

August 12, 1988

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-88-66

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 Co.
South Texas Project
DN: 50-498

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

SUBJECT: TRUCK ACCIDENT CARRYING NEW FUEL ASSEMBLIES

At 3:25 p.m., Region IV was notified by the Louisiana Nuclear Energy Division (LNED) of a truck accident on Interstate 10, approximately 30 miles west of Baton Rouge (time of accident estimated between 2-3:00 p.m.), westbound on the Atchafalaya Bay bridge, during a heavy rain storm. The truck was carrying eight new fuel assemblies to the South Texas nuclear plant located in Bay City, Texas. Two inspectors from the LNED office were dispatched to the scene with radiological monitoring instruments. Regional assistance was offered; however, LNED did not require any assistance. One driver was injured and has been hospitalized. The truck cab was damaged, but there was no readily apparent damage to the trailer. The shipment had originated in South Carolina at the Westinghouse plant. A preliminary examination by Westinghouse personnel indicated that the shipping packages were undamaged. The packages are being returned to South Carolina, where they will be opened and examined in detail Monday.

Louisiana media have covered the accident in news reports. Region IV has received no media inquiries, but is prepared to respond.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by the state of Louisiana at 3:25 p.m. Region IV has informed EDO, NRR, OGC, PA. Region IV has kept Region II informed. The Commissioner Assistants were briefed in the early evening of August 11.

CONTACT: Charles Hackney, 728-8267.

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5520: 8/12/88 @ 9:20 am.
REGIONS & HQ

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