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SUBJECT: PNO-IV-95-013: on 950309, central coastal area experienced mud slides & flooding. Caused by severe storm sys w/ heavy winds & rain. Licensee released all nonessential employees to leave site. State of CA notified.

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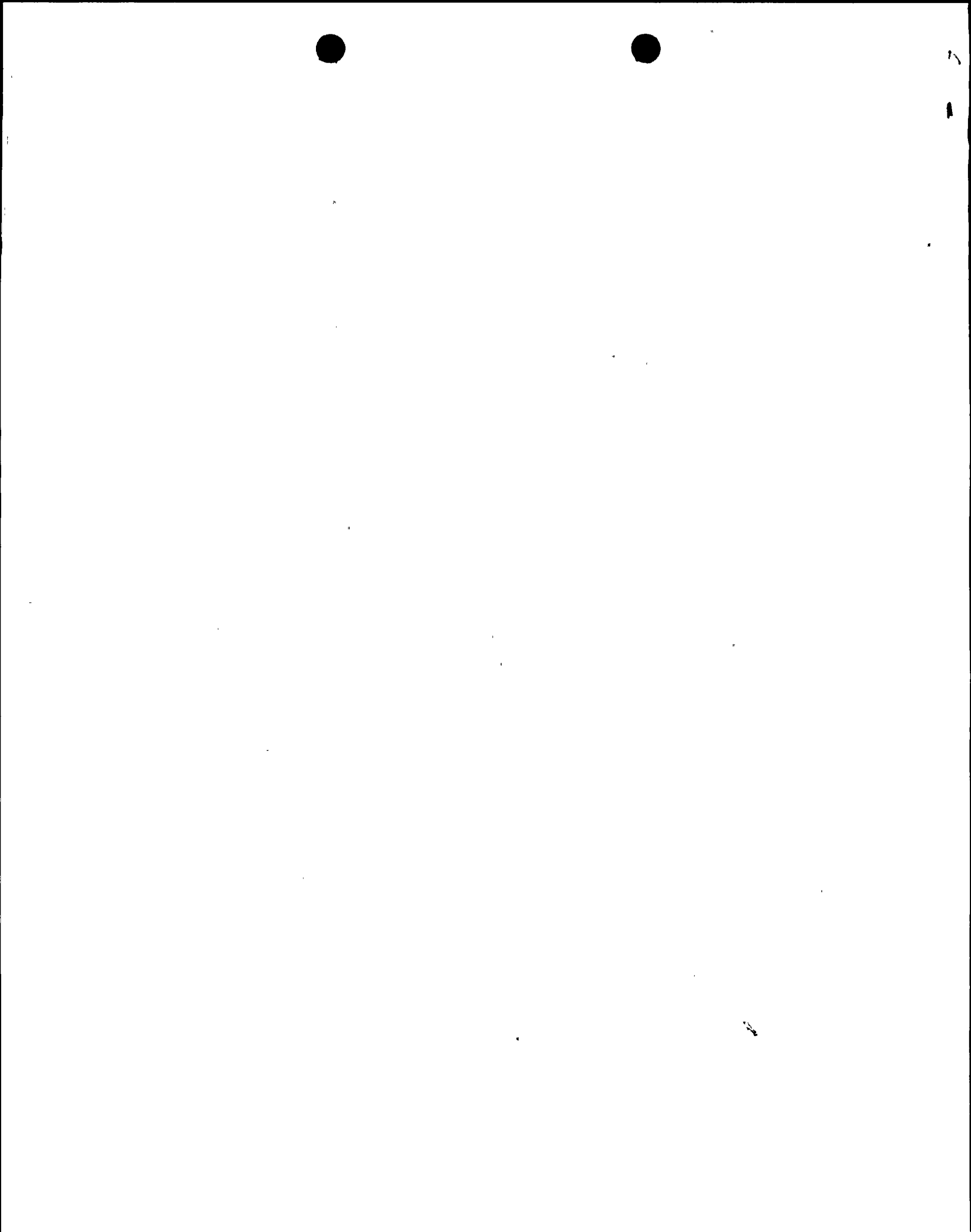
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March 13, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-95-013

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 IV staff in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.
Diablo Canyon 1 2
Avila Beach, California
Dockets: 50-275, 50-323

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: RESTRICTED ACCESS BECAUSE OF SEVERE WEATHER

On March 9, 1995, a severe storm system with heavy winds and rain caused mud slides and flooding throughout the Central California coastal area. On March 10, at 2 p.m. (PST), the licensee released all nonessential employees to leave the site. From 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. (PST), several mud slides and flooding conditions occurred, blocking access to the site on several roads. Efforts to clear roads continued, but were unable to keep up with continuing mud slides. At 6:50 p.m. (PST), a Notice of Unusual Event (NOUE) was declared at licensee management discretion due to the inability to travel to and from the Diablo Canyon site. This condition was caused by closure of all roads leading to the plant due to mud slides and flooding. The storm continued through the evening, with 8.5 inches of rain in a 24-hour period, high winds and heavy seas.

