

March 11, 2011

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-11-001**

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 the Region IV staff on this date.

**Facility**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2  
Avila Beach, CA.  
Docket: 50-275, 50-323  
License: DPR-80, DPR-82

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

**SUBJECT:** DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT

**DESCRIPTION:**

The agency entered Monitoring Mode at 9:46 a.m. EST, on March 11, 2011, in response to a tsunami warning at Diablo Canyon Power Plant, located near San Luis Obispo, California, as a result of the magnitude 8.9 earthquake in Japan. Diablo Canyon declared a Notification of Unusual Event at 4:23 a.m. EST, based on receipt of a tsunami warning from West California Emergency Management. Diablo Canyon anticipates a wave surge of approximately 3 feet at the intake structure. Diablo Canyon is designed to withstand tsunamis to a wave height of 35 feet. The licensee intends to keep both units at full power through the event. The NRC resident inspectors are on site and monitoring plant conditions and licensee actions from the control room.

The effects of the tsunami at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station are expected to be less severe than at Diablo Canyon. San Onofre is under a tsunami advisory and has not reached any emergency action levels. Both units continue to operate.

The NRC is contacting Program Directors for states impacted by the tsunami. There are no known tsunami impacts to nuclear materials licensees in the affected states or U.S. territories. The NRC is also monitoring the Humboldt Bay spent fuel storage facility. The agency will continue to monitor the situation.

The State of California has been informed. This information has been discussed with licensee management and is current as of 12:19 p.m. EST.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only, and will be updated as more information becomes available.

**ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML110700503**

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