

Paulus

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

April 21, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL CONCURRENCE--PNO TMI 80-25

This preliminary notification constitutes FARLY 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 & Unit 2  
Middletown, Pennsylvania  
Docket Number 50 289 & 50-320

Subject: DECOUPLED TRACTOR-TRAILER HAULING RADWASTE, MIDDLETOWN, PA, INTERSECTION

An NRC shift inspector was notified that a tractor trailer, after leaving the TMI site at 5:20 p.m., on 4/18/80, had decoupled when the driver attempted to pull away from an intersection on Grant Street (between Ann and Wilson) in Middletown, PA. The trailer carried a single container of radwaste (Chem Nuclear Cask Model 14-1951-CNSI). The container remained secured in it's position and there was no damage to equipment, no personnel injuries, and no lengthy disruption of traffic.

A Middletown police vehicle was escorting the shipment through Middletown and no local problems in controlling traffic or onlookers was reported. The trailer front end dropped about one foot and rested on the parking dolly. The driver manually jacked the parking mechanism, recoupled the tractor to the trailer, examined the equipment, and, before continuing, tested the coupling by attempting to pull away with the trailer brakes set. The driver subsequently stopped at a truck stop where mechanics, TMI personnel, State of Pennsylvania personnel, and a representative of Chem Nuclear Systems, Inc. examined the truck, tractor, and container. No contamination was identified and no mechanical defects were identified.

All individuals involved in the mishap were interviewed by TMI representatives and determined not to have received significant radiation exposures. No contamination was identified by surveys of the scene on Grant Street and at the truck stop.

Media interest is expected because off site notification of this data was made by the licensee. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was notified. A press release is planned by the licensee.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and the information is current as of 8:00 a.m., 4/21/80.

Contact: *Mr. Shuck* K. Plumlee 590-3950 *Mr. E. S.* A. N. Iudano 590-3950 *Mr. Collins* J. T. Collins 590-3955

Distribution: (Facsimile Transmission Times Noted)

- |                       |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| H St Bldg             | Commissioner Bradford | S. J. Chilk, SECY       |
| Chairman Ahearne      | Commissioner Hendric  | C. C. Kammerer, CA      |
| Commissioner Kennedy  | ACRS                  | (For Distribution)      |
| Commissioner Gilinsky |                       |                         |
| HNB Bldg              | P. Bldg               | IE:XOUS (IE:HQ Dist.)   |
| W. J. Dircks, EDO     | H. R. Denton, NRR     |                         |
| C. Nicholson, AFDO    | D. R. Muller, NRR     |                         |
| J. J. Touchard, PA    | R. J. Mattson, NRR    | Landow Bldg (Fax by HQ) |
| N. K. Baller, MPA     | D. Vassallo, NRR      | (6 min/page)            |
| R. G. Ryan, USP       | D. Eisenhut, NRR      | J. J. Cummings, OIA     |
| H. K. Shaper, FID     | R. H. Vollmer, NRR    |                         |
|                       | B. J. Snyder, NRR     |                         |