UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 28, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Susan M. Frant, Deputy Director
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

FROM: Timothy J. Kobetz, Project Manager
Licensing Section
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 22, 2001, PUBLIC MEETING IN SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, TO DISCUSS THE SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

On February 22, 2001, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation conducted a public meeting in San Clemente, California, to discuss the NRC's regulatory oversight of a proposed independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). Southern California Edison (SCE) plans to construct and operate an ISFSI at SONGS using a general license in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 72, "Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Waste." The meeting was noticed on November 30, 2000.

The meeting was held at the request of the Mayor of San Clemente who also moderated the meeting which commenced at 7:00 P.M. with an open house where representatives from NRC, and the licensee had displays and were available for questions. The open house was followed by formal presentations by SCE and NRC which commenced at 8:00 P.M. The meeting was attended by about 70 members of the public, with approximately 23 people providing questions or statements at the conclusion of the presentations. Positive feedback was received from the public, the licensee and local officials regarding the meeting format and facilitation and was adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

The SCE presentation focused on construction of the ISFSI at SONGS. The NRC presentation described the legislation, history and current status of ISFSIs in the United States; the 10 CFR Part 72 general licensing process under which SONGS is planning to implement dry cask storage; the NRC staff's safety review of the Advanced NUHOMS dry cask storage system to be used at the SONGS ISFSI; and the NRC inspection program conducted for dry cask storage activities. The NRC staff responded to numerous comments and questions from the audience, and provided a handout (Attachment 1) on NRC resources for information, including the NRC website and the NRC Public Document Room. The staff strongly encouraged the meeting attendees to complete and return the NRC public meeting feedback forms. Copies of the slides

presented by the NRC and SCE staffs are included as Attachments 2 and 3 respectively. The meeting was transcribed as documented in Attachment 4.

Docket Nos. 50-206, 361, and 362; 72-1029

Attachments: 1. NRC Handout
2. NRC Slides
3. SCE Slides

cc: Service List

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OFC:	SFPO	E	SFPO	C	SFPO	N				
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DATE:	03/28/01		03/28/01		03/28/01					

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The Honorable Lois Capps
Member, United States
House of Representatives
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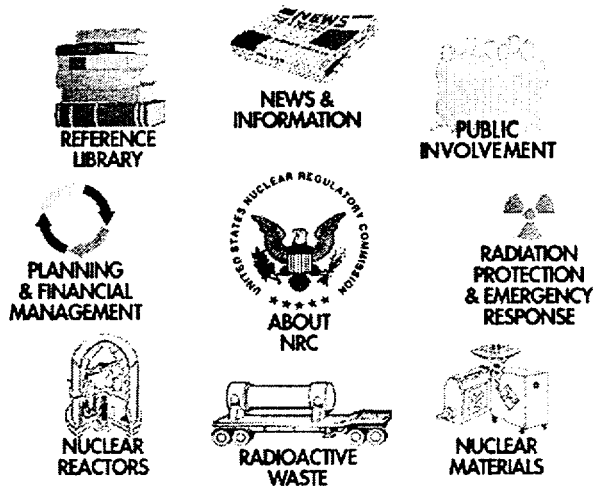
Attachment 1
NRC Handout

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2001

WWW.NRC.GOV



Dry Cask Storage
(http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/drycask)

Public Electronic Reading Room
(http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS)

Rulemaking Issues
(http://ruleforum.llnl.cgi-bin/rulemake)

Public Document Room
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Public Document Room, Washington, D. C., 20555.
1-800-397-4209 PDR@NRC.GOV
Users should include a phone number in all textual communication in order to facilitate prompt follow-up by PDR staff..

ADVANCED NUHOMS APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE

The following schedule is only valid if no significant technical issues are identified during the NRC review process or rulemaking.

August 2001

- Staff complete safety evaluation and initiate rulemaking

October or November 2001

- Issue rule for public comment
- Public comment period will be 75 days.

July 2002

- Complete rulemaking, issue final Safety Evaluation Report and Certificate of Compliance

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Tim Kobetz, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Phone: 301-415-8538

Attachment 2
NRC Slides

INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATIONS

Spent Fuel Project Office
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

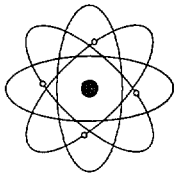
Tim Kobetz - Project Manager
(301) 415-8538

Why the NRC is Here Today

- Explain the establishment of dry cask storage
- Explain the Mission of the NRC
- Answer Questions

Why was Dry Cask Storage Established?

- Atomic Energy Act
- Nuclear Waste Policy Act



The Mission and Goals of the NRC for Nuclear Waste

- Mission
  - Protect the public health and safety
  - Protect the environment

How can I be sure Dry Cask Storage is Safe?

- Licensing requirements
- Technical review process
- Public participation

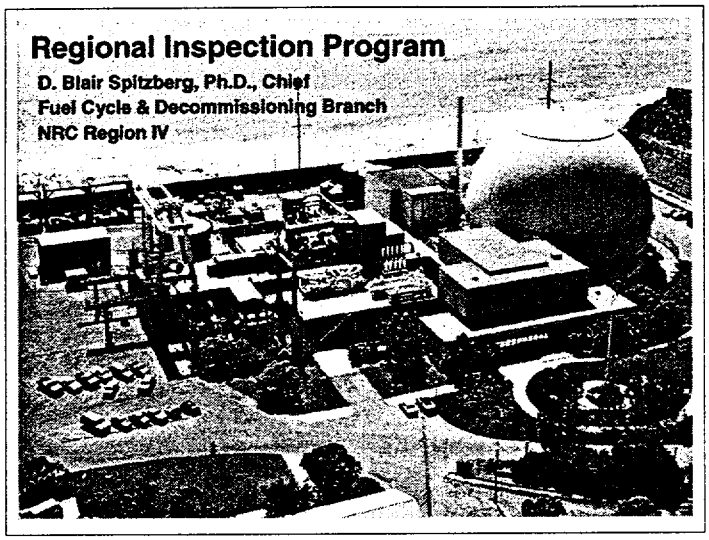
Seismic Evaluations

- NRC assembled team of experts
- Utility responsibility to select cask
- NRC inspections

Public Participation

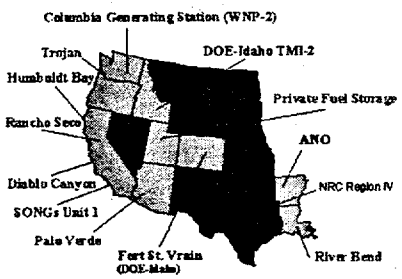
- Advanced NUHOMS Rulemaking
- Petitions for Rulemaking
- Identifying safety concerns

Visit the NRC



Region IV ISFSIs

- Operational
- Near operational or construction planned



Site	Cask Model
Trojan	BNFL Transtor
ANO	VSC-24
FSV	Foster Wheeler
DOE TMI-2	Nuhoms 12T
Rancho Seco	Nuhoms
SONGs 1	Advanced Nuhoms

HOW NRC ENSURES SAFETY

- REGULATIONS, SAFETY STANDARDS, TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS, ETC.
- SAFETY EVALUATIONS AND LICENSING
- INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

OBJECTIVES OF THE NRC INSPECTION PROGRAM

- VERIFY SAFE CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES
- VERIFY ADEQUACY OF LICENSEE CONTROLS
- EXAMINE TRENDS IN LICENSEE PERFORMANCE

NRC INSPECTION STAFF

- HIGHLY TRAINED AND QUALIFIED
- RESIDENT INSPECTORS
- REGION BASED INSPECTORS
- TECHNICAL AREA EXPERTS

INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR DRY CASK STORAGE

- ONSITE FABRICATION OF COMPONENTS AND CONSTRUCTION (IP 60853)
- DESIGN CONTROL OF COMPONENTS (IP 60851)
- PREOPERATIONAL TESTING (IP 60854)
- OPERATIONS (IP 60855)

MAJOR SAFETY AREAS INSPECTED FOR DRY CASK STORAGE

- PLANT OPERATIONS
- RADIOACTIVE WASTE STORAGE AND HANDLING
- CONTROL OF HEAVY LOADS
- RADIATION PROTECTION
- SECURITY AND SAFEGUARDS
- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
- MAINTENANCE AND SURVEILLANCE
- FIRE PROTECTION
- TRAINING
- ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING
- QUALITY ASSURANCE
- ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

POST INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

- PROMPT NRC MANAGEMENT DEBRIEF
- DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS
- ENFORCEMENT - IF NEEDED
- ISSUE INSPECTION REPORT
  - NRC inspection reports available to public at /www.NRC.gov/ go to Reference Library, ADAMS, NRC Public Electronic Reading Room
- TRACK AND FOLLOW UP ON SAFETY ISSUES

Attachment 3
SCE Slides

EDISON

Temporary Dry Storage of Used Nuclear Fuel at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

EDISON

Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS

- Purpose:
  - Move Unit 1 fuel to complete Decommissioning
  - Store Units 2 & 3 fuel
- Location:
  - Within existing San Onofre property

EDISON

Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS

- Designed to strict U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requirements
- Storage system will be licensed by the NRC
- Uses horizontal storage modules
- Designer is Transnuclear West, Inc.
- Storage system exceeds SONGS seismic design requirements
- Built to high nuclear quality requirements

EDISON

Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS

- Characteristics:
  - Store fuel which has cooled for at least 5 years
  - Fuel is confined within a sealed steel canister
  - Radiation is shielded by the concrete module
  - Storage system Safety Analysis approved by NRC
  - Nuclear chain reaction not possible

Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS

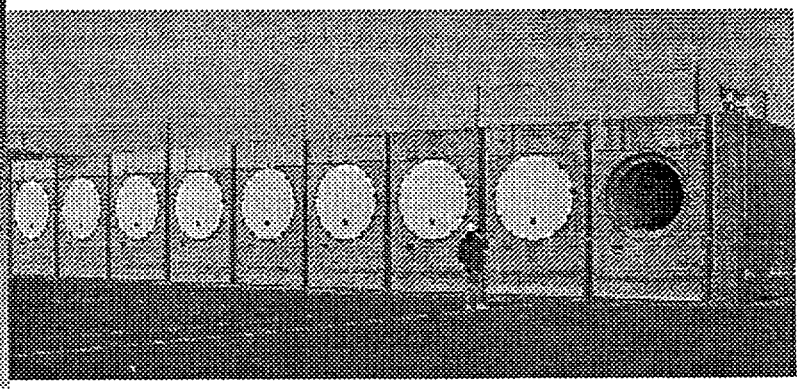
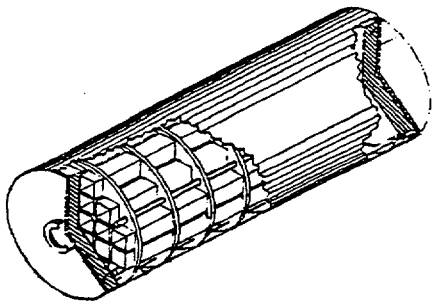


