



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

November 22, 1991

Docket No. 50-362

Mr. Harold B. Ray
Senior Vice President
Southern California Edison Company
Irvine Operations Center
23 Parker Street
Irvine, California 92718

Dear Mr. Ray:

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE TO SAN ONOFRE UNIT 3
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 4.4.9, INSERVICE INSPECTION OF REACTOR
COOLANT PUMP FLYWHEELS

This letter documents the extension of a temporary waiver of compliance to the Southern California Edison Company for San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Unit 3 Operating License NPF-15. By letters dated October 28, 1991 and October 30, 1991, NRC granted a temporary waiver of compliance from Technical Specification requirements to perform periodic inservice inspections of the reactor coolant pump (RCP) flywheels. This letter extends the effective period of the waiver from December 1, 1991, to January 31, 1992.

San Onofre Unit 3 Technical Specification Section 4.4.9 requires RCP flywheels to be inspected per Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.14 requirements. The inspection interval as defined in RG 1.14 is approximately three years, during refueling or maintenance outages. Unit 3 flywheels have exceeded the 3 year inspection interval; they were last inspected in February 1987. The next Unit 3 refueling outage is scheduled to begin on January 18, 1992. On November 8, 1991, SCE requested an extension of the temporary waiver of compliance so that the flywheel inspection could be performed during the regularly scheduled refueling outage rather than during an additional reactor shutdown in 1991.

SCE presented a fracture mechanics evaluation, previous flywheel inspection data from San Onofre, and the results of an industry survey of operating experience to justify its conclusion that there is very little likelihood that any of the Unit 3 RCP flywheels will fail during the requested extension interval. An inspection of Unit 2 flywheels in November 1991 and all previous flywheel inspections at both units have not identified any safety concerns.

The NRC staff concurs that there is minimal concern that RCP flywheels will fail during the extended inspection interval and that the plant transients and personnel exposures associated with a reactor shutdown to perform this type of inspection are not warranted. Compensatory RCP pump vibration monitoring as proposed in the November 8, 1991 letter will be performed as a precaution during the extended operating period.

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

9112110044 911122
PDR ADOCK 05000362
Q PDR

DFD 1/0
2/11

Notwithstanding the fact that the requested waiver was granted based on the conclusion that the extended flywheel inspection interval has minimal safety significance, the incident raises concern over the adequacy of inservice inspection program controls at San Onofre. The NRC staff will look into the cause of the missed surveillance to determine if the event is indicative of programmatic deficiencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martin J. Virgilio".

Martin J. Virgilio, Assistant Director
for Regions IV and V
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Notwithstanding the fact that the requested waiver was granted based on the conclusion that the extended flywheel inspection interval has minimal safety significance, the incident raises concern over the adequacy of inservice inspection program controls at San Onofre. The NRC staff will look into the cause of the missed surveillance to determine if the event is indicative of programmatic deficiencies.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Martin J. Virgilio, Assistant Director
for Regions IV and V
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV/V
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File	NRC/Local PDRs	PDV r/f	TMurley	FMiraglia
JPartlow	BBoger	MVirgilio	RCesaro	GKalman
OGC(15B18)	DHagan(3206)	GHill(4)	WJones(7103)	CGrimes
ACRS(10)(P315)	GPA/PA(2G5)	OC/LFMB	PDV p/f	JCaldwell(17G21)
JLieberman,OE	WSwenson(13F9)	ELeeds	RZimmerman,RV	AMendiola

OFC	: PDV/LA	: PDV/	: EMCB	: PDV/D	: REGION V
NAME	: RCesaro	: GKalman	: CYC	: TQuay	: R. ZMAN VIA phone
DATE	: 11/18/91	: 11/12/91	: 11/18/91	: 11/20/91	: 11/24/91

OFC	: AD45/DRPW	:	:	:	:
NAME	: MVirgilio	:	:	:	:
DATE	: 11/27/91	:	:	:	:

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
Document Name: SO EXT OF TEMP WAIVER LTR

* CONCURRED PREVIOUSLY.

Ray and Cotton
Southern California Edison Company

San Onofre Nuclear Generating
Station, Unit Nos. 2 and 3

cc:

James A. Beoletto, Esq.
Southern California Edison Company
Irvine Operations Center
23 Parker Street
Irvine, California 92718

Mr. Richard J. Kosiba, Project Manager
Bechtel Power Corporation
12440 E. Imperial Highway
Norwalk, California 90650

Chairman, Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, California 92101

Mr. Robert G. Lacy
Manager, Nuclear Department
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
P. O. Box 1831
San Diego, California 92112

Alan R. Watts, Esq.
Rourke & Woodruff
701 S. Parker St. No. 7000
Orange, California 92668-4702

Mr. John Hickman
Senior Health Physicist
Environmental Radioactive Mgmt. Unit
Environmental Management Branch
State Department of Health Services
714 P Street, Room 616
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Sherwin Harris
Resource Project Manager
Public Utilities Department
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, California 92522

Resident Inspector/San Onofre NPS
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Post Office Box 4329
San Clemente, California 92674

Mr. Charles B. Brinkman, Manager
Washington Nuclear Operations
ABB Combustion Engineering Nuclear Power
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Mayor
City of San Clemente
100 Avenida Presidio
San Clemente, California 92672

Mr. Phil Johnson
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Regional Administrator, Region V
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Mr. Don J. Womeldorf
Chief, Environmental Management Branch
California Department of Health Services
714 P Street, Room 616
Sacramento, California 95814