

June 12, 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 -REQUEST
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: REACTOR VESSEL MINIMUM BOLTUP
TEMPERATURE (TAC NOS. MA8882 AND MA8883)

Dear Mr. Ray:

By letter dated May 3, 2000 (PCN-516), you proposed changes to the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Units 2 and 3 Technical Specifications relating to the reactor coolant system pressure temperature limits. You proposed to reduce the minimum boltup temperature for the reactor pressure vessel from 86 °F to 65 °F during the period of time when the reactor vessel head bolts are in tension. Our review of your application is in progress. To complete our review effort, we request the following additional information:

Attachment I, Calculation M-DSC-373, reported that the safety margin for the flange-to-shell joint is 1.51. This is based on a postulated surface flaw depth of 1/10 the wall thickness (T), consistent with that used in a report by ABB Combustion Engineering (CE), Calculation No. RS-706, "Appendix G Evaluation," dated August 13, 1981. Please confirm that the CE report using the 1/10T flaw has been approved by NRC. Further, the reported safety margin of 1.51 is less than the safety factor of 2 specified in Appendix G. Please provide justification. Please be advised that if plane strain fracture toughness (K_{Ic}) has to be used in demonstrating the structural integrity of the closure flange region, then a request for exemption from the Appendix G analysis has to be submitted.

This request was discussed with Mr. Jack Rainsberry of your staff on June 8, 2000. A mutually agreeable target date of June 23, 2000, for your response was established. If circumstances result in the need to revise the target date, please call me at the earliest opportunity.

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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San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3

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