Photo taken at Ranco Seco Nuclear Plant near Sacramento California

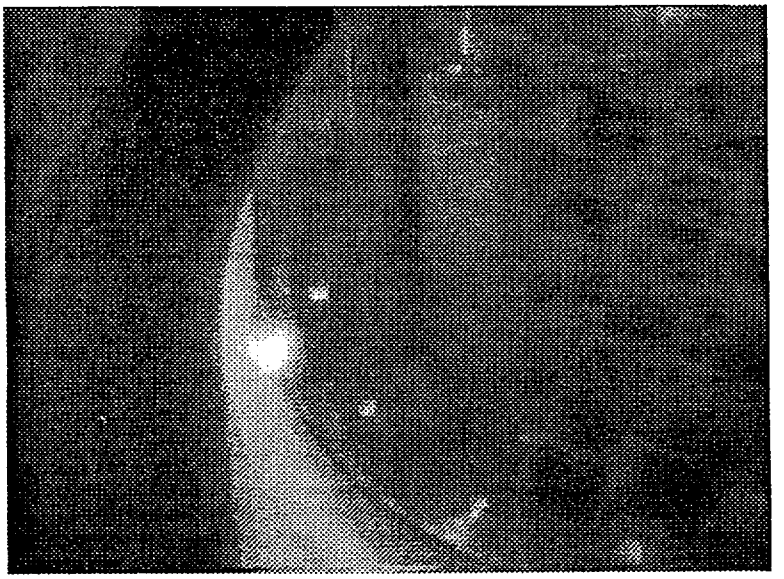
Fuel Storage Canister



- Withstands earthquakes, fire, & corrosion
- Compatible with fuel transfer, fuel storage, & transportation systems
- Completely welded confinement

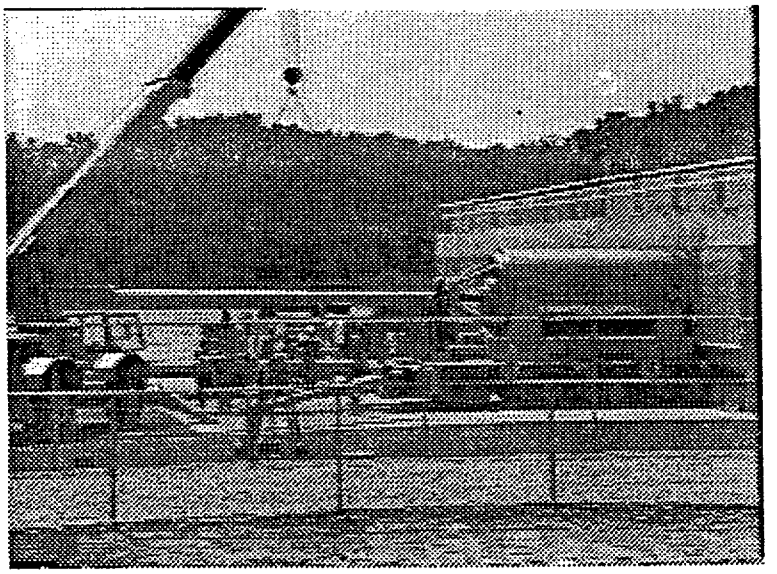
EDISON

Loading Fuel into a Canister

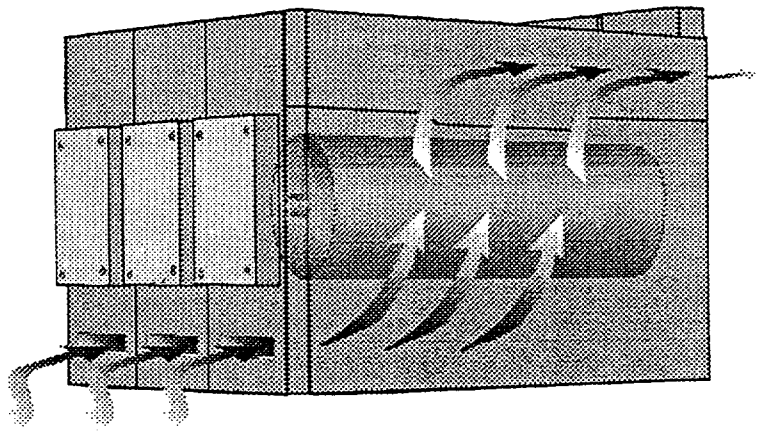


EDISON

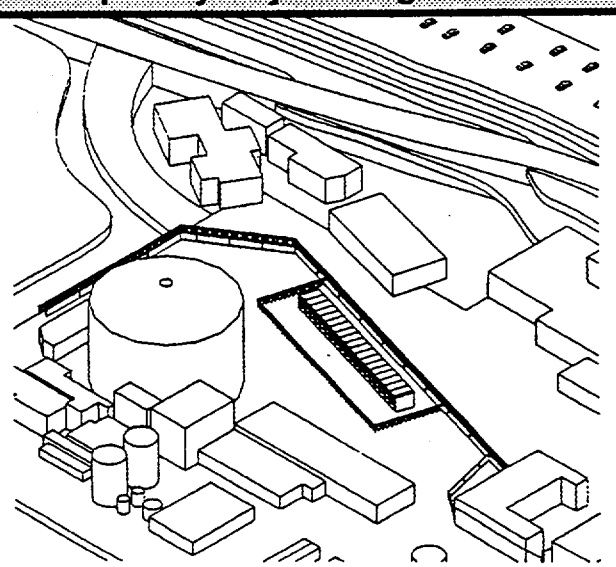
Transferring Canister into a Module



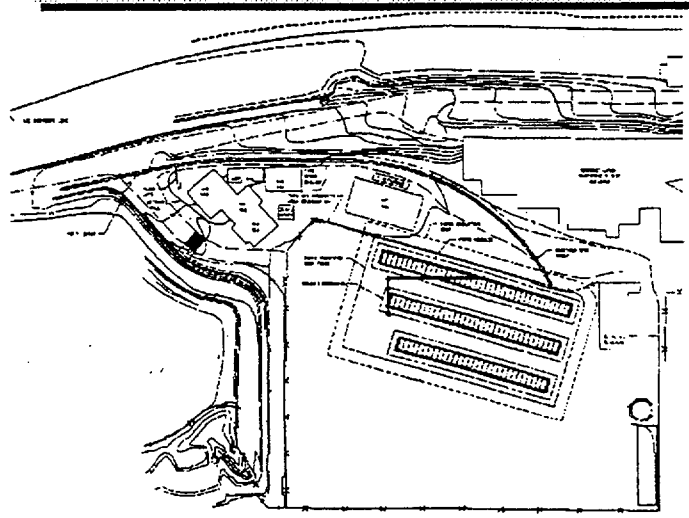
Convection Air Flow



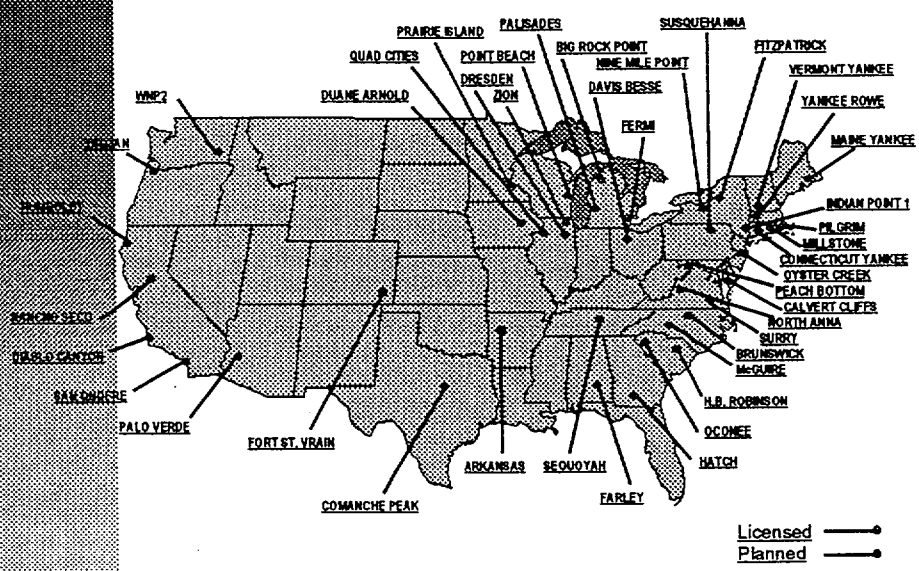
Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS



Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS



Currently Licensed and Planned Dry Fuel Storage Sites



EDISON

Temporary Dry Storage at SONGS

- Dry storage is a proven technology in use for over fifteen years
- Dry storage now being used at seventeen U. S. sites including in California
- Storage system is high quality, robust and uses only passive features
- SONGS facility will employ conservative margins
- Transfer of fuel to dry storage is the last step before being shipped
- After fuel has left the site, the facility will not be contaminated and can be readily decommissioned

Attachment 4
Meeting Transcripts

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: Storage of Irradiated Nuclear Fuel in Dry Casks at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station: Public Meeting

Docket Number: (not applicable)

Location: San Clemente, California

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2001

Work Order No.: NRC-082 Pages 1-67

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Washington, D.C. 20005
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1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

3 + + + + +

4 STORAGE OF IRRADIATED NUCLEAR FUEL IN

5 DRY CASKS AT THE SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR

6 GENERATING STATION

7 + + + + +

8 PUBLIC MEETING

9 + + + + +

10 THURSDAY

11 FEBRUARY 22, 2001

12 + + + + +

13 SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA

14 + + + + +

15 The Public Meeting convened at the San

16 Clemente Community Center Auditorium, 100 North Calle

17 Seville, San Clemente, California, at 8:00 p.m., Scott

18 Diehl, Mayor, San Clemente, California, presiding.

19 PRESENT:

20 SCOTT DIEHL, Mayor, San Clemente, California

21 BILL HUFFMAN, NRC

22 TIM KOBETZ, NRC

23 BLAIR SPITZBER, NRC

24 DAVID PILMER, Southern California Edison

25

1 ALSO PRESENT:
2 PATRICIA BORCHMANN
3 JOSEPH BRAIDIC
4 JIM CANNON
5 BERNARDO GARCIA
6 GEORGE HALE
7 LYN HARRIS HICKS
8 K.C. HICKS
9 MEL KERNAHAN
10 DON MAY
11 LINDA McLANDRICH
12 STEVE NETHERBY
13 RICHARD NICOL
14 MARION PACK
15 LOIS R. BERG
16 RITA RAUSCH
17 ELLEN RHODE
18 BARBARA ROSENBAUM
19 GLORIA SALL
20 FRANK SARAGA
21
22
23
24
25

1 I-N-D-E-X

2 Opening Remarks, Mayor Scott Diehl 4
3 Introduction (NRC) 7
4 Licensee Presentation on the Storage of
5 Irradiated Nuclear Fuel in Dry Casks at
6 SONGS (SCE) 10
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8 Irradiated Nuclear Fuel Dry Cask Storage
9 Systems (NRC) 22
10 NRC Inspection of Dry Cask Storage
11 Installations (NRC) 30
12 Public Question and Comment Period 37
13 Adjourn 68

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(8:00 p.m.)

