

April 22, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL CONCURRENCE--PNO-TMI-80-27

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 2  
Middletown, Pennsylvania  
Docket Number 50-320

Subject: TMI-2 AIRLOCK PURGE IN PREPARATION FOR REACTOR BUILDING ENTRY

The licensee plans to begin purging the Unit 2 personnel airlock at 8:00 a.m., on 4/23/80, in preparation for the first entry into the Unit 2 reactor building (RB). Based on previous airlock entries, it is estimated that less than 50 millicuries of krypton 85 will be released through the plant ventilation system during the airlock purge.

The first entry into the RB is scheduled for 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, April 24, 1980. The entry team will be comprised of two licensee employees who will enter the RB for 20 minutes to radiologically survey and photograph a limited portion of the RB. The data to be obtained during the entry is essential in assessing the course of future decontamination and cleanup efforts. The entry planning and preparations have received detailed review by the NRC staff. The entry team members are expected to receive a maximum total body exposure of 1 Rem. The two persons entering the RB will wear special heavy protective clothing to reduce the radiation dose to the skin and to minimize personnel contamination. They will also wear self contained breathing apparatus.

Entry will result in the release of 25 curies of radioactive krypton gas when the entry team leaves the RB and exits through the personnel airlock. Assuming poor meteorological conditions, the radioactive krypton release will result in a maximum radiation dose to an individual at the site boundary of 0.7 millirad skin dose and 0.008 millirem total body dose.

Media interest is expected. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified. A press release is planned by the licensee and NRC.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 3:30 p.m., 4/22/80.

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