

5D-320 *Adm*

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

Subsidiary of General Public Utilities Corporation

Subject UNOFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Location Three Mile Island

To ALL PERSONNEL AT THREE MILE ISLAND

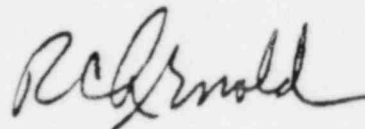
Date February 15, 1980

On Monday of this past week a leak in the makeup system for the Unit 2 Reactor Coolant System occurred. While this leak was a significant plant problem, control and isolation of the leak was handled very well by the plant personnel. At no time was the situation in danger of deterioration to where there was any threat to public health and safety. Unfortunately, that was not the initial perception of the situation on the part of the public.

The Company is fully dedicated to keeping public officials and the public informed of events of interest that occur here at Three Mile Island. Our ability to fulfill that obligation was seriously hampered by a number of unofficial calls that were made by employees on the Island to family, friends, or officials off the Island. These unofficial calls, by individuals who did not understand the situation, contributed greatly to the fears that were generated within the community. The Company believes that personnel who are considering making such phone calls ought to consider whether they are not doing a disservice to their family and friends, if they cause alarm when there is no need for such alarm.

We believe we have the procedures in place that will provide timely notification to appropriate officials and the public of events here at Three Mile Island, if the dissemination of information is not taken out of the hands of those responsible for it by a deluge of inquiries that prevent that process from working.

At the time of an emergency all personnel on the Island have a special responsibility for carrying out their assigned duties, and all of us need to have confidence those duties will be fulfilled. The best way of developing that confidence is through a disciplined, professional approach that does not include inappropriate, unofficial dissemination of information, especially when that information is incorrect or misleading. In times of emergency, as well as routine periods, you will all be held accountable for proper performance of your duties.



R. C. Arnold

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