



METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 480 - MIDDLE TOWN, PENNSYLVANIA TELEPHONE 717-238-1211

January 17, 1978

Mr. Boyce Grier  
Directorate of Regulatory Operations  
Region I  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Operating License DPR-50  
Docket 50-289

POOR ORIGINAL

Subject: Gas Release Exceeding 500X MPC

Dear Mr. Grier:

This telegram is to confirm the telephone conversation between Mr. Paul Kellogg (Region-I NRC) and Mr. R.W. Duhie (Supervisor-Radiation Protection and Chemistry) at 1430 on 17 January 1978.

The following report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 403 (h)(?) of 10CFR20.

On January 17, 1978 at approximately 0615, excessive leak off from the 1A Make-up Pump discharge isolation valve, MU-V-74A caused a release of gaseous radioactivity which, when averaged over a 24 hour period exceeded 500 times the limits specified in 10CFR20, Appendix B, Table II for the isotopes released. The release consisted of predominantly Xe-133 (85%) with the remainder consisting of Xe-135 (15%). The 24-hour average concentration in the area of the release was calculated to be  $3.02 \times 10^{-4}$  uCi/cc, approximately 1000 times the weighted MPC. A total of 33.3 Curies of Xenon were released from the Unit during the incident.

~~Immediate corrective action was to back seat the valve thereby isolating the leak off.~~

There were no personnel over-exposures as a result of this incident.

J.P. O'Hanlon  
Unit 1 Superintendent  
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station

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JPO/dcr

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