

October 1, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-90-36

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 the Region IV staff on this date.

FACILITY: Houston Lighting & Power Company
South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2
Docket: 50-498; 50-499

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: EXPLOSION ON SITE RESULTING IN PERSONNEL INJURY REQUIRING HOSPITALIZATION

At 12:21 p.m. on October 1, 1990, the licensee declared a notice of unusual event (NOUE) because of an explosion on site resulting in personnel injury requiring hospitalization. An explosion and fire were reported to the Unit 1 control room at 12:08 p.m. The fire was extinguished at 12:28 p.m. The fire involved a diesel/gasoline fuel tank truck which was located in a concrete mixing facility within the owner-controlled area, outside the protected area. The driver of the truck was on top of the tank truck at the time of the fire and was reported to have been burned over 100 percent of his body. The licensee believes that diesel fuel was being transferred to a storage tank located in the concrete facility. Two individuals that assisted the burn victim were saturated with diesel fuel but were not burned. An onsite doctor was with the burn victim to stabilize the individual prior to transporting him. The NOUE was terminated at 1:43 p.m. when the individual reached the Matagorda hospital.

The explosion and fire did not affect either unit or cause any electrical perturbations. Both units are presently shut down.

The licensee will not issue a press release.

The state of Texas will be informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 12:35 p.m. Region IV has informed the EDO, NRR, and PA.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: W. B. Jones 728-8137

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PDR I&E
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(5520: 10/1/90 @ 3:34 pm
 Regions & HQ)