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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-85-60 Date: Sept. 19, 1985

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:

Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event  
☐ Alert  
☐ Site Area Emergency  
☐ General Emergency  
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: PACIFIC COAST TSUNAMI WATCH

At 7:48 a.m. on September 19, 1985 the NRC Operations Officer notified Region V of a 6:18 a.m., PDT, earthquake at a location of 150 miles NW of Acapulco, Mexico. The earthquake had a Richter magnitude of 7.8. The NOAA Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Honolulu, Hawaii issued a tsunami watch bulletin. The area of interest to the NRC was the coast of California, North to Eureka. State of California OES estimated tsunami arrival times at La Jolla, San Francisco and Crescent City are 10:56 a.m., 11:27 a.m. and 7:27 p.m. (all PDT) respectively. Region V has contacted the Earthquake Center, Golden, Colorado as well as the Pacific Tsunami Center. The tsunami watch was terminated at 9:26 a.m., PDT.

Region V contacted the Diablo Canyon and San Onofre sites. Both sites were taking appropriate actions. Diablo Canyon declared an Unusual Event based on information they received from the NRC Operations Center regarding the possible tsunami and their event classification procedure.

Some media coverage on the earthquake and tsunami watch is expected.

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SECY		Regions: RI-1:52, RII-1:53, RIII-2:02, RIV-2:03				
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		2:17				

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