MAYOR DIEHL: My name is Scott Diehl and I'm the Mayor of San Clemente this year. And I'm the moderator this evening for our meeting tonight hosted by the NRC and Southern California Power folks. We have people here from the NRC to answers the question that are directed at what they do and we have folks from Southern California Edison and the San Onofre Power System to answer questions about what they do. My job is to try and figure out who gets to get which question.

This is not going to be an evening where we're going to talk about the theories of life, in general, or San Clemente, in particular, or power or power prices or any of those kinds of things. This is a meeting where we're going to talk about the dry storage system that's being proposed at San Onofre and possibly the decommissioning process.

Any other questions that are presented tonight will be deferred to the end of the meeting. Both groups have indicated that they will make people available for those types of discussions. So we will try to focus tonight's meeting on the dry storage

1 system that is being proposed and possibly some
2 questions about decommissioning.
3 There is an agenda in the back of the
4 room. Those of you who didn't get one, if you want
5 one, it's back in the corner by the door as you came
6 in, the door to my far left. It would be on the right
7 side of the room for those who are facing it.
8 We will be having a series of
9 presentations as per the agenda. We'll ask that you
10 withhold all questions until after the presentation
11 has been made and then we ask that you present either
12 your written questions to -- I didn't get her name, oh
13 Mayors don't do that. Marlene? Is that correct?
14 Marlene, if you would stand and just raise your hand.
15 Marlene is in charge of getting the question cards, so
16 if you have a question or a card or a statement that
17 you want given, make sure that she gets it. She'll
18 give it to me and I'll make sure that we get it on the
19 agenda up here.
20 Thank you, Marlene.
21 Our comment period and question period
22 will be limited to three minutes per person. If time
23 permits after everyone has had the opportunity to
24 speak, we may allow some people to come back and speak
25 a second time. That is not a promise. That is only

1 if we have time, we may allow that. The first time
2 around you're going to be allowed three minutes which
3 will include your statement and/or any questions you
4 may have.
5 The meeting is being transcribed so
6 especially since I am a butcher at names, when you
7 come up, please give your name and if it's a bit
8 complicated other than simple one like Diehl which is
9 D-I-E-H-L, please spell it, so that the transcriber
10 can get that accurately in the record.
11 Copies are available and again, if you
12 will see Marlene, the cart that she has back there and
13 indicate that you want a copy of the transcription you
14 can get it from -- we will be getting a copy from
15 that. It could be, according to other meetings, maybe
16 as much as 100 pages, so if it's going to be that big
17 we would request that people could share those
18 transcriptions.
19 Again, I want to reemphasize that you will
20 be limited to three minutes. I will give you a
21 warning at 30 seconds and I will cut you off at the
22 end of the three minutes.
23 As I said before, both the NRC and San
24 Onofre people have indicated that they will stay a
25 little bit after the end of the meeting to answer any

1 questions that are not related directly to the subject
2 matter that we are here for, for the public meeting
3 tonight.
4 That ends my opening remarks and I'm one
5 minute behind instead of three, so we're catching up.
6 That's a good thing.
7 Bill, do you want to go ahead, come up and
8 do the introduction.
9 MR. HUFFMAN: Thank you, Mayor Diehl. I
10 want to express my appreciation to the Mayor because
11 not only has he generously offered to moderate the
12 meeting tonight, but he's been instrumental in
13 facilitating that this meeting actually is happened.
14 My name by the way is Bill Huffman. My
15 responsibilities are the regulatory oversight from the
16 NRC's perspective in the decommissioning activities of
17 SONGS Unit 1. I work in Rockville, Maryland, and I
18 think it's almost two years right here in this very
19 building that we had a similar public meeting on the
20 decommissioning of SONGS Unit 1. That meeting was
21 mandated by regulation and hopefully we were able at
22 that time to give you an idea of what occurs during
23 the decommissioning process.
24 Since that time, the decommissioning at
25 San Onofre Unit 1 has proceeded pretty much to

1 schedule and from the NRC's point of view per
2 regulations and very safely. At this point in time
3 that decommissioning process they've started their
4 plans for movement of their spent fuel which is stored
5 in spent fuel pools to dry cask storage facilities.
6 This is a process that was fully expected from
7 decommissioning process and ordinarily we proceed per
8 regulations and per the licensees planning.
9 However, it has been indicated that there
10 has been a lot of interest in this activity and from
11 the Mayor and from other members of the local
12 community. We thought, the NRC thought that it would
13 be a good idea to have another one of these public
14 meetings to give a forum to you people that are close
15 by to understand what this process is about, how the
16 NRC regulates and reviews this process and also what
17 specifically the Southern California Edison's
18 intentions are in establishing this dry cask storage
19 system.
20 So this is not a hearing. This is not a
21 mandated public meeting, but it's an outreach by the
22 NRC and by Southern California Edison as well to keep
23 you guys informed of what is happening. And
24 hopefully, we will be able to answer your questions.

1 On the agenda, we basically have three
2 objectives we want to accomplish. We want to let you
3 know specifically what Southern California's
4 intentions are, some of their planning and milestones.
5 Clearly, that's their responsibility and they'll get
6 up immediately after I am done here and go over that
7 information. Then the NRC will get up and talk to you
8 about the regulatory process of reviewing the safety
9 of these casks and licensing them and what we do as
10 follow-up oversight once these casks are established
11 at the Southern California SONGS plant.
12 Primarily, what we want to do is answer
13 your questions and provide a forum so that you can ask
14 us questions and we can try to provide you the answers
15 that will help you understand and feel comfortable
16 about what is going on here. And if we accomplish
17 those three agendas and I hope we can, it will be a
18 successful meeting.
19 If not, or if you have other ideas or
20 criticisms or suggestions, we do have forms which we
21 highly encourage you to take which are evaluations of
22 this meeting at the back table there and you can take
23 them and fill them out later, send them to us or you
24 can fill them out now and leave them with us. But we

1 would appreciate any kind of feedback, positive or
2 negative.
3 In addition, during Open House, there was
4 a lot of literature provided. If you did not get that
5 literature, it's available at that table back there.
6 Feel free to help yourself. If you run out of
7 something, we will take your name and address and give
8 it to you later.
9 On that note, I am just one small part of
10 the NRC, a very small one and there are a lot of
11 people involved in regulation of what goes on in the
12 decommissioning area and in the dry cask storage area.
13 We have a number of people. I'm not going to
14 introduce them by name, but they represent a lot of
15 disciplines, a lot of technical expertise and I just
16 want you to recognize that a lot of effort has been
17 put forth tonight to get the right people here,
18 hopefully to be able to answer questions.
19 In addition, Southern California Edison
20 recognizing the importance of this community outreach
21 has also done a stellar job in getting the material
22 and information that will help you better understand
23 what's going on in this process. And with that note,
24 I'd like to introduce Dave Pilmer from Southern

1 California Edison who will be making our first
2 presentation.
3 MR. PILMER: Thank you, Bill. I work in
4 San Onofre. I'm in charge of licensing Unit 1
5 decommissioning and also the plans for the dry storage
6 of nuclear fuel.
7 As the first slide indicates here we're
8 talking about this subject primarily. My remarks will
9 be quite brief which I'm told that's an attribute.
10 Although I'm going to be short in words, I'm not going
11 to hold anything back in terms of explaining what our
12 plans are. So I hope that at the conclusion of my
13 short period on the agenda that you'll have a very
14 thorough understanding of just what we plan to do.
15 Also, I think that we have a lot of
16 benefit from the fine displays in the adjacent room
17 and I'll be referring to some of the things that
18 you've seen in there as we go forward.
19 First of all, what do we plan to do?
20 We're going to have temporary dry storage of spent
21 nuclear fuel at San Onofre, the purpose of which first
22 of all is to move the fuel that is in the Unit 1 spent
23 fuel pool currently as it's a necessity to proceed
24 with the decommissioning of Unit 1.

1 Second of all, we have some Unit 1 fuel in
2 storage in the Units 2 and 3 spent fuel pools. We
3 will be moving that fuel out and thirdly, as we go
4 forward in time, it will become necessary to move
5 Units 2 and 3 fuel out as well. I would just comment
6 that the subject of this meeting is Unit 1 dry
7 storage. The reason that Unit 2 and 3 was not
8 mentioned in the announcement was that we have nothing
9 pending at the moment before the Commission on Units
10 2 and 3 fuel, but our plans are that we will be
11 proceeding with that.
12 Where will it be located? It will all be
13 located at the existing San Onofre site. There is no
14 intent to locate or encroach upon the beach or areas
15 off-site. You've seen the displays in the next room
16 and I'll show you a map again, just to emphasize that
17 point.
18 A few points I would like to make about
19 dry storage. The storage systems have very strict
20 design requirements. They are meeting with the
21 approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and they
22 meet all their requirements. As some of you who have
23 done your homework have probably heard about incidents
24 where some of the systems have not met the quality
25 requirements and they've been rejected. This is

1 because the requirements are very precise, very strict
2 and this is the strength of the system, that only
3 virtual perfection is acceptable in this business.
4 The storage systems are licensed by the
5 NRC and in our case almost needs no repeating because
6 of the models you've seen in the next room and the
7 pictures, we're using a horizontal storage concept.
8 There is another kind. There is dry storage in which
9 the storage modules are vertical, sort of like short
10 silos. We're not using that type. We're not using
11 that type for a very good reason.
12 It makes better sense at San Onofre, it's
13 more compact and we think it's the better package from
14 several technical points of view. The designer is
15 Trans Nuclear West, a company located here in
16 California. The storage system, the entire system
17 now, not just parts and pieces of it, but the entire
18 system meets the strict seismic design requirements
19 that we have for San Onofre power plant. In fact, we
20 have specified with our supplier a design that will
21 very substantially exceed the design requirements to
22 which the reactor plant is built. This is for reasons
23 of conservatism.
24 Finally, the construction follows nuclear
25 quality assurance requirements of the very highest

