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per call 5:10p
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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-86-67 Date: October 1, 1986

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 Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
DIABLO CANYON UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 50-275
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CA

Emergency Classification
___ Notification of Unusual Event
___ Alert
___ Site Area Emergency
___ General Emergency
X Not Applicable

SUBJECT: TILTED FUEL ASSEMBLY IN VESSEL DURING REFUELING

On October 1, 1986, at approximately 10:00AM (PDT), the licensee's day-shift refueling crew became aware that a fuel assembly in the vessel had tilted approximately 10° from the vertical and was resting askew against the core baffle plate. There was no noticeable increase in radiation background level, which indicates no penetration of the fuel cladding.

The licensee is attempting to determine the cause for the tilting. Currently, nine fuel assemblies have been off-loaded from the core to the spent fuel pool. Preliminary information indicates that the tilting occurred during a four-hour layover period between shifts when no fuel movement was in progress.

The licensee is presently preparing a program and fabricating special tools for returning the fuel assembly to the vertical position in preparation for removing it from the core. The licensee is conferring with the NSSS supplier (Westinghouse) in organizing this program. The licensee has a procedure from Beaver Valley for recovery from a similar event that occurred in April, 1982.

NRR and IE have been apprised of the situation. The resident inspectors are following the licensee's activities.

The licensee and Region V will respond to media inquiry.

THIS INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF 5:00PM PDT.

CONTACT: M. Mendonca, RV P. Narbut, Resident Inspector
FTS 463-3720 (805) 595-2354

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REGION V: FORM 211
(Revised 3/14/83)

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PNO-V-86-067 PDR

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