA. Vegetation and milk samples collected during this period also showed no activity above MDA. EPA air, water and milk samples collected during this past week up to May 24 showed no detectable activity from TMI.

The State of New Jersey reported that milk samples they analyzed between May 21 and 28 included milk from counties where milk is produced and supplied to New Jersey consumers, New Jersey farms.

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