

February 14, 2003

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

**Subject: Docket No. 50-362
Reactor Vessel Head Inspection Status
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Unit 3**

References: List of References Enclosed

Dear Sir or Madam,

This letter provides the status of the reactor vessel head inspections at San Onofre Unit 3 in light of the recently received order on this issue.

San Onofre Unit 3 is in the process of returning to power from its Cycle 12 refueling outage. Inspection of the reactor vessel head was completed in January 2003, during this refueling outage, in accordance with the commitments contained in our response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02 dated September 11, 2002 (Reference 1), as modified by our letter dated December 31, 2002 (Reference 2). The results of this inspection were discussed with the NRC staff in a telephone call on January 29, 2003.

On February 11, 2003, the NRC issued an immediately effective order establishing interim inspection requirements for reactor vessel heads at pressurized water reactors (Reference 3). By March 3, 2003, SCE will respond to this order in the context of the future inspections of the San Onofre Unit 2 and 3 reactor vessel heads at their next refueling outages.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me or Jack Rainsberry at (949) 368-7420.

Sincerely,



Enclosure

cc: E. W. Merschhoff, Regional Administrator, NRC Region IV
B. M. Pham, NRC Project Manager, San Onofre Units 2, and 3
C. C. Osterholtz, NRC Senior Resident Inspector, San Onofre Units 2 & 3

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References:

- 1) Letter from D. E. Nunn (SCE) to the Document Control Desk (NRC) dated September 11, 2002; Subject: Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362, 30-day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3
- 2) Letter from A. E. Scherer (SCE) to the Document Control Desk (NRC) dated December 31, 2002; Subject: Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362, Additional Information Regarding the Southern California Edison Company 30-day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3
- 3) NRC Order issued February 11, 2003, Establishing Interim Inspection Requirements for Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads at Pressurized Water Reactors.