

December 10, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-79-07

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 IE staff on this date.

Facility: Metropolitan Edison Company
 Three Mile Island, Unit 2
 Middletown, Pennsylvania
 Docket Number 50-320

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
 POOR QUALITY PAGES

Subject: TRUCK TRANSPORTING LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA) RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL SLIPS OFF ICY ROAD

On December 9, 1979, a Tri-State Motor Transit Company tractor trailer truck transporting 10 wooden boxes containing low specific activity (LSA) radioactive material slipped off Interstate 90 near Missoula, Montana into a ditch. Telephone reports from the scene of the accident state that there was no damage to the tractor trailer or to the wooden boxes. The driver of the truck was taken to a hospital for a check-up even though he stated he had no injuries. The tractor trailer is presently being stored in a secured area in Missoula. Another tractor is now in Missoula, and after it is inspected, the shipment will proceed to its destination.

The tractor trailer was transporting the LSA radioactive material to the Nuclear Engineering Company's (NECO) Hanford, Washington burial facility. The wooden boxes, each approximately 4 ft. x 4 ft. x 8 ft., contained compacted trash from TMI with a total activity of approximately 130 millicuries.

The NRC onsite TMI staff received notification of the accident at approximately 1:00 p.m. on December 9, 1979.

A press release is not planned by the licensee or NRC. Media interest is expected because of continued high interest in TMI activities.

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