



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

bcc to DAC:ADM:
CENTRAL FILES
PDR:HQ
LPDR
NSIC

May 24, 1979

Docket No. 50-298

Nebraska Public Power District
ATTN: J. M. Pilant, Director
Licensing & Quality Assurance
P. O. Box 499
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Mr. Seyfrit's transmittal letter of April 9, 1979, the enclosed Preliminary Notification(s) relating to the Nuclear Incident at Three Mile Island is forwarded for your information.

Sincerely,

G. L. Madsen, Chief
Reactor Operations and
Nuclear Support Branch

Enclosure:

1. PNO-79-67A0
2. PNO-79-67AP

cc w/enclosures:
L. C. Lessor, Superintendent
Cooper Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 98
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

7906180295

QUB

IMMEDIATE
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

May 21, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-79-67A0

This preliminary notification constitutes summary information of an event of safety or public interest significance. The information presented is a summary of information as of 7:00 a.m. on May 21, 1979.

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

Subject: NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND

Plant Status

Operational:

1. The average coolant temperature is being maintained at 170 degrees F by natural circulation. Pressure is about 300 psi. Steam is being admitted to the main condenser through the turbine bypass valves from the A Steam Generator. The highest incore temperature reading is 301 degrees F.
2. Hydrostatic testing of the existing decay heat removal system "B" loop has been performed satisfactorily. Leaks have been identified and are being corrected in the "A" loop.
3. The pressurizer has been taken "solid" periodically to obtain confirmatory information on pressurizer level and to check primary system leak rate.
4. The water level in the reactor building was measured and found to be 6.1' above floor level. This is about 450,000 gallons.
5. One of two primary system pressure indications now in use is giving erratic readings. Direct reading pressure gages can be connected to the system if needed.

Environmental Status

Environmental radiation levels continue to be consistent with natural background levels. Approximately six minor releases have occurred during the past week (May 14-20) in conjunction with changing levels in the primary make-up tank and sampling the primary system. Aerial and ground surveys taken during these releases indicated no radiation levels above background, except for a release at 1300 on May 16, when an aerial measurement above the stack read 0.05 mR/hr. No radiation was detected on the ground. During the period May 14-20, approximately 36 air samples were collected and all were less than MDA. Vegetation and milk samples collected during this period also showed no activity above MDA. EPA and FDA air, water milk and food samples collected during this past week up to May 19 showed no detectable activity from TMI.

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Contact: RCPaulus, IE x27246 DThompson, IE x28487

Distribution: Transmitted H St 11:04

Chairman Hendrie	Commissioner Bradford	S. J. Chilk, SECY
Commissioner Kennedy	Commissioner Ahearne	C. C. Kanmerer, CA
Commissioner Gilinsky	ACRS	(For Distribution)

Transmitted: MNBB _____	P. Bldg <u>11:00</u>	J. G. Davis, IE
L. V. Gossick, EDO	H. R. Denton, NRR	Region I 11:00 <u>11:15</u>
H. L. Ornstein, EDO	R. C. DeYoung, NRR	Region II <u>11:10</u>
J. J. Fouchard, PA	R. J. Mattson, NRR	Region III <u>11:55</u>
N. M. Haller, MPA	V. Stello, NRR	Region IV <u>12:10</u>
R. G. Ryan, OSP	R. S. Boyd, NRR	Region V <u>12:00</u>
H. K. Shapar, ELD	SS Bldg _____	(MAIL)
	W. J. Dircks, NMSS	J. J. Cummings, OIA
	S. Levine, RES	R. Minogue, SD

IE (TMI) Site _____ (Provide copy to STATE)
C. Abraham, To _____ (Middletown - TMI-Information Center)

White House Situation Room _____
FDAA _____ (Provide copies to the Administrator and the Operations Center)

PEMA _____
BRP (State of PA) _____
DCPA _____
HEW _____
Hendersony (100)

IMMEDIATE
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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IMMEDIATE
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

May 22, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-79-67AP

This preliminary notification constitutes summary information of an event of safety or public interest significance. The information presented is a summary of information as of 7:00 a.m. on May 22, 1979.

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

Subject: NUCLEAR INCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND - REPORTED DEATHS OF COWS

Newspaper, television and radio stories this past weekend have reported that a number of cows have died in a herd near TMI at the Hoover Farm in Bainbridge, Pennsylvania. The article in the Harrisburg Sunday Patriot News reported that the owner of the herd believed the deaths were caused by the accident at TMI. The deaths all involved cows giving birth. Twelve calves have been stillborn and 7 cows have died after giving birth. The article stated that the state lab and the Hershey Medical Center have conducted post mortems and other tests on the dead animals. The symptoms common to all the deaths were intrauterine infections and anemia.

On Sunday afternoon, May 20, 1979, an NRC survey team accompanied by an EPA representative went to the Hoover Farm located about six miles southeast of the plant. Mr. Hoover and his wife stated that they suspect the cows died from leukemia caused by the radiation from TMI. They stated that they never had this problem in the past. They also stated that they knew of two other farmers that were having similar problems. The initial death occurred on April 5. The survey team took samples of feed, grass, soil, well water and milk for radiological analysis. The EPA representative also collected samples.

The Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture has veterinarians looking into the problem. They are investigating the possibility that a virus infection is the cause of the deaths and that, if so, in a few days they will have identified the virus. The State Bureau of Radiological Health will make a radiological examination of the internal organs of one cow. Another State Agency will examine them for heavy metals. The FDA has sent a veterinarian from the Philadelphia regional office to examine the herds involved.

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