1 quality. If any -- as I indicated, any small detail
2 does not meet standards, it gets rejected.
3 A few characteristics. You can't just put
4 the fuel straight out of the reactor into a dry
5 storage system. It is required to be cooled for a
6 period of time. The five year period is chosen by the
7 NRC as a minimum requirement to be met. The fuel from
8 this reactor will be cooled for at least the five year
9 period and much of it will be cooled much longer than
10 that before it enters the dry storage module. The
11 fuel is placed in the sealed canister which is
12 hermetically sealed. The interior of that canister is
13 completely dry and not only that, it's backfilled with
14 an inert helium gas so that there can't be any
15 corrosion or further deterioration of the fuel
16 products that are in storage.
17 Is there radiation? Of course. Nuclear
18 fuel is radioactive and it requires shielding,
19 shielding to protect our workers and of course, the
20 public, is provided by the concrete model itself. And
21 the storage system is subjected to a safety analysis
22 which is approved by the NRC. That safety analysis
23 includes not just consideration of normal storage
24 conditions, but off-normal conditions and accident
25 conditions. So we have requirements that have to be

1 met. We have analyses that have to be performed and
2 they have to meet the standards set up in the
3 regulations by the NRC.
4 One last little note, nuclear chain
5 reaction, i.e., can these things be turned into a
6 reactor? No, they can't. It's not physically
7 possible.
8 I realize now on this display the picture
9 is a little faded, but you see this out in the next
10 room. This is a photo of the type of storage modules
11 that we will be deploying here at San Onofre. This
12 photo was taken at Rancho Seco up in Northern
13 California.
14 The next picture I wanted to show here
15 while I make a few points, is the storage canister
16 itself. It's all made of steel. It the outer shell
17 is made of stainless steel. The interior is made of
18 steel also and provides compartmentalization for each
19 of the fuel assemblies. They're not allowed to bang
20 around or impact each other. They're hermetically
21 sealed in an inert environment. They're not going to
22 deteriorate.
23 This canister is a very rugged design and
24 can stand a substantial drop without doing any damage
25 to itself or the fuel. It's completely sealed so that

1 if you were to drop it, mishandle or abuse it in some
2 fashion, there's no way radioactive material that can
3 escape. It's built to withstand earthquakes, fire,
4 corrosion. It has to be capable of immersed in fire
5 for a period of time. It has to be compatible with
6 the fuel transfer apparatus and that's on site. It
7 has to be compatible with the fuel storage modules
8 that you've seen modeled out in the next room. And it
9 has to be compatible with transportation systems when
10 ultimately these canisters are removed from the site
11 and sent up to the repository.
12 And a point I've already made, the bolts
13 are completely welded confinement.
14 This doesn't show up very well, I
15 apologize. It's a still made from a videotape. This
16 is an actual photograph of loading a spent nuclear
17 fuel assembly into a storage canister. It's also
18 blurry because it's under 25 feet of water.
19 I'd like to point out that in the course
20 of our operations at San Onofre every time we refuel
21 the reactor, we move fuel assemblies around with the
22 very same apparatus. In the course of one refueling,
23 we handle a fuel assembly, collectively, three hundred
24 times or more. We do it year in and year out. We do
25 it safely and we do it without problems. It does

1 require the use of precision equipment, trained
2 personnel, but we know how to do it and we know how to
3 do it safely.
4 I'm looking for a picture that shows you
5 how the canister finally gets loaded into the storage
6 module. We came up with this one. It's taken from a
7 videotape so it's a little blurry and the green fold-
8 in is a little washed out in this, I'm sorry about
9 that. It was actually a better shot than it appears
10 now.
11 But as you can see to get the relative
12 idea of the size of the apparatus, the fact that it's
13 a conventional transport, sort of a wagon affair and
14 then finally once the module is removed, the canister
15 which in this depiction is inside its transport shield
16 overpack is then pushed into the module. Inside the
17 module there are rails where it slides and it goes to
18 its final position. Then the heavy shielded door is
19 put back in place. You'll notice there is a portable
20 crane in this picture, you have to have some apparatus
21 at the site, not for handling the canister, but for
22 lifting the heavy door off the module and missiling
23 its efforts of that type.
24 This graphic illustrates the principle by
25 which the amount of heat that continues to generate

1 from the pure fuel gets dissipated. It's done by the
2 simplest of all possible mechanisms, by natural
3 convection of air. Inside the module, the canister is
4 surrounded by air. There are passages in there.
5 Cooler air comes in at the bottom of the front. It
6 circulates around. It gets warmed up and the warmer
7 air is discharged out a chimney effect in the rear.
8 Now I mentioned briefly accidents and off-
9 normal conditions. This system is safe and capable of
10 safely storing the fuel even for long periods of time
11 with the air system blocked. So there's a lot of
12 conservatism built into the design to handle all
13 manner of contingencies.
14 All right, we have displayed on the table,
15 we had two large photos showing the site layout,
16 aerial photos with a cut that our model makers made
17 showing the development of the location where the dry
18 cask storage system will be located. This graphic
19 depicts what I would call the first phase. Now you'll
20 notice that you still see many of the buildings of the
21 Unit 1 structures that have not yet been removed. So
22 as we get into the later phases, what will stand as
23 the decommissioning progresses to make room for it, so
24 going on to the next graphic you see here the ultimate

1 or final size of the system, if it ever needs to get
2 that large.
3 Now I say it that way because at the
4 present time, the Department of Energy has stated that
5 they expect and plan to start picking up spent fuel
6 from reactor licensees beginning in the year 2010.
7 Now we can all be skeptical and concerned. Well, that
8 won't happen it will be delayed again. But that is
9 the current plan as stated by our government. If that
10 happens and we get some of the fuel moved from here,
11 then it will never grow this far. On the other hand,
12 it could grow this large and even conceivably if we
13 were to relicense the plant in going to even a longer
14 operation than currently planned for or currently
15 licensed, there is room for it to grow even more.
16 Now the next graphic you saw I think in
17 two different locations in the next room, a depiction
18 of where we have dry cask storage in use in the
19 country. This is a picture in which is consolidated
20 all of the reactor sites, reactor sites now, that have
21 dry cask storage either in use or in the actual
22 planning stages with the license application pending.
23 And you can see not every reactor plant is up on that
24 picture today.

1 And I can truthfully say not every reactor
2 plant will be on that picture, but many are and as an
3 indication that this is the way the country is on a
4 temporary basis dealing with the problem of the
5 storage of spent fuel.
6 I want to make a few last points. Dry
7 storage is a proven technology. It's been in use for
8 over 15 years. The dry storage now being used
9 currently in use covers 17 U.S. reactor sites,
10 including one in California, although to be perfectly
11 accurate, at Rancho Seco, they have not yet loaded the
12 first canister, but you saw a photograph. The modules
13 are constructed, loading of dry storage at Rancho Seco
14 is just around the corner.
15 The storage system is of the very highest
16 quality. It's a very robust design. It's completely
17 safe. And it uses all passive features, the natural
18 convection of air for cooling, the presence of
19 concrete for shielding and the analysis of accidents,
20 earthquakes, tornadoes, floods, tsunamis, these are
21 all well within the design of the system.
22 The SONGS facility will employ
23 conservative design margins. We're not going to
24 install a system that goes right up to the edge of

1 technology. We are going to have a design that's well
2 beyond the requirements.
3 Finally, or not finally, but one last very
4 important point is that the kind of system we are
5 buying is what is called a dual use system. It is
6 designed not only to store the fuel, but it's also
7 designed to transport which means that once we get it
8 loaded in the storage containers, we never have to
9 unload it again on our site. Now DOE plants are not
10 entirely known at the repository. They could be
11 reloaded into a different type of container, but that
12 will be by the DOE. On the other hand, they could be
13 disposed of directly in these systems.
14 After the fuel is at the site, these
15 storage modules are completely uncontaminated. They
16 never come in contact with any radioactive material.
17 The nuclear fuel which is radioactive is entirely
18 within its sealed canisters. So the modules
19 themselves are easy to decontaminate and the plan wold
20 be that after the fuel is left, they would proceed to
21 remove the facility and proceed with decommissioning.
22 That concludes my presentation. I hope
23 that this has helped to orient the discussion and the
24 question period that will follow.

1 At this time, Mayor Diehl, who do we
2 introduce next?
3 MAYOR DIEHL: Mr. Kobetz, I believe.
4 MR. KOBETZ: Good evening. I'm Tim
5 Kobetz. I'm the person at the NRC that's responsible
6 for coordinating the review of the advanced NUHOMS dry
7 cask storage system that's going to be used at SONGS.
8 I've been involved with dry cask storage
9 for about seven years, first as an inspector and now
10 as a licensing manager. During this time I've
11 attended and participated in many meetings such as
12 this one and listened to concerned citizens just as
13 yourselves and in doing this I've tried to put
14 together just a real brief presentation that's going
15 to give you an overview of what our licensing actions
16 are and then hopefully stimulate some questions from
17 you as we go into the evening tonight.
18 My focus here is going to be three-fold.
19 First, to explain why dry cask storage was established
20 in the first place. Then I'm going to explain th
21 emission of the NRC with regard to dry cask storage,
22 what's our purpose and why are we here. I also want
23 to answer some of your questions or hopefully all of
24 your questions.

1 Why was dry cask storage established?
2 Congress has basically enacted two laws that directed
3 the containment of dry cask storage. The first,
4 Atomic Energy Act gives the NRC its authority to
5 license the use of certain radioactive materials. And
6 second is the Nuclear Waste Policy Act which outlines
7 specific requirements for the nuclear waste. I can
8 add several things to it, but the important ones are
9 the one, the Act required the Department of Energy to
10 develop compartmentalized repository and ship all this
11 spent fuel to.
12 Second, it required the Department of
13 Energy to help develop some sort of storage method,
14 not necessarily dry cask storage. It's developed some
15 sort of storage method that can be used as interim
16 storage until that repository is finished. What they
17 developed was the dry cask storage as the best method.
18 Lastly, the Act also required the NRC to
19 develop a process to use the technology that DOE and
20 the utilities developed to start the plant without
21 performing redundant safety reviews where possible.
22 This mandate went directly to the general licensing
23 process and it's going to be used here at SONGS. The
24 general licensing process allows utilities to use dry
25 cask storage if they already have proper license and

1 they use previously approved dry cask storage systems.
2 I say previously approved by the NRC. Then they can
3 use it without additional approvals for theirs.
4 So what's our mission? Well, first I want
5 to stress one thing. The NRC is an independent
6 agency. We have no affiliation with any other
7 government agencies, including the Department of
8 Energy. Our mission is simple, to protect the public
9 health and safety and protect the environment.
10 To carry out that mission, the NRC
11 establishes regulations and processes that have been
12 followed and provide reasonable assurance that the
13 casks will be designed and fabricated and operated in
14 a safe manner.
15 I'd also like to discuss two goals that we
16 have in performing our mission. The first is to
17 increase public confidence and the second is to reduce
18 unnecessary regulatory burden.
19 You'll need to understand that regulatory
20 -- reducing regulatory burden does not mean we're
21 reducing or eliminating regulations. What that means
22 is that the NRC with the new registry is trying to
23 work more efficiently and more effectively.
24 With regard to public confidence, well,
25 that's why we're here today. We want to explain the

