

Faulstich

CF

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: October 17, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-1-79-09

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

Facility: Public Services Electric and Gas Co.
Salem Unit 1
Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey
(Docket No. 50-272)

Subject: COLLAPSE OF WASTE HOLDUP TANK

At approximately 3:10 p.m. on October 17, 1979, the #11 liquid waste holdup tank was collapsed. The 65,000 gal tank was 82% full. During the pump-down process a vent valve was apparently inadvertently left closed, resulting in the collapse at the top. No liquid releases were reported from the tank. Airborne measurements indicated no increases in activity. The 64 foot elevation of the Aux Building was evacuated as a precautionary measure. No personnel contamination or exposures were reported. Two NRC inspectors were onsite and are following the licensee's evaluations and actions.

Media interest is expected because of sensitivity of nuclear plant items. The State of New Jersey has been informed. A press release is not planned by the licensee or NRC at this time.

NRC, Region I, (Philadelphia) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from an NRC inspector on site at 3:40 p.m.

Contact: R. J. Bores 488-1210 J. P. Stohr 488-1260

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