

Semi truck blocks roadway on State Route 36

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The California Highway Patrol reported at around noon Friday the driver of a 110-foot semi truck allegedly drove partially off State Route 36, blocking the entire roadway.

The accident occurred near mile post marker 36.8 east of Triumph Life Camp and west of Dinsmore. It is estimated that the road will be closed until today at noon, said the CHP. A crane has been requested to unload the trailer and remove the blockage. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes so that the truck and trailer can be removed as quickly as possible.

It was initially reported the trailer was carrying nuclear material, the CHP release states. However, the truck was found to be carrying a new storage cask, not hazardous material, CHP stated in the release.

The truck was bound for the Humboldt Bay Power Plant in King Salmon from New Jersey, said Pacific Gas and Electric Co. spokeswoman Jana Morris. It was carrying a newly manufactured dry storage cask, she said.

Spent nuclear fuel rods will be put into the cask at the power plant as part of the ongoing project to move the fuel from the pool there into more secure containment.

CHP Public Information Officer Paul Dahlen said the rig was well over the maximum 65 feet allowed on the roadway.