

**NRC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL**  
(TEMPORARY FORM)

CONTROL NO: **12663**

FILE: INCIDENT REPORT FILE

FROM: Metropolitan Edison Co Reading, Pa R C Arnold		DATE OF DOC 10-31-75	DATE REC'D 11-4-75	LTR XX	TWX	RPT	OTHER
TO: DL		ORIG one signed	CC	OTHER	SENT AEC PDR <u>XX</u>		
					SENT LOCAL PDR <u>XX</u>		
CLASS	UNCLASS XXXXXXXX	PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D 1	DOCKET NO: 50-289		

**DESCRIPTION:**

Ltr reporting abnormal occurrence #75-38 on 10-21-75 concerning an inoperable boric acid mix tank.....

**ENCLOSURES:**

PLANT NAME: Three Mile Island #1

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION 11-6-75 ehf

BUTLER (L) W/ Copies	SCHWENCER (L) W/ Copies	ZIEMANN (L) W/ Copies	REGAN (E) W/ Copies
CLARK (L) W/ Copies	STOLZ (L) W/ Copies	DICKER (E) W/ Copies	LEAR (L) W/ Copies
PAP R (L) W/ Copies	VASSALLO (L) W/ Copies	KNIGHTON (E) W/ Copies	SPELS W/ Copies
KNIEL (L) W/ Copies	PURPLE (L) W/ Copies	YOUNGBLOOD (E) W/ Copies	

*Reid (3)*

**INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION**

<u>REG FILE</u> - NRC PDR OGC, ROOM P-506A GOSSICK/STAFF - CASE GIAMBUSO BOYD MOORE (L) DEYOUNG (L) SKOVHOLT (L) GOLLER (L) (Ltr) P. COLLINS DENISE REG OPR - FILE & REGION (2) - MFC/PE (3) STEELE	<u>TECH REVIEW</u> - SCHROEDER - MACCARY KNIGHT PAWLICKI SHAO ** STELLO ** HOUSTON ** NOVAK - ROSS - IPPOLITO - TEDESCO J. COLLINS LAINAS BENAROYA - VOLLMER	<u>DENTON</u> ** GRIMES - GAMMILL KASTNER BALLARD SPANGLER  <u>ENVIRO</u> MULLER DICKER KNIGHTON YOUNGBLOOD REGAN PROJECT LDR HARLESS	<u>LIC ASST</u> R. DIGGS (L) H. GEARIN (L) E. GOULBOURNE (L) P. KREUTZER (E) J. LEE (L) M. RUSHBROOK (L) S. REED (E) M. SERVICE (L) S. SHEPPARD (L) M. SLATER (E) H. SMITH (L) S. TEETS (L) G. WILLIAMS (E) V. WILSON (L) - R. INGRAM (L) M. DUNCAN (E)	<u>A/T IND.</u> BRAITMAN SALTZMAN MELTZ  <u>PLANS</u> MCDONALD CHAPMAN DUBE (L) E. COUPE PETERSON HARTFIELD (2) - KLECKER EISENHUT - WIGGINTON - F. WILLIAMS - HANAUER
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**EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION**

- 1 - LOCAL PDR <i>Harrisburg, Pa</i>	- 1 - NATIONAL LABS	1 - PDR-SAN/LA/NY
- 1 - TIC (ABERNATHY) (1)(2)(10)	1 - W. PENNINGTON, Rm E-201 GT	1 - BROOKHAVEN NAT LAB
- 1 - NSIC (BUCHANAN)	1 - CONSULTANTS	1 - G. ULRIKSON, ORNL
1 - ASLB	NEWMARK/BLUME/AGBABIAN	1 - AGMED (RUTH GUSSMAN) Rm B-127 GT
1 - Newton Anderson		1 - J. D. RUNKLES, Rm E-201 GT
- 5 - ACRS SENT TO LIC ASST <i>Ingram</i>		
** SEND ONLY TEN DAY REPORTS		

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*7910240 913*



METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 542 READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19603

TELEPHONE 215 - 929-3601

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

October 31, 1975  
GQL 1664

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Docket No. 50-289  
Operating License No. DPR-50

In accordance with the Technical Specifications of our Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 1 (TMI-1), we are reporting the following abnormal occurrence.

- (1) Report Number: AO 50-289/75-37
- (2a) Report Date: October 31, 1975
- (2b) Occurrence Date: October 21, 1975
- (3) Facility: Three Mile Island Nuclear Station Unit 1
- (4) Identification of Occurrence:

Title: Inoperable Boric Acid Mix Tank

Type: An abnormal occurrence as defined by the Technical Specifications, paragraph 1.8b, in that a source of concentrated boric acid solution in addition to the Borated Water Storage Tank was not operable, which constitutes a violation of Technical Specification 3.2.2.

- (5) Conditions Prior to Occurrence:

Power: Core: 81%

Elec.: 692 MWe

RC Flow:  $138 \times 10^6$  lb/hr.

RC Pressure: 2155 psig

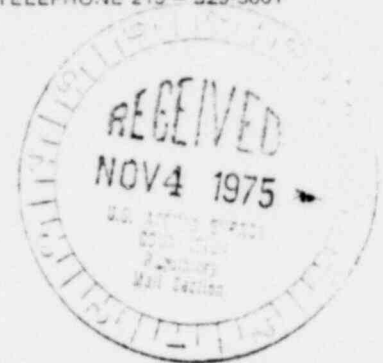
RC Temp.: 579°F

PRZR Level: 240"

PRZR Temp.: 655°F



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(6) Description of Occurrence:

On October 21, while filling a Reclaimed Boric Acid Storage Tank (REAST) from the Boric Acid Mix Tank (BAMT), it was observed that the flow rate from the BAMT was decreasing. Investigation showed that the strainer on the outlet of the BAMT collected sufficient fines to partially obstruct the flow of boric acid. At that moment, the BAMT was the source of concentrated boric acid solution designated to meet Technical Specification 3.2.2. The BAMT was then isolated for strainer replacement.

Immediately, a normal plant shutdown was initiated and the obstructed strainer was removed and replaced with a new strainer. The operation was completed in approximately seventeen (17) minutes after which power reduction was terminated and the plant restored to the previous power level.

(7) Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

The cause of this occurrence has been determined to be design/procedure in that only one strainer, with no bypass, is provided on the outlet of the Boric Acid Mix Tank. Also, it is considered that the guidelines for the periodic replacement of the strainer were not adequate.

(8) Analysis of Occurrence:

It has been determined that this occurrence did not constitute a threat to the health and safety of the public in that the remaining reactivity control systems were available and could have been used to shutdown the reactor by more than the required minimum shutdown margin of 1%  $\Delta K/K$ .

(9) Corrective Action:

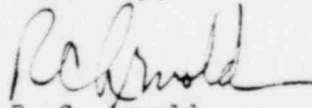
In addition to the immediate action described above, long term corrective actions are as follows:

- a. The priority of the proposed modification of the BAMT outlet line strainer to a dual strainer arrangement will be increased. This change will permit in-service replacement of the strainer.
- b. A weekly strainer surveillance will be initiated in the interim until the dual strainer arrangement is installed.

(10) Failure Data: Not Applicable.

Similar Occurrences: AO #75-35

Sincerely,



R. C. Arnold  
Vice President

RCA:JMC:tas

cc: Office of Inspection & Enforcement, Region 1

File: 20.1.1 / 7.7.3.5.1

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