

50320-8501216
December 16, 1985

NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE-PNO-TMI-85-11

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 NRC staff on this date.

Facility: GPU Nuclear Corporation
Three Mile Island, Unit 2
Docket Number 50-320

Licensee Emergency Classification:
X Not Applicable

Subject: DEFUELING CANISTER LOAD DROP EVENT

About 7:25 PM on December 14, 1985 a load drop event occurred when a defueling canister and support sleeve fell into the reactor vessel. The licensee had been loading fuel assembly end fittings into a defueling canister when an end fitting became stuck in the canister. During attempts to reposition the stuck end fitting, with the one ton jib crane, the defueling canister and support sleeve were dislodged from the canister positioning system (CPS) and dropped. The canister and sleeve fell approximately 1½ feet onto the top of the debris bed in the reactor vessel.

The canister and sleeve were successfully retrieved and restored to the original configuration in the CPS using the reactor building service crane December 15, 1985. An NRC site representative witnessed the retrieval and recovery operations.

During the recovery operations it was determined that the dropped load weight was 2200 pounds. The jib crane is rated at 2000 pounds. The affected jib crane has been taken out of service pending licensee evaluations to determine effects of the load lift.

There were no personnel injuries or increases in radiation levels and airborne activity during the event and subsequent retrieval and recovery.

Media interest may occur because of public sensitivity to TMI related events. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been informed.

The NRC was notified of the event at 7:30 AM on December 15, 1985. This information is current at 10:30 AM, December 16, 1985.

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