

PDR advance copy for J. Rath

December 1, 1978

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-78-201

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of event 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: South Texas Project, Units 1 & 2
Houston Lighting and Power Company
DN 50-498; 50-499

Subject: CONTACT BY SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS ALLEGING IRREGULARITIES IN QUALITY CONTROL PRACTICE AT STP

RIV received a telephone call at approximately 9:30 a.m. on December 1, 1978, from Jesse Clement, a reporter for the San Antonio Express News.

Mr. Clement was interested in the allegations which had been made regarding nonconforming construction practices and insufficient quality control programs at the South Texas site (Bay City).

He said that he had been contacted by an individual from the Bay City plant (STP) who claimed had been fired for trying to do his job. He stated that the individual said that several of the site QC inspectors had been fired on "trumped up" charges. The individual named three people and said he knew of two others (for a total of six) who had been terminated in the same manner. The reporter stated that the individual knew the six had filed legal depositions that they had been fired because they were harassing construction by finding "nit picking" nonconformances and slowing the progress of construction work.

Clements was informed that RIV conducted several investigations at STP in regard to similar allegations of irregularities in the Civil QA program at STP and one concerned an individual who claimed to have been unjustly terminated. The reports of these investigations were referenced and he was informed that they were filed in the LPDR in the Matagorda County Court House in Bay City, Texas

Clements further stated that the individuals, through a lawyer representing an anti nuclear group, were seeking an injunction to shut-down construction activities at the STP site.

He also stated that the lawyer has contacted Congressmen of a Subcommittee (unknown) to investigate activities at the site.

Media interest is unknown at this time. A press release is not planned.

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