1 process, allow you the opportunity to ask questions
2 and then hopefully gain your confidence in the NRC's
3 process.
4 How can we be sure dry cask storage is
5 safe? As I just mentioned licensing requirements were
6 established by the NRC based on the Nuclear Waste
7 Policy Act to ensure that each dry cask storage system
8 is designed, fabricated and operated properly or
9 safely.
10 The technical review process, along with
11 the inspection process and methods used by NRC to
12 review each cask design and to assess whether or not
13 it meets regulatory requirements in the regulations to
14 ensure safety. This is where the NRC either accepts
15 or rejects the application. We have an application
16 in-house right now for the advanced housing system.
17 That doesn't mean that it's going to be approved,
18 necessarily. We have rejected applications or they've
19 been withdrawn in the past. It's going to have to go
20 through, as Mr. Pilmer pointed out, a very rigorous
21 review to show that it meets all of our regulations.
22 That's where the technical review process comes in.
23 The technical review process, along with
24 the inspection process, Mr. Spitzber is going to
25 discuss later, are methods used by the NRC to review

1 each cask design and assist whether or not it meets
2 the regulatory requirements and ensures safety.
3 This is where the NRC either accepts or
4 rejects the design for the utility or utilities. We
5 review the design to assess whether it's adequate to
6 protect the public basically from radiation. We look
7 at many technical aspects. We look at structural
8 integrity of the cask and the heat transfer
9 capabilities of the cask. We ensure that there's no
10 way that the cask -- that the fuel is figured to go
11 critical when it's out in the pad or even during the
12 loading operation. We look at many aspects of it.
13 Public participation is an important part
14 of our cask review. No cask design is approved
15 without the solicitation of public comments, questions
16 or concerns. Then each of the comments, questions and
17 concerns is reviewed and responded to by the NRC staff
18 during the rulemaking process.
19 One of the things that has been discussed
20 a whole lot and we call this the advanced new home
21 system. Well, there's already a standard on the new
22 home system out there and it's used by several
23 utilities. There's many casks already loaded. What
24 the difference here between the advanced and
25 standardize is that now we're looking at more of the

1 high seismic issues that you have involved here in the
2 Southern California area.
3 Therefore, the NRC has assembled a team of
4 experts in the area of seismic concerns. This is
5 something that we don't normally do for a cask design.
6 Normally, we just look at the cask itself at face
7 value, does it have structural integrity that the
8 designer set it for? We thought we'd put together a
9 team of experts, both from the NRC and the nuclear
10 industry and then some national laboratories. We
11 started this back in February of 2000 when the first
12 thoughts were coming to San Onofre there was going to
13 be a need for some dry cask storage.
14 Normally, NRC would only review cask
15 design that's going to be used under the general
16 license to ensure that the cask performed the say the
17 designer said it would. However, we're taking into
18 account, we're looking at the kind of seismic activity
19 you have here.
20 We're going to be looking at Southern
21 California Edison's evaluation of the earthquakes and
22 how they would affect the casks here. We're also
23 looking at other earthquake information from the
24 Taiwan event in 1999 and some of those other things.
25 So we're going a little above and beyond because this

1 is the first of a kind. We just haven't reviewed a
2 cask design of this high a seismic load.
3 In a few minutes, Blair Spitzber will
4 discuss the role of the NRC in assessing whether or
5 not the utility will be implementing dry cask storage.
6 It doesn't stop once we review the cask design. Then
7 we review how the utility is fabricating them. We
8 review how the utility is filling the casks and how
9 they're putting them in service and if the people are
10 properly trained and there's a whole aspect of things
11 that will Mr. Spitzber will talk about.
12 If we do not find any design problems with
13 the cask, the public will have the opportunity to go
14 through the rulemaking process to comment on it. This
15 should take -- you should be able to make these
16 comments somewhere around the October-November time
17 frame of this year. We hope to finish our review in
18 August. Then there's some government paperwork that
19 needs to be done and then we'll be able to put it out
20 for public comment.
21 There are also other ways to provide
22 comments to the NRC. If the rulemaking is not amply
23 addressed, you can always petition the NRC to change
24 the rule or to change the license, whenever we issue
25 the certificate. If you have a need to state your

1 concern, certainly always bring that to the NRC as
2 soon as possible, whether it's through the resident
3 office, whether it's to me or whether it's to somebody
4 else at Headquarters.
5 I'll talk a little bit about the handout.
6 On the handout there is my name and there's always
7 ways through the NRC website if you've got a true
8 safety concern that you want to bring to our attention
9 you can contact us.
10 So let's talk just a little bit about
11 addressing the NRC and how the public can get involved
12 and where you can find information. First off, go to
13 our website. Again, in the handout, I tried to make
14 it a little straightforward. If you want to go dry
15 cask storage, there's a way to take you right to
16 there. If you want to go to the public electronic
17 reading room, that's where you'll find information on
18 the advanced new homes system. You'll find
19 information on other cases and you'll see things we've
20 approved. You'll see the inspections, things that
21 we've found.
22 Also, you'll find information on the
23 rulemaking process which I think will be valuable if
24 you're going through trying to decide well how can I
25 comment, what should I say, what format does it go in?

1 Also, if you have trouble using the
2 website, you can also go to the public document room
3 that provided you a phone number for that and also an
4 e-mail address for them.
5 On the handout, we also have a brief
6 schedule and keep in mind that this schedule is only
7 valid if we don't find any safety concerns. If we
8 find safety concerns, even if they're minor, it's
9 going to shift because we have to resolve those.
10 We're not schedule driven, we're safety driven.
11 With that, I will turn it over to Mr.
12 Spitzber to talk about the inspection process and then
13 we'll take any questions you have.
14 MR. SPITZBER: Thank you, Tim. Good
15 evening. My name is Blair Spitzber and I'm here from
16 the Region 4 Office in Arlington, Texas. I serve the
17 NRC in the position of the Chief of the Fuel Cycle and
18 Decommissioning Branch within the Region which has
19 responsibility for a wide range of inspection
20 activities involving the safety inspections of
21 decommissioning the facilities and also the safe
22 storage of spent fuel.
23 The purpose of my presentation is to
24 describe the NRC's inspection program for the dry
25 storage of spent fuel such as the facility being

1 proposed by Southern California Edison for the San
2 Onofre Unit 1.
3 Just to let you know where I come from,
4 this slide shows the geographic area covered by the
5 Region 4 office which is located between Dallas and
6 Fort Worth near the D-FW Airport. This slide also
7 shows the other dry fuel storage systems that are
8 currently in operation within our region or planned
9 for the near future within our Region. You can see
10 there's quite a number of them that are planned within
11 Region 4. We've been inspection dry storage of spent
12 fuel in Region 4 for about 10 years.
13 The Regional Office has two major
14 responsibilities. The first is the implementation of
15 the NRC's inspection program. It's really the reason
16 why we exist. We're the eyes and the ears of the
17 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. We do this very well
18 because we are physically separated from our
19 Headquarters Office which allows the Regional
20 Inspection Staff to focus on safety inspections
21 without being drawn into other activities performed in
22 our Headquarters Office such as licensing, rulemaking,
23 project management and other activities.
24 Our second major responsibility is that of
25 emergency response. We maintain an instant response

1 center 24 hours a day and we have that capability.
2 The Regional Office would be the first agency
3 responders to any event or emergency at NRC licensed
4 facilities. And while this response mode has seldom
5 been used for actual events, we still train for such
6 events just in case.
7 One of the fundamental features of safety
8 in the nuclear area is what we call defense in depth.
9 And that means essentially that processes and
10 equipment that are important to ensuring safety that
11 we have at least two independent controls in place to
12 prevent unsafe conditions from occurring.
13 Now I'd like to think of our regulatory
14 process also in terms of defense in depth. With the
15 first layer being the safety oversight that stems from
16 the regulations, codes and standards that are
17 established that must be met by licensees. The second
18 layer is the site specific safety reviews and
19 licensing that's performed in the case of dry fuel
20 storage by Tim Kobetz' group in the Spent Fuel Project
21 Office and our Headquarters Office in Washington.
22 And the third layer is the independent
23 inspection of the licensee's activities. While the
24 responsibility for operating safety is that of the
25 licensee, we closely inspect the licensee's activities

1 to assure ourselves and the public that safety
2 requirements are being met.
3 This slide shows the objectives of the
4 NRC's inspection program which are really very central
5 to verify safe conduct of activities, to verify
6 adequacy of licensee controls and to set a trend in
7 licensing performance.
8 I want to describe a feature of the NRC's
9 inspection program that I think is our true strength.
10 And that's the training and qualifications of our
11 inspection staff. We're very proud of the high level
12 of technical expertise, the objectivity and the
13 professionalism of the NRC's inspection staff.
14 They're very dedicated and they're hard working. Most
15 are highly trained when we recruit them and then after
16 we bring them on board, we put them through intensive
17 training program and certification program that takes
18 anywhere from 1 to 2 years.
19 As you're probably aware, the NRC has two
20 resident inspectors based at the San Onofre site. We
21 also have a regional inspector on site this week
22 conducting an inspection and we have two inspectors
23 who are in the training status also here tonight and
24 I'd like to ask them to stand. The resident inspector
25 is Jim Sloane and John Kramer. Rachel Carr is the

1 inspector doing the decommissioning inspection this
2 week and the inspectors-in-training are Judith Walker
3 and Larry Johnson.
4 I know that many of you had an opportunity
5 to talk with them tonight and I truly would invite you
6 to meet with them during this meeting and after the
7 meeting and get to know them because we really are
8 proud of the hard work that they do.
9 The inspection program and independent
10 spent fuel storage installation has been divided into
11 six areas pictured in this slide. The inspection of
12 the design control and fabrication of components is
13 usually performed by our Headquarters Office, although
14 the Region has also been involved with some of the
15 inspections over the past.
16 The Region has the lead role for the
17 remaining inspection areas, but may also receive
18 assistance from our Headquarters Staff to conduct
19 these inspections.
20 With respect to each categories, the ones
21 that we apply the most resources to are available in
22 the back of the room. I wanted to pick some of the
23 areas that we inspect during our routine inspection of
24 these dry storage installations. I won't go into
25 details about these inspection areas, but I wanted to

1 show them in case you have any questions or would like
2 some clarification. I'd be glad to go into it.
3 I want to now briefly describe what
4 happens about our inspections are completed. First is
5 usually the inspectors will call me during the week
6 and brief me on the course of the inspection toward
7 the end of the week and they'll have a preliminary
8 exit with the licensee where they discuss the
9 preliminary findings of the inspection.
10 Following their return to the Regional
11 Office, they have a formal debrief with myself and the
12 senior management back in the Regional office where we
13 determine whether or not the findings of the
14 inspection require any action on the part of the
15 licensee.
16 And then within about 30 days we issue an
17 inspection report and make a determination of whether
18 any enforcement action may be needed based on the
19 inspection findings.
20 We do publish our inspection reports on
21 the NRC website, www.nrc.gov. The inspection reports
22 are public information and I would invite all of you
23 to visit our website and take a look at some of our
24 inspection reports on the San Onofre site. We're
25 quite proud of the quality of our inspection reports.

