

September 13, 2000

Mr. Gregory M. Rueger
Senior Vice President, Generation and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant
P. O. Box 3
Avila Beach, CA 93424

SUBJECT: DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, UNIT 1 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION REGARDING THE REACTOR CORE THERMAL POWER
UPRATE (TAC NO. MA7813)

Dear Mr. Rueger:

In a letter dated December 31, 1999, as supplemented by letters dated January 18 and July 7, 2000, Pacific Gas and Electric Company submitted a request for approval of Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Unit 1 reactor core thermal power uprate to 3411 megawatts thermal. The NRC staff has reviewed the submittals and identified the need for additional information in order to complete the staff's review. The enclosed request for additional information describes the specific information needed by the NRC staff.

This request was discussed with Mr. Tom Grozan of your staff on August 31, 2000. A mutually agreeable target date of October 1, 2000, for your response was established. If circumstances result in the need to revise the target date, please call me at the earliest opportunity. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1313.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Steven D. Bloom, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-275

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

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Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CONCERNING TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES FOR
REACTOR CORE THERMAL POWER UPRATE
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 50-275

1. In the July 24, 1998, letter (PG&E Letter DCL-98-101) regarding ECCS model changes, an input error was identified in the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Unit 1 (DCPP) best estimate (BE) large break loss-of-coolant accident (LBLOCA) analysis. The error was said to be an intercell force gap numbering error and a peak cladding temperature (PCT) penalty of 67°F was assessed. In the April 5, 2000, letter (PG&E Letter DCL-00-051), PG&E cited the new Westinghouse PCT monitoring process of tracking PCTs for two reflood periods during a LBLOCA, and provided a reassessment of the PCT penalties of 33°F for reflood period 1 and 67°F for reflood period 2 for the intercell gap numbering error.
 - a. Describe the intercell gap numbering error in detail, including the number of gaps and the largest gap number in the analysis input, the parts of the reactor vessel model affected, and the calculations of the WCOBRA/TRAC code affected by the input error.
 - b. Describe how the PCT penalties of 33°F and 67°F for reflood period 1 and 2, respectively, were assessed. Provide an assessment of the bounding effects on the PCT of the BE LBLOCA analysis result.
2. In the April 5, 2000, letter, PG&E identified a generic coding error, "Vessel Channel DX Error," in that incorrect cell height is used in calculating gap flow wall friction and interfacial drag coefficients at various gap levels. PG&E stated that the vessel channel DX error was a minor benefit for reflood period 1 and a large benefit for reflood period 2.
 - a. Describe the vessel channel DX error in detail, including the regions in the reactor vessel model and the calculations affected by the error.
 - b. Explain why the error is a benefit in the LBLOCA analysis, and how its impacts of 0°F and -67°F, respectively, to the PCTs of reflood periods 1 and 2 were determined.
3. Provide assessments of the overall bounding effects of the two errors (intercell gap numbering error and the vessel channel DX error) on the BE LBLOCA analysis results of PCT, maximum cladding oxidation, and hydrogen generation. Provide the bases of the assessments.