

50-289
METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY SUBSIDIARY OF GENERAL PUBLIC UTILITIES CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 480 MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17057

TELEPHONE 717-944-4041

September 28, 1975

NON-ROUTINE 10 DAY REPORT 75-06

Mr. J. P. O'Reilly
Directorate of Regulatory Operations
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pa., 19406

Operating License DPR-50
Docket 50-289

Subject: Unplanned Release of Radioactive Material at Three Mile
Island through the Plant Vent from the Auxiliary Building

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

This telegram is to confirm the conversation between Mr. Bert Davis
(Region I-NRC), and J. J. Colitz, TMI Unit 1 Superintendent, at 1130
on September 20, 1975.

On 27 September between 1523 and 1600 an inadvertent release of radio-
active material occurred over a period of approximately 37 minutes.

The inadvertent radioactive material release occurred due to the lifting
of DH-V57A relief valve which was caused by leakage through check valve
DH-V14A while in the decay heat removal operating mode.

Analysis of the radiation effluent monitor (RM-A8) recorder charts
and local Auxiliary Building samples indicated the radioactive material
released was predominately ^{133}Xe (100%), and that the instantaneous
noble gas release rate was $1.88 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^3/\text{Sec.}$ which is below the technical
specification limit of $1.2 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^3/\text{Sec.}$ The average release rate over the
37 minute period of this release was $1.19 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^3/\text{Sec.}$ with a total release
of noble gas of .792 curies.

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