

AEC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL
(TEMPORARY FORM)

CONTROL NO: 998

FILE: INCIDENT REPORT

FROM: Metropolitan Edison Co. Middletown, PA 17057 J. Herbein		DATE OF DOC 1/24/75	DATE REC'D 1/29/75	LTR XX	TWX	RPT	OTHER
TO: J. O'Reilly		ORIG	CC 1	OTHER	SENT AEC PDR <u>XXXX</u> SENT LOCAL PDR <u>XXXX</u>		
CLASS	UNCLASS XXXX	PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D 1	DOCKET NO: 50-289		

DESCRIPTION:

Abnormal occurrence rpt. #AC-75-04 on 1/23 & 24/75; an unplanned release of radioactive material occurred exceeding tech. specs.

PLANT NAME: Three Mile Island #1

ENCLOSURES:

DO NOT REMOVE POOR ORIGINAL

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION DM 1/30/75

BUTLER (S) W/ Copies	SCHWENCER (S) W/ Copies	ZIEMANN (S) W/ Copies	REGAN (E) W/ Copies
CLARK (S) W/ Copies	STOLZ (S) W/ Copies	DICKER (E) W/ Copies	✓LEAR (S) W/ Copies
PARR (S) W/ Copies	VASSALLO (S) W/ Copies	KNIGHTON (E) W/ Copies	SPEIS (S) W/ Copies
KNIEL (S) W/ Copies	PURPLE (S) W/ Copies	YOUNGBLOOD (E) W/ Copies	W/ Copies

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

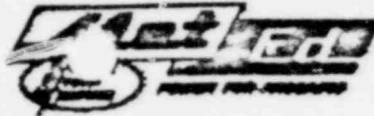
<u>REG FILE</u>	TECH REVIEW	DENTON	LIC. ASST.	A/T IND
✓AEC PDR	✓SCHROEDER	CRIMES	DIGGS (S)	BRAITMAN
✓OGC. ROOM P-506-A	✓MACCARRY	GAMMILL	GEARIN (S)	SALTZMAN
✓GOSSICK /STAFF	✓KNIGHT	✓KASTNER	GOULBOURNE (S)	B. HURT
✓CASE	✓PAWLICKI	BALLARD	KREUTZER (E)	
GIAMBUSSO	✓SHAO	SPANGLER	LEE (S)	PLANS
BOYD	✓STELLO		MAIGRET (S)	MCDONALD
MOORE (S) (BWR)	✓HOUSTON	ENVIRO	REED (E)	CHAPMAN
DEYOUNG (S) (PWR)	✓NOVAK	MULLER	SERVICE (S)	DUBE w/input
SKOVHOLT (S)	✓ROSS	DICKER	SHEPPARD (S)	E. COUPE
GOLLER (S)	✓IPPOLITO	KNIGHTON	SLATER (E)	✓R. Hartfield (2)
P. COLLINS	TEDESCO	YOUNGBLOOD	SMITH (S)	✓KLECKER
DENISE	✓LONG	REGAN	✓TEETS (S)	✓P. WILLIAMS
REG OPR	✓LAINAS	PROJECT LDR	WILLIAMS (E)	
✓FILE & REGION	✓BENAROYA		WILSON (S)	
✓T.R. WILSON	✓STEELE	HARLESS	INGRAM (S)	
	✓VOLINER			

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

✓1-LOCAL PDR Harrisburg, PA	(1)(2)(10)-NATIONAL LABS	1-PDR SAN/LA/WY
✓1-TIC (ABERNATHY)	1-W. PENNINGTON, RM P 201 G.T.	1-BROOKHAVEN NAT LAB
✓1-NSIC (BUCHANAN)	1-CONSULTANTS	1-G. ULRIKSON, ORNL
1-ASLB	NEWMARK/BLUME/ASBABIAN	1-AGMED (RUTH GUSSMAN) RM B-127 G.T.
1-NEWTON ANDERSON		1-J. RUNKLES, RM E-201 G.T.
5-ACRS SENT TO LIC. ASST.		

Teets 1-30-75

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METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY SUBSIDIARY OF GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES CORPORATION

OFFICE BOX 480 MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17057

TELEPHONE 717-844-4041

24 January 1975

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly, Director
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Pussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Operating License DPB-50
Bucket 50-289

POOR ORIGINAL

Subject: Abnormal Occurrence (No. AD-75-04)

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

This telegram is to confirm the telecons between Lee Spessard Region (I-AEC) and J. G. Herbein (DRI-Station Superintendent) at 0930 and 1630 hours on 24 January 1975.

The following report is submitted in accordance with paragraph 6.7.2.a.2 (page 6-11) of the Technical Specifications.

On January 23 and 24, 1975, an unplanned release of radioactive material occurred during which the release rate of gross gaseous activity, as specified in paragraph 2.3.2.a (page 25) of Appendix B to the Technical Specifications, was exceeded for a 10 minute period.

The unplanned gas release occurred when water loss from the "A" reclaimed boric acid tank loop seal permitted the tanks' cover gas release to the Auxiliary Building Ventilation system. The Auxiliary Building Ventilation system subsequently discharged the released radioactive cover gas through the station vent to the atmosphere.

The "A" reclaimed boric acid tank loop seal was refilled. The motor operated pressurizer spray block valve (RC-V3) was backseated to stop valve stem leak off. As a result the unplanned gas release was terminated.

Subsequent investigation indicated that valve stem leak off from RC-V3 to the R. C. drain tank, during pressurizer spray valve maintenance, caused an overpressure condition in the vent header nitrogen cover gas which blankets both the R. C. drain tank and the "A" reclaimed boric acid tank. This over pressure in the reclaimed boric acid tank cover gas caused the water loss from the tank loop seal and the subsequent release of radioactive cover gas to the Auxiliary Building Ventilation system.

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly

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24 January 1975

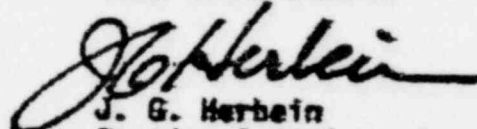
Analysis of station vent radiation effluent recorder charts and local air samples from the station vent, indicate that 60 curies of predominantly Xe-133 (86%) were released with a maximum instantaneous release rate of $1.26 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^3/\text{sec}$. The average release rate over the 3 hour and 37 minute duration of the release was $1.66 \times 10^4 \text{ m}^3/\text{sec}$.

No operating personnel were in the area during the release.

This incident may also have caused the release of radioactive materials in concentrations reportable under paragraph 20.403 (b)(2) of 10 CFR 20. This aspect of the incident will be addressed in our 10 day follow-up report.

An evaluation of the design adequacy of the nitrogen cover gas system and the reclaimed boric acid tank loop seal will be conducted in an effort to prevent recurrence of the above incident.

Very truly yours,


J. G. Herbein
Station Superintendent

JGH/bjk

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ORIGINAL