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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Date: March 7, 1980

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-80-37

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: Jersey Central Power and Light Company
Oyster Creek, Unit 1, DN 50-219
Forked River, New Jersey

Subject: FIRE SYSTEM OUT OF SERVICE

Region I was notified by the licensee that required maintenance on the fire system due to a cracked and leaking valve body on the system supply header would require isolation of the fire system. Maintenance is scheduled to take place on Sunday, March 9, 1980. The licensee is taking precautions to insure that both Core Spray systems remain operable and that an adequate supply of water is available. The fire protection system will be supplied by a fire truck (pumper) connected to No. 2 fire hydrant. Fire Protection Technical Specifications allow the fire system to be out of service for 48 hours before a substitute system is required. The system is expected to be out of service for approximately 8 to 10 hours. Fire watches will be assigned per T.S. and the Mode Selector Switch will be locked in the shutdown position. In addition, no work will be performed that could inadvertently lower reactor water level below 4' 0" above the top of the core.

The maintenance is being planned to prevent the unexpected loss of the fire protection system.

Media interest is expected due to close coverage of the facility. The licensee will report this item to the news media during their weekly news release. The NRC is not planning a news release. The State of New Jersey has been informed.

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Region I Form 83a
(Rov. January 1980)

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