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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-V -81-38

Date: July 2, 1981 This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initial precived without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by the state on this date.

FACILITY: Sacramento Municipal Utility District Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant Sacramento, California Docket No. 50-312

SUBJECT: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IDENTIFIED IN ALGAE SAMPLE

A representative of the California State Radiological Health Services informed Region V by telephone at 12:30 p.m. on July 2, 1981, that an universitied concerned citizen had supplied the state with an algae sample allegedly collected at the Rancho Seco site boundary. The analysis performed by the state identified nuclides similar to those released from the site during recovery from the recent steam generator tube failure occurrence (May 16, 1981). The sample was analyzed wet and not in accordance with normal state laboratory procedures. Initial results indicate activities to be less than the most restrictive 10 CFR 20 Appendix B Table II Column 2 values. The state plans to collect samples at the plant today.

Region V has received telephone inquiries from local (Sacramento) media concerning the plant liquid effluents. The state reported media interest in the state's activities in connection with Rancho Seco.

Region V was notified by a telephone call from a state representative at 12:30 p.m. (PDT) on July 2, 1981. Information current as of that time.

This preliminary notification is issued for information due to the evident media interest. Neither the state nor Region V plans to issue a press release.

CONTACT: H.S. North, 463-3762; H.E. Book, 463-3755

Distribution: Chairman Hendrie Commissioner Gilinsky Transmitted H St. <u>3:08</u> Commissioner Ahearne Commissioner Bradford ACRS

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORS

IE:TAS: 3:09 (IE:HQ Dist.)

MAIL: R. G. Smith, SD *S. Ebbin IE:TAS Document Mgt. Br. (For PDR/LPDR)

REGIONAL OFFICES: III III WILLSTE BLDG: 3.06 FOR POWER REACTORS ONLY: J. G. Davis, NMSS NSAC Jomm. No. (415) 856-6621 - 1 R. B. Minogue, RES INPO Comm. No. (404) 952-6728 - 100

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