July 6, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-222

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: Salem, Unit 1 (DN 50-272)

Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey

INCREASE IN FISH IMPINGEMENT SUBJECT:

Impingement rates for young of-the year weakfish (cynoscion relagis) increased from less than 5-6 per minute during June, 1979, to a maximum observed level of 172 per minute @ 1245 hrs on July 4, 1979. The impingement rates appear to be highest on Ebb tides. Salem 1 is down for refueling and only a single circulation water pump is in operation. Approximately 60% of the weakfish are returned alive to the Delaware River. During this season of 1978, peak impingement rates in excess of 1,000 fish per minute were observed.

Media interest is expected because of interest in events surrounding the nuclear industry. The State of New Jersey has been informed. A press release is planned by the licensee.

Commissioner Bradford

NRC, Region I (Philadelphia received notification by telephone call to the licensee at 1400 hours, on July 6, 1979.

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

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