1 I mentioned enforcement. The NRC has a
2 formalized enforcement process that is implemented
3 whenever licensees are found to be conducting
4 activities in an unsafe manner or in violation of the
5 requirements.
6 For safety violations of low significance,
7 the licensee may be asked to resolve and track the
8 correct action to completion. Or, the licensee may be
9 asked to respond in writing to the Nuclear Regulatory
10 Commission for the causes of the violation and the
11 correction actions implemented or planned to prevent
12 recurrence.
13 For the more significant violations, the
14 NRC may issue civil penalties, modify the license or
15 take other actions deemed appropriate to reestablish
16 safety and restore the NRC's confidence in the
17 licensee's activities.
18 These latter kinds of cases are referred
19 to as escalated enforcement.
20 To summarize, the NRC's inspection program
21 is implemented by highly trained and dedicated
22 inspection staff. The inspections they perform cover
23 all the safety areas associated with the design,
24 fabrication, construction, testing and operation of
25 the independent spent fuel storage installation.

1 While we expect licensees to operate
2 safely and are confined to the requirements, the NRC's
3 inspection requirements is aimed at verifying and
4 ensuring that they do.
5 That completes my presentation and I look
6 forward to your questions.
7 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. That takes us up
8 to the point of public questions. Okay.
9 First of all, before we go forward, let's
10 give a hand to those for what they've done.
11 (Applause.)
12 Okay, again, anybody who wishes to have a
13 comment or question, this is the lady.
14 First up, Linda McLandrich will be first.
15 Following Linda will be George Hale.
16 MS. McLANDRICH: Since I only have three
17 minutes, I'm going to make this very brief. First of
18 all, it doesn't matter the requirements are, the
19 virtual profession does not achieve, especially in San
20 Onofre. This is a dangerous and risky plan and I've
21 got documentation to prove it.
22 This is from the Power Utilities
23 Commission, State of California. In September, San
24 Diego Gas & Electric and Southern California Electric
25 applied to have a special nuclear memorandum account.

1 Now what is a nuclear memorandum account? Anybody is
2 welcomed to this documentation at the end of this
3 meeting.
4 This means that they have already applied
5 for and received approval from the PUC to handle
6 whatever costs are associated with third parties,
7 that's you, making claims that they received cancers,
8 that their children or their family members got
9 cancers from this radiation plan. They've already had
10 it reviewed and approved by the PUC and this means
11 that they're allowed to pass on attorney fees of any
12 radiation on to the rate payor and I welcome you to
13 inspect it.
14 Let me talk a little bit about San
15 Onofre's record. I don't want to talk about the
16 programs about having everything working perfectly.
17 The programs are great. The problem is the human
18 error and if you go back and look at the human error
19 and I'll try to keep this as brief as possible, and
20 everybody is welcome to study this documentation. We
21 had kittens that went into San Onofre. How many cats
22 go in and out of San Onofre? How many other animals,
23 how many raccoons and squirrels and rats go in and
24 out? If you could see this picture, there's a person
25 or worker at San Onofre handling radiated animals with

1 no protected clothing and no protected gloves? What
2 does he do with his street clothes after he leaves the
3 plant? Does he pump gas with his hands before you do?
4 Does he sit on the stool at the pizza parlor where
5 your 2-year-old sits to have his pizza without
6 changing his clothes? This is the type of NRC
7 inspector that was an on-site inspector. If you could
8 see this -- got cancer at cable operators.
9 Other cases, James Smetler got cancer at
10 San Onofre. Jimmy James got cancer at San Onofre.
11 Those of you who have been recognized in past years,
12 you recognize me as Linda McLandrich, widow of Gregory
13 McLandrich. He was exposed in 1982 from 100 leaking
14 radioactive fuel rods, a thousand particles of fuel,
15 with 50,000 light year -- okay.
16 MAYOR DIEHL: You're done. Thank you.
17 George Hale.
18 MR. HALE: I've got just a little video.
19 MAYOR DIEHL: Your time is running.
20 MR. HALE: Okay.
21 [Video is played.]
22 MAYOR DIEHL: Thirty seconds. You're down
23 to 30 seconds.
24 MR. HALE: I just want to make a couple of
25 quick comments. The guy from Southern California can

1 talk all about the safety requirements. This is
2 exactly the same thing. All the inspectors and
3 everything else, and this plant has leaked since what
4 1985 --
5 MAYOR DIEHL: Time is up.
6 MR. HALE: Lois Berg.
7 MS. BERG: Thank you, Scott. Two years
8 ago I hosted the meeting that we had, very similar to
9 this and you know my reflection of that is that I'm
10 really concerned about the decommissioning of Unit 1.
11 Most of the discussion was about what would happen to
12 Unit 1. Where would the radioactive materials go, how
13 would they go and what would be done?
14 And now I find that we are looking at plan
15 to build a storage tank. That to my recollection was
16 never discussed two years ago. I don't know when, how
17 this came about. I am fully bewildered and I'm even
18 more concerned when I read the excellent material
19 given out back in the lobby, the material called
20 nuclear acquittance. And if you will read that and if
21 you can answer some of those questions and furthermore
22 look at the data that follows the quiz, I think you
23 will be as alarmed as I am.
24 I look at this as the storage tanks and
25 the casks -- first I hear that they are -- they have

1 all been approved and everything is well with them and
2 then I hear and I thought I heard that tonight that we
3 need to further look at this possibility of these
4 encapsulated material. Are you as enthused as I am?
5 If you are I think we really need to look
6 at once again building of these storage tanks on
7 possibly seismic area and whether or not they should
8 even be here at all. It's my recollection two years
9 ago that the material was to taken away somewhere,
10 somehow, but not right on that same place, in the same
11 area.
12 Thank you very much.
13 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you, Lois. Rita, do
14 you wish to ask the question or do you want me to just
15 read it from the card? Wave your hand, smile,
16 something.
17 The question is precisely describe the
18 short and long term plan for radiation monitoring of
19 the dry storage casks, both on and off-site.
20 MR. PILMER: Yes, we have a requirement.
21 We have a program for radiation monitoring and we'll
22 carry that program out. That program consists of
23 measurements, first of all, to ensure that the design
24 objectives of storage modules are met and this is

1 determined after the fuel is put into them, so that
2 you have a reference point to check against.
3 I would point out that the experience at
4 other sites, compared to the design, calculations of
5 what radiation levels are outside the storage modules,
6 real life experience has indicated that those design
7 calculations are very conservative and the actual
8 radiation level and I'm talking about right up next to
9 them with your hand on it, the actual radiation level
10 have proven in practice to be much below the design
11 which is an upper value.
12 So we will have radiation monitoring as
13 part of the program that we already have around the
14 plant right now.
15 MR. KOBETZ: One of the things we look at
16 when reviewing the cask design, there are several
17 different cask designs out there to use. What are the
18 minimal things we need to monitor to ensure that
19 they're safe and when we issue a license or when we
20 issue a certificate we spell out those things in
21 there, whether it's a program for monitoring radiation
22 safety or to go beyond that we look at how a cask
23 performs.
24 In this case, it's ventilated cask that
25 you're talking about so you have air going in,

1 removing heat, going out through the top or some way
2 like that. What we do is we'll have monitor inlet
3 temperatures, outlet temperatures, so that we can see
4 that the cask is performing the way they're supposed
5 to. Then periodically, different groups will come in
6 and look at those programs. So we go beyond just
7 radiation monitoring.
8 There's a parameter that has to be
9 maintained for that cask. We put it in their license
10 to ensure that they monitor and they take appropriate
11 actions if it's outside of what areas we think it
12 should be.
13 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Next will be Don
14 May. Following Don will be Joseph Braidic.
15 MR. MAY: Thank you, sir. This is a
16 question for both the NRC speakers. You're storing
17 the isotopes here for --
18 MAYOR DIEHL: I'm not. I'm just the
19 Mayor.
20 (Laughter.)
21 MR. MAY: These isotopes last hundreds of
22 thousands of years. If they're going to be stored
23 here locally for hundreds of years, and yet in one of
24 the statements that Edison has made in federal court,

1 before the legislative agencies, they may not be here
2 by lunch tomorrow.
3 In the February report, the Securities
4 Exchange Commission here indicates that they're in
5 default, that is to say they did not make their
6 payments of over $1 billion in bonds. They have
7 defaulted on their other obligations, regulated by the
8 Securities Exchange Commission. They have empty court
9 ordered bank accounts that were paid for mitigation
10 for their marine impacts.
11 They have testified before the Senate that
12 this week they will face bankruptcy unless there's a
13 State bailout. There have been statements made to
14 employees that they have exhausted the pension funds
15 and have broken agreements, collective bargaining
16 agreements because they don't have the funds. In a
17 workshop down here in San Clemente a couple of weeks
18 ago it was indicated to the investigators that they
19 don't have the funds to pay for the contracts and will
20 not be able to complete their studies.
21 What is the NRC going to do with someone
22 who may not be around next week, much less are you
23 going to enter the bonding contracts? They've broken
24 all agreements with every regulatory agency in the
25 State saying they just don't have the financial

1 resources and the capability to keep their agreements.
2 What kind of agreements can you get with a success of
3 this company that's not going to be here?
4 Well, one thing that the State has said,
5 this is during the hearings, that whoever the
6 successor of Southern California Edison is, it's not
7 going to have the same capabilities Edison does and
8 we're going to bind these contracts for this kind of
9 stuff that's going to go on for ten, hundreds,
10 thousands of years here in the community?
11 MAYOR DIEHL: Thirty seconds.
12 MR. MAY: Doesn't make sense, my friends.
13 I would think that you need to look for who it is that
14 is going to clean up after the mess is left here
15 behind. It's not going to be Southern California
16 Edison.
17 (Applause.)
18 MR. MASNIK: I'm Mike Masnik from the
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This is a question, of
20 course, of great concern to us as well. When we
21 engaged regulations to the decommissioning of nuclear
22 power plants, we required licensees to set aside a
23 substantial amount of money to guarantee that that
24 money would be available.

1 In the case of Southern -- in the case of
2 Edison, there is a substantial amount of money in a
3 decommissioning trust fund that would be available for
4 the care of the facility and also the decommissioning.
5 That money is required by our regulation. They are
6 not allowed to use that money for any other purpose
7 other than the decommissioning and the safe storage of
8 the fuel.
9 We have experience in this area. El Paso
10 Electric and Public Service of New Hampshire, both
11 utilities went bankrupt. In both cases, the
12 decommissioning trust fund was not touched and was
13 passed on to the successor organizations.
14 We're confident that the money will be
15 -- now, if a licensee does go into bankruptcy,
16 obviously, it would be up to the bankruptcy courts to
17 decide how to apportion the assets of the company. We
18 have in the bankruptcy law there is provisions for
19 those particular funds associated with public health
20 and safety and we're reasonably confident that the
21 courts will not touch that money. So I think we're
22 concerned, obviously, and we're watching this issue
23 very carefully, but we see no reason at this point to
24 be overly concerned about the safeguard.

