

May 25, 2000

Mr. Harold B. Ray  
Executive Vice President  
Southern California Edison Company  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P.O. Box 128  
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

SUBJECT: SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 2, AND 3 -  
COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02,  
"LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL" -  
(TAC NOS. MA5841 AND MA5842)

Dear Mr. Ray:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses to this generic letter relating to implementation of the requested actions.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989.
- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989.
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989.
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989.

In response to GL 99-02, you provided a letter dated September 29, 1999, for SONGS Units 2 and 3. This submittal indicated that yours are Group 1 plants. The staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that all requested information has been provided; therefore, we consider GL 99-02 to be closed for your facilities. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please write or call me at 301-415-1471.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

L. Raghavan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362

cc: See next page

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L. Raghavan, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
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San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3

cc:

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Mr. Robert A. Laurie, Commissioner  
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February 15, 2000