

November 5, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-97-068

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region I staff (King of Prussia, Pennsylvania) on this date.

Facility:

Three Mile Island
GPU Nuclear Corporation
Post Office Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057-0480
Docket No.: 50-289
License No.: DPR-50

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

SUBJECT: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

On November 3, 1997, GPU Nuclear commenced a TMI Unit 1 shutdown in order to repair a small leak in a half inch makeup system flow transmitter line associated with reactor coolant pump (RCP) seal injection. The unit arrived at hot shutdown at 10:20 p.m. on November 3 and the leak (less than 0.3 gpm) was repaired and tested satisfactorily on November 4.

In addition to the makeup system leak, two RCPs had higher than normal oil leakage (less than 0.1 gpm) prior to the shutdown. The oil leaks were detected and repaired. A third RCP was inspected and engineers found low seal flow at the second stage pump seal. The unit will remain in hot standby until the RCP seal problem is corrected, which may result in the unit being shutdown greater than 72 hours.

The contents of this Preliminary Notification have been communicated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The resident inspectors are following onsite activities. This information is correct as of 11:00 a.m., November 5, 1997.

Contact: Wayne Schmidt (717) 948-1165

9711060281 971105
PDR I&E
PNO-I-97-068 PDR

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