1 MAYOR DIEHL: Joseph Braidic and then
2 Patricia Borchman.
3 MR. BRAIDIC: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and I'd
4 like to thank the members of the NRC for answering all
5 my questions and adding to my knowledge.
6 I'm just old enough to have been a witness
7 to the nuclear age. I was in Japan as an 18-year-old
8 in 1945 and just like other things in our lives, the
9 things that were first used as a weapon have turned
10 out to be used for man's good. I'd like to say that
11 I'm actually concerned about the environment, but I
12 think there's been too much irresponsible television
13 reporting.
14 There's been too many unsubstantiated
15 claims made by environmental people who -- their
16 concerns are legitimate, but they don't have the
17 background. They don't want to educate themselves.
18 They don't want to learn these things. I think a good
19 start is to follow what the people at the NRC have
20 attempted to do by showing you what goes in.
21 In the scheme of things where we have to
22 worry about hazards, I think every time I get in my
23 car, every time I drive across a parking lot, any time
24 I go to the ocean, those hazards against my life are
25 intimately more extreme than having to worry about

1 nuclear leakage. So my suggestion is we ought to be
2 advancing about half a dozen more power plants in the
3 State and we wouldn't be in the mess we're going to be
4 in this summer. And you can mark my words. Watch
5 what happens this summer. We'll wish we had a couple
6 more nuclear power plants.
7 Thank you.
8 (Applause.)
9 MAYOR DIEHL: Patricia. And following
10 Patricia will be Barbara Rosenbaum.
11 MS. BORCHMAN: My name is Patricia
12 Borchman. I'm a resident from the City of Visa in
13 north San Diego County. I am here as a member of the
14 public and as a spokesperson for the public interest
15 and in the interest of public safety. I've got some
16 extensive comments that I have in letter form that are
17 way too long to fit in three minutes and so I've
18 already presented them to both Edison and the Nuclear
19 Regulatory Commission. I appreciate having this
20 meeting.
21 Basically, my big concern is regardless of
22 the extent of assurances and their defense in depth
23 philosophies, the safety redundancy features and
24 assurances that everything is under control, in this
25 practical, real world this technology has no safe

1 margin for error. Zero. Absolute zero tolerance for
2 human error, mechanical failure, technical operator
3 error, whatever.
4 This stuff is going to be for probably a
5 hundred years. It's getting a license for 20 years
6 and it can get renewed probably up to four times.
7 It's going to be there at least 100 years. That's way
8 beyond our lifetime. None of us will be here. It's
9 going to be in our children's hands. And what are
10 they going to say? What are we going to say to them
11 when they ask why did we let this happen?
12 I think it's a good time and it's a wake
13 up call. It's an opportunity for us to ask the tough
14 questions and they need to be asked and answered. I
15 don't think the public is going to accept or settle
16 for anything less. And there's no reason they should.
17 Thank you.
18 (Applause.)
19 MAYOR DIEHL: Barbara?
20 MS. ROSENBAUM: I have a question on a
21 national level and that had to do with our government
22 agreeing to the idea of bringing back spent material
23 to our country in agreements and we already have
24 problems in our own country in what to do with the
25 spent fuel. I also read in one of the brochures that

1 we also -- we only have a $500 million budget. With
2 all of the various categories that were described
3 here, it sounds like we're a little shorthanded in all
4 of the things that we're asking. Anyway, I just
5 wanted to raise those questions.
6 MR. RICHARDS: My name is Stu Richards.
7 I'm with the NRC from Washington, D.C.
8 You know, it's difficult to speak to your
9 question about bringing fuel back from overseas
10 because that's really a question for the Department of
11 State, but I think it was safely done. I think it's
12 safely being stored. From my perspective, that's what
13 counts.
14 As far as the $500 million, I don't know
15 exactly what the amount of money is that's set aside
16 presently for decommissioning in San Onofre. I can
17 only tell you that the NRC establishes minimum amounts
18 and I know that Edison has met those amounts of money
19 and we feel confident that when the time comes they'll
20 be able to safely decommission all three units.
21 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Next we have a
22 question from Marian Pack. How will the radioactive
23 water from the cooling pools be stored after the fuel
24 rods are removed and placed in the casks?

1 MR. PILMER: The disposal of the
2 radioactive water in the spent fuel pools is a
3 decommissioning issue. The water is first of all
4 decontaminated by a process and then safely discharged
5 in accordance with standards that are done on a
6 routine basis. The discharge of liquid effluents and
7 I'm talking about at levels that are extremely low
8 concentrations is done in full accordance with
9 regulations and it is done so without any effects on
10 public health and safety.
11 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Next we have a
12 question from Mel Kernahan. Why do you continue to
13 create radioactive waste when there is still no safe
14 way or place to store it for hundreds of thousands of
15 years until it becomes harmless?
16 Is there an NRC response to that?
17 MR. RICHARDS: First off, I was told that
18 I answer the wrong question from the lady -- let me
19 try again. I guess you're talking about the $500
20 million budget for the NRC, is that right? The only
21 thing I can say that our agency with that $500 million
22 is roughly about 3,000 employees. There are about 100
23 nuclear power plants in the country, 100 units. So as
24 you can see the ratio of people to units is pretty
25 high and as a matter of fact, the nuclear industry is

1 very heavily regulated, so I think we do a pretty good
2 job with our $500 million.
3 As far as the production of additional
4 radioactive material with the question of storage,
5 simply spoken, as stated by the Congress, this country
6 views nuclear power as a viable way of making
7 electricity. We've done it safely for the last 40
8 years. The waste material that's been generated in
9 that 40 year period or so has been safely stored.
10 There are a lot of arguments about the long-term
11 storage, but as you probably know, the Department of
12 Energy was responsible for looking at that right now
13 at Yucca Mountain. I think at least the people in our
14 Agency are confident that there will be a long-term
15 solution and that issue will be addressed. We think
16 it's going to be addressed in the next 20 years or so.
17 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Next is Ricardo
18 Nicol. Follow Ricardo will be Lyn Harris Hicks.
19 MR. NICOL: Good evening, Mr. Mayor. The
20 area we're in has the highest seismic risk of any area
21 in the world. We have building codes in the same
22 category as Salvador, Japan, Turkey. It's the only
23 area of the United States to be in that category in
24 that seismic category. Anything west of the San
25 Andreas Fault, and the reason is because we're in the

1 Pacific Tektonic Plate which moves in the opposite
2 direction of the rest of the United States.
3 So we're subject to major earthquakes.
4 It's conceivable that the seismic criteria that was
5 used to build the nuclear plants wouldn't hold water
6 today. Hold nuclear waste either. Or nuclear -- it's
7 very possible that they wouldn't because of the new
8 scientific information. But we still don't know the
9 whole story.
10 It's an on-going story. It's a developing
11 story, the seismic hazards in this area. Right now,
12 there's a series of studies being done because they're
13 very concerned about the hazards, the potential of
14 producing as much damage as an earthquake especially
15 along the beach communities. There's an on-going
16 study right now and it's being funded.
17 MAYOR DIEHL: Three minutes.
18 MR. NICOL: It's very possible that even
19 the criteria that's being used right now is going to
20 be obsolete because they don't have the whole story.
21 The question is why here? Move this stuff over to
22 where -- any place in the United States where there is
23 zero seismic hazardous risk. Thank you.
24 (Applause.)

1 MS. HICKS: I know there must be some
2 people here today who are new to this and so I would
3 like to call your attention to this screen here and
4 the words which we've been looking at. Independent
5 spent fuel storage installation. And spent fuel
6 storage is a brainwash. It's not spent. It's
7 radiated. It's material generated by man. Every time
8 we come to anything like this, words are used. And
9 storage.
10 That sounds like something you put on a
11 shelf in the garage, right? This isn't storage. This
12 is containment. It's keeping an active material,
13 substances, which are trying to get out. As hard as
14 they try to keep up in Washington, they're going in
15 the Columbia River, the San Fernando Valley, the
16 facility here. And here at San Onofre we've got two
17 leaks from these. How can they say it's completely
18 safe? The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires
19 virtual perfection in its system and I think we have
20 to realize that there is a little bit of deception in
21 this and that we should object to it because it isn't
22 fair.
23 I want you to take the time to read this.
24 I know most of you picked it up, this nuclear quiz
25 that was prepared by a volunteer who is a nuclear

1 engineer and it gives the information in here. When
2 they talk about these casks being virtually safe,
3 completely safe, virtual perfection, this talks about
4 the leaks, the build up of hydrogen to explosions,
5 this is a new technology. They're talking about --
6 MAYOR DIEHL: Thirty seconds.
7 MS. HICKS: They're talking about a new
8 technology on our beach at San Onofre and we've done
9 it already. We've been in this nuclear test tube most
10 of our lives, most of the people here. And it's time
11 that we put this stuff some place else.
12 (Applause.)
13 MAYOR DIEHL: Next we have a question from
14 Jim Conron. Question: Is Advanced NUHOMS cask
15 design actually a new different "beefed up" design
16 (e.g., to handle higher seismic loads) or will the
17 review process realize the same (standard cask) design
18 to determine if it will meet increased seismic loads,
19 in effect, using up the conservative margins in an
20 existing design?
21 MR. KOBETZ: The advanced NUHOMS design is
22 somewhat a hybrid of the standard design. To the
23 extent possible we do rely on some of the old
24 analysis, however, if there are any built, anything
25 different, we review it in its entirety. An example

1 is the steel canister. It's very similar to what's
2 being stored up at Rancho Seco, but it's not the same.
3 We're going back and we're reanalyzing it for the fuel
4 that's going to be at San Onofre and for the cask
5 design.
6 Now the HSM, if that's -- I'm not sure
7 where we are with our review, but if that's exactly
8 like the one we previously reviewed, we probably won't
9 review exactly how that's going to be constructed.
10 I hope that answers your question. We use
11 as much as we can in the past, but if there are any
12 differences, we re-do them.
13 MR. CONRON: The question basically was,
14 the advanced cask, is it a new design, different or
15 does the approval of the advanced cask design of San
16 Onofre involve reanalysis of the existing standard
17 cask design to see if it will meet higher standard
18 than is here?
19 MR. PILMER: If I understand the question,
20 the answer is a little of both. There are
21 enhancements in the advanced NUHOMS design to make it
22 stronger. These enhancements are fairly technical in
23 detail so I'm not going to attempt to describe them
24 here.

