8005070341 TIC

April 1, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL CONCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-80-19

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by NRC staff on this date.

Facility: Metropolitan Edison Company
Three Mile Island, Unit 1
Middletown, Pennsylvania
Docket Number 50-289

Subject: SPENT RESIN TANK OVERFLOW

About 8:30 P.M., March 31, 1980, a health physics technician noted water leaking from the spent resin tank room in the auxiliary building basement. The leakage was reported to operations personnel, and the Control Room operator then stopped a water transfer operation from a demineralizer tank to the spent resin tank. Ten to fifteen gallons of radioactive water were estimated to have overflowed the spent resin tank, apparently due to improper determination of available tankage capacity. The standing water was flushed from the corridor floor. Some radioactive spent resin reportedly remained on the floor in the spent resin tank cubicle. The occurrence was considered an event of potential public interest by plant operating personnel and offsite notifications were made to state and local emergency preparedness agencies. NRC TMI Program Office site staff personnel are reviewing the licensee's response to the tank overflow, including event classification and notification.

Media interest is expected because offsite notifications were made by the licensee. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed. A press release is not planned by the licensee or the NRC.

The NRC TMI Program Office Staff was notified at 10:25 P.M., March 31, 1980, by the Unit 1 Shift Supervisor.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 11:00 A.M.

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