The decision to declare a NOUE was made based on licensee management's assessment of the loss of offsite emergency response capabilities (10 CFR 50.72(b)(1)(v)), and inability to relieve operations and security shift personnel (10 CFR 50.72(b)(1)(iii)). Additionally, 42 of the 131 emergency sirens were inoperable due to the severe weather and local power outage conditions.

Two sources of offsite 230 kV power were threatened by flooding in an underground portion of the common Morro Bay switching center. PG&E received water removal assistance from local fire agencies and the Coast Guard. Three other sources of offsite power (delayed 500 kV backfeed) were unaffected. At no time were any of the sources of offsite power lost. The notification by the licensee detailed these reports.

Operators at Diablo Canyon work twelve hour shifts, with turnover at 7 a.m. (PST) and 7 p.m. (PST). At the time the event was declared there were 4 SROs, 5 ROs and 11 nonlicensed nuclear operators on site. The licensee reduced crew manning for operations watchstanders to the minimum Technical Specification Control Room manning requirements in order to minimize operator fatigue until a relief crew would be available. Security crew manning was reduced in a similar manner.

The licensee management onsite throughout the event included the Plant Manager, the Manager of Operations Services, the Manager of Engineering Services, the Manager of Maintenance Services, the Manager of Outage Services, the Manager of

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Nuclear Quality and several directors. In addition to the operation and security shift personnel, approximately 125 licensee staff members remained on site. Both NRC resident inspectors were onsite for the duration of the event.

The licensee verified that greater than a three day supply of consumables (such as diesel fuel, steam generator chemicals, and condensate polisher chemicals) were available on site.

At 7:30 p.m. (PST) on March 10, as a result of high seas and high winds, condenser differential pressures on Unit 1 were steadily increasing. The licensee curtailed Unit 1 to 50 percent power as a precautionary measure. Since Unit 2 differential pressures remained stable, licensee management maintained Unit 2 at 100 percent power.

At daylight, around 6:30 a.m. (PST), onsite personnel assessed storm damage to the site and access roads. Minor mud slides and water damage were identified onsite. Several mud slides and hazardous driving conditions due to debris were identified. No major damage was identified.

After road clearing operations provided a route into the site, operations and security crews were relieved on March 11 at 8:30 a.m. (PST). Later that morning the remaining staff were allowed to leave the site. However, licensee management continued to provide 24-hour coverage onsite to facilitate damage repairs and preparations for potential of storms in the near future.

The storm damaged several radio repeaters and telecommunications installations. Telephone communications remained available. As many as 62 of 131 emergency sirens were inoperable during the event. Plant pagers remained functional throughout the event. Telecommunications and radio equipment were repaired, and all but 15 sirens were fixed by March 11, at 11 a.m. (PST). An assessment of offsite power and transmission lines found no major damage. Damage to public roads and communications is being repaired throughout the county by local government and utility services.

Emergency Planning: The EOF has been manned continuously by the licensee and San Luis Obispo County since 2 a.m. (PST) on March 10 due to storms and flooding. The licensee and county officials, in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), assessed emergency evacuation route status throughout the event, and provided a continuing assessment that an evacuation of the public could have been performed if required by a plant event.

The licensee exited the NOUE on March 11, at 1 p.m. (PST), based on resolution of the concerns causing entry into the NOUE. At 3 p.m. (PST), Unit 1 returned to 100 percent power. On March 12, at Noon (PST), licensee management terminated 24 hour onsite management coverage due to continued good weather and successful repair of storm damage on site.

The licensee notified the California State Office of Emergency Services and the media.



NRC Action: NRC resident inspectors initiated shift rotation and maintained 24 hour coverage throughout the event. The inspectors observed operations and security watchstanders, PSRC activities, Emergency Planning Activities, damage assessment and licensee management oversight activities throughout the event. Region IV continually assessed conditions through briefings and contacts with the resident inspectors on the evening of March 10 and throughout the duration of the NOUE. Briefings on the evening of March 10 also included the headquarters Emergency Officer.

The state of California has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence initially from the Resident Inspector at about 9 p.m. (EST).

Region IV has informed EDO, NRR and PAO.

This information herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 8 a.m. (CST), March 13, 1995.

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