1 It's also subject to an analysis of the
2 higher seismic criteria that we have asked that our
3 designer be designed for. The other NUHOMS designs
4 haven't had the requirement for higher seismic, so
5 it's true. They didn't analyze for higher seismic
6 loads but we are making our case that proving the
7 case, I believe, before our regulators that this
8 settlement is capable of higher seismic criteria that
9 we imposed for this site.
10 MAYOR DIEHL: We're going to go ahead and
11 take a break of about two minutes. We need to change
12 tapes in order to go forward. I have three requests,
13 but we need to change tapes so we can get all the
14 comments and the discussion. We're gong to take a two
15 minute break.
16 (Off the record.)
17 MAYOR DIEHL: Let's come back to order.
18 Next is Frank Saraga.
19 MR. SARAGA: This is Frank Saraga. I've
20 been retired about 8 years and I just want to make a
21 statement that I was involved in fabrication nuclear
22 fuel cells for 11 years for Rockwell International.
23 The division I was with was Atomics International
24 which later on in the mid-1970s was called Energy
25 Systems.

1 And I handled U2-35 enriched uranium for
2 11 years, 5 days a week for 11 years. I'm 76 years
3 old. I don't have cancer and I'm pretty healthy, so
4 I'm not worried about spent uranium. I handled
5 enriched uranium and I wish that they would have a lot
6 more nuclear power plants. Because in my opinion,
7 they're expensive to build, but it's the cleanest,
8 cheapest electricity that man can have. Don't worry
9 about it blowing up.
10 I know enough about the nuclear problem
11 and I've worked on fast rads in the late 1970s which
12 replaces 90 percent of the fuel. I'm just so damn
13 sorry that the U.S. government stopped.
14 I thank you. That's all I've got to say.
15 (Applause.)
16 MAYOR DIEHL: Next we have a question from
17 Steve Netherby. Is it coincidence that NRC"s regional
18 headquarters is in a State with no nuclear storage
19 sites?
20 (Laughter.)
21 How do you explain such a storage site in
22 an area with extreme seismic, tsunami and terrorist
23 exposure in the midst of a high population area?
24 NRC?

1 MR. SPITZBER: First of all, let me say
2 that there are two nuclear power reactors in Texas and
3 they do store spent nuclear fuel currently in the
4 spent fuel pool.
5 Time will tell whether or not they need to
6 construct a spent fuel storage installation similar to
7 the one being proposed here. Most of the utilities at
8 some point will have to build this type of facility to
9 store the fuel safely and until such time as the
10 Department of Energy establishes a repository for the
11 fuel which as Mr. Richards indicated we expect to
12 occur some time within the next 10 to 20 years, the
13 Nuclear Regulatory Commission is going to be involved
14 in the licensing of that fuel for that high level
15 waste repository.
16 We're currently involved in establishing
17 regulations and a regulatory process for reviewing
18 that license application. We expect the license
19 application to come in from the Department of Energy
20 some time, I believe next year is the current schedule
21 and we will be actively involved in that review
22 process.
23 In fact, the regional office, as I speak
24 is starting to be involved in some of the planning

1 stages. We're developing inspection programs for that
2 repository.
3 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Next is Bernardo
4 Garcia.
5 MR. GARCIA: Thank you. I want to make
6 just a couple of comments and correct some information
7 that's been put out at the meeting. My name is
8 Bernardo Garcia. I'm Region 5 Director of the Utility
9 Employees of America. We represent the employees, the
10 operations maintenance employees at the San Onofre
11 Nuclear Generator Station and all the generator
12 facilities that are still owned by Edison. We've
13 represented those employees since 1943. We've
14 represented San Onofre employees since the plant was
15 built.
16 I can tell you first hand I worked at the
17 plant for 15 years. It was a highly trained,
18 dedicated staff that worked at that power plant. I
19 think that the fuel and plant is in good hands with
20 the work force that we represent. I have all the
21 confidence in the world that the workers at the plant
22 -- there were some comments made about the fiscal
23 standards of Southern California Edison and I can't
24 speak to the entire thing because I haven't personally
25 reviewed all the records, but a gentleman made

1 comments about the trust fund that had been
2 liquidated. That's incorrect.
3 The pension trust fund is regulated by the
4 federal government, by ERISA. It is in a trust fund
5 right now. The employer did not get to those funds
6 for anything but pensions. The money is all still
7 there. None of it has been touched and it is also
8 insured the federal government by the Pension
9 Guarantee Board.
10 There is a current proceeding before the
11 California Public Utilities Commission where at least
12 one intervenor has proposed that Edison terminate its
13 pension plan and get to those assets, if there is any
14 at the time of termination so that that money can be
15 turned over to help pay for the deficit in costs of
16 purchasing power.
17 That has not happened and if we have
18 anything to say about it, it will not happen, because
19 we bargained for that. We've worked for that, those
20 pensions and that money belongs to the employees.
21 That money does not belong to Edison. It belongs to
22 Edison as much as all collected, we're entitled to
23 that money paid out in benefit.
24 You made comments about them violating the
25 collective bargaining agreements. Well, I can't

1 defend them on that. They have done that on more than
2 one occasion. They haven't violated the pension
3 collective bargaining agreement to the best of my
4 knowledge recently and I don't even know about those
5 things.
6 But we do have an arbitration procedure in
7 our collective bargaining agreement and we use those
8 procedures on a regular basis to resolve those
9 disputes.
10 Thank you.
11 (Applause.)
12 MAYOR DIEHL: Next, K.C. Hicks. What is
13 the criteria for your certification of sites for the
14 most dangerous radiation sites?
15 MR. KOBETZ: Can you repeat the question?
16 MAYOR DIEHL: What is the criteria for
17 your certification of sites for the most dangerous
18 radiation sites?
19 In other words, I'm assuming that there
20 are places where most dangerous radiation substances
21 are kept, do you certify those as people with the NRC?
22 MR. KOBETZ: As I talked about in our
23 discussions, we have regulatory requirements that when
24 followed are safe.

1 To ensure that people meet those
2 regulatory requirements, to get the specific question,
3 the technical review that we have, things called
4 standard review plans to make sure that all these are
5 done in the same fashion, that we look at criticality
6 issues in the same fashion.
7 That we look at thermal issues, that
8 everything meets the requirements. That is our
9 certification process. And at the end of that
10 technical review, then it goes through rulemaking.
11 One rulemaking is complete and if no safety issues
12 have been found, that's when we certify a cask design.
13 If a utility is just going for an independent license
14 we will issue a license. I'm not sure if that --
15 MAYOR DIEHL: That sounds fine. Thank you
16 for that explanation.
17 Next we have a request to speak, Marion
18 Pack.
19 MS. PACK: I was the person who asked the
20 question about what will happen with the radioactive
21 water that's in the cooling ponds. And I would like
22 a little more in-depth response to that as far as how
23 this water this has been accumulating radiation from
24 the radiated spent nuclear fuel rods since the first

1 rods were placed in there after the opening of the
2 plant in 1968, how do you improve that radiation?
3 How do you make it safe and don't dump it
4 in our ocean? I'm very concerned about the presence
5 of radiation and a lot of other dumping that goes on
6 in San Onofre, so I'd really like to know how this is
7 cleaned up. And I also had just a brief answer to one
8 of the earlier people's questions about bringing about
9 spent irradiated nuclear fuel to the United States
10 when it's sold to other countries and it's brought
11 back because it's a national security issue. Further
12 explain that.
13 When you talk about -- a number of people
14 said that nuclear power is clean. It is the only type
15 of energy generation that produces waste that you can
16 even make nuclear bombs out of. If nuclear spent fuel
17 is brought back, plutonium -- you can make nuclear
18 weapons out of it, that's why it's brought back.
19 MAYOR DIEHL: Okay, do we have any other
20 explanation on decontaminating radiated water?
21 Maybe Marion, you should just talk to
22 these folks directly after the meeting.
23 This is the last question that I have and
24 the last sheet that I have, but before I get to this
25 question I want to thank everybody from Southern

1 California Edison and the NRC. I think you've done a
2 very good job at explaining and answering the
3 questions.
4 (Applause.)
5 I wanted to also thank you, to all you
6 folks for sponsoring this meeting. I think we've done
7 a good job getting dialogue going back and forth.
8 Question of Gloria Sall. Can the NRC
9 require Edison to request a site-specific study and
10 an alternate site for Coastal Commission
11 consideration?
12 I'm not sure I understand. Unless you're
13 trying to say the site imposed by Edison maybe isn't
14 a good one, so can the NRC require them to look at
15 another site.
16 Is that the gist of the question? Yes,
17 okay.
18 MR. RICHARDS: This is Stu Richards again.
19 I hope I answer the right question, but I think simply
20 stated, we have requirements for the siting of the dry
21 storage facility and it's up to the individual utility
22 to find a site that meets those requirements. As long
23 as they can come up with the location that meets our
24 requirements and they come up with a cask system that
25 will function properly there, then we'll approve it.

1 That's simply where we're at. We don't require
2 alternatives, as long as they come up with one good
3 location.
4 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you.
5 MS. HICKS: I want to know whether the
6 Nuclear Regulatory Commission could require Edison to
7 request a site specific study and ask for such a
8 generic and we were told by the Nuclear Regulatory
9 Commission people that they only do such
10 site-specific studies when it's requested by the owner
11 and so we're wondering how do we get Edison to request
12 it and also how do we get them to provide other sites
13 for the consideration of the Coastal Commission
14 because the California Coastal Act specifies that they
15 shall consider alternative sites.
16 (Applause.)
17 MR. RICHARDS: The straight answer is no,
18 we do not require that they ask for a
19 site-specific review. The regulations are written in
20 two ways and without trying to get into too much
21 detail, a power plant that has a license to operate
22 has what's called a general license and that gives
23 that power plant the ability, as long as they meet all
24 the regulations, to move forward and build dry storage
25 on that site. They also have to interact with the

1 local community or the state permitting purposes and
2 I can't really speak to any of that.
3 For our purposes, if they elect to use the
4 general license, they're meeting our requirements and
5 we find that acceptable and safe. There is a separate
6 provision that you, I think are alluding to which is
7 called a specific license and it allows for a utility
8 to come in and go through its specific licensing
9 process. It is an option that the utility can use,
10 but it's not something that we direct be done.
11 As far as the California Coastal
12 Commission goes, we're just not a party to those
13 proceedings and I can't speak to that.
14 MAYOR DIEHL: Thank you. Elinora reminds
15 me this Mayor needs to thank the past Mayors and Susan
16 Mitchell for their participation and helping to bring
17 this meeting here tonight and here in San Clemente.
18 So I want to thank you.
19 (Applause.)
20 Once again I want to thank everybody who
21 participated in tonight's meeting, for being good
22 sports and I hope the information was useful to
23 everyone that's here.
24 Again, San Onofre administrative people,
25 stick around after the meeting for any specific one on

1 one questions and the NRC has indicated they will do
2 the same.
3 Thank you very much. The rest of you have
4 a safe ride home.
5 (Whereupon, at 9:50 p.m., the meeting was
6 concluded.)
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