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FROM: Metropolitan Edison Co. Reading, Pennsylvania R. C. Arnold	DATE OF DOC 10-4-74	DATE REC'D 10-11-74	LTR xxxx	TWX	RPT	OTHER
TO: Mr. J. F. O'Reilly	ORIG 1-signed	CC / OTHER	SENT AEC PDR xxxxxxxxx SENT LOCAL PDR xxxxxxxx			

CLASS	UNCLASS	PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D	DOCKET NO:
	xxxxxx			1	50-289

DESCRIPTION:

Ltr Reporting Abnormal Environmental Occurrence #74-11 on 9-28-74 concerning Failure to Monitor the release of iodine from Auxiliary and Fuel Handling Building...

ENCLOSURES:

ACKNOWLEDGED

DO NOT REMOVE

PLANT NAME: Three Mile Island Station #1

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION 10-19-74 JGB

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OCT 4 1974

Regulatory File Cy.

GQL 0381

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director
Regulatory Operations - Region 1
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Operating License DPR-50
Docket No. 50-289

In accordance with the Environmental Technical Specifications for our Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, we are reporting the following Environmental Incident:

DOCKETED
USAEC
OCT 18 1974
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE BRANCH

(1) Reporting Number: E.I. 50-289/74-11

(2a) Report Date: October 4, 1974

(2b) Occurrence Date: September 28, 1974

(3) Facility: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1

(4) Identification of Incident:

Failure to monitor the release of iodine from the Auxiliary and Fuel Handling Building due to the removal from service of the iodine channel of Radiation Monitor A-8, which is a violation of the monitoring requirements of the Environmental Technical Specifications, paragraph 2.3.2.A.2.

(5) Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

The reactor was at steady state power with major plant parameters as follows:

Power: Core: 100%
Elec.: 855 MW (Gross)

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RC Flow: 139 x 10^6 lb/hr

RC Pressure: 2163 psig

RC Temp.: 579°F

PRZR Level: 243 in

PRZR Temp.: 647°F

(6) Description of Incident:

At 2130 hours on September 28, 1974, the iodine channel of Radiation Monitor A8 was removed from service for calibration while a release was being made from a waste gas tank. The release was completed before the channel was returned to service.

(7) Designation of Apparent Cause of Incident:

It is believed that the incident in question was caused primarily by the failure of Plant Maintenance personnel to follow approved procedures, in that they removed a radiation monitor channel from service without first informing the Shift Supervisor.

(8) Analysis of Incident:

It is believed that the failure to monitor the iodine release rate did not cause any environmental damage and did not represent a threat to either the health or safety of the public, in that the contents of the waste gas tank were analyzed prior to their release, no iodine activity was detected, and the release rate did not exceed the Technical Specification limits.

(9) Corrective Action:

The following short-term corrective actions were taken:

a. The importance of following all applicable procedures was impressed upon the Instrument Foreman and instrument technicians.

b. A Superintendent's Operating Memo was sent to all appropriate plant personnel directing them to inform the appropriate foreman of any proposed action on a safety related system requested by a vendor representative and to inform the Shift Supervisor of any proposed work to be done on a safety related system.

At a meeting held immediately after the incident was reported, the Plant Operations Review Committee (PORC) reviewed and gave its approval of these actions. In addition, they recommended to the Station Superintendent that the following long-term corrective actions be taken:

a. Review the procedure which controls the removal of radiation monitors from service and add any further cautions which may be required.

b. Investigate the feasibility of adding key-lock switches to the defeat circuit for the radiation monitor interlocks.

The Station Superintendent concurred with these recommendations and has taken the necessary steps to insure their implementation.

(10) Failure Data:

Not applicable.

Sincerely,

R. C. Arnold
Vice President

RCA/JFV/cas

File: 20.1.1/7.7.3.11.1

cc: Director
Directorate of Licensing
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

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