



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

APR 16 2003

Harold B. Ray, Executive Vice President  
San Onofre, Units 2 and 3  
Southern California Edison Co.  
P.O. Box 128, Mail Stop D-3-F  
San Clemente, California 92674-0128

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT MEETING FOR SAN ONOFRE  
NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Dear Mr. Ray:

This refers to the public meeting conducted in San Clemente, California, on April 3, 2003, between your staff and the NRC. The participants discussed the results of the NRC's end-of-cycle assessment of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station performance for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2002.

The presentation included a brief overview of the reactor oversight program by the NRC for the benefit of the public. In addition, the NRC presented the overall assessment results based on inspection findings and performance indicators reported by the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

The attendance list, presentation material, and transcript of the meeting are enclosed with this summary (Enclosures 1, 2, and 3).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Reading Room).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Claude E. Johnson, Chief  
Project Branch C  
Division of Reactor Projects

Southern California Edison Co.

-2-

Enclosures:

1. Attendance List
2. Licensee Presentation
3. Official Transcript of Proceedings

Dockets: 50-361  
50-362

Licenses: NPF-10  
NPF-15

cc w/enclosures:

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

Gary L. Noff  
Power Projects/Contracts Manager  
Riverside Public Utilities  
2911 Adams Street  
Riverside, California 92504

Eileen M. Teichert, Esq.  
Supervising Deputy City Attorney  
City of Riverside  
3900 Main Street  
Riverside, California 92522

Joseph J. Wambold, Vice President  
Southern California Edison Company  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P.O. Box 128  
San Clemente, California 92674-0128

David Spath, Chief  
Division of Drinking Water and  
Environmental Management  
California Department of Health Services  
P.O. Box 942732  
Sacramento, California 94234-7320

Michael R. Olson  
San Onofre Liaison  
San Diego Gas & Electric Company  
P.O. Box 1831  
San Diego, California 92112-4150

Southern California Edison Co.

-3-

Ed Bailey, Radiation Control Program Director  
Radiologic Health Branch  
California Department of Health Services  
P.O. Box 942732 (MS 178)  
Sacramento, California 94234-7320

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

James D. Boyd, Commissioner  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street (MS 34)  
Sacramento, California 95814

Douglas K. Porter, Esq.  
Southern California Edison Company  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, California 91770

Dwight E. Nunn, Vice President  
Southern California Edison Company  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P.O. Box 128  
San Clemente, California 92674-0128

Dr. Raymond Waldo  
Southern California Edison Company  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P. O. Box 128  
San Clemente, California 92674-0128

A. Edward Scherer  
Southern California Edison  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P.O. Box 128  
San Clemente, California 92674-0128\

Walt Ekard  
Chief Administrative Officer  
San Diego County  
1600 Pacific Coast Highway  
San Diego, California 92101

Southern California Edison Co.

-4-

John Gelff, Mayor  
City of San Juan Capistrano  
32400 Paseo Adelanto  
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675

George Scarbrough, City Manager  
City of San Juan Capistrano  
32400 Paseo Adelanto  
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675

Stephanie M. Dorey, Mayor  
City of San Clemente  
100 Avenida Presidio  
San Clemente, California 92672

William O. Talley, Interim City Manager  
City of San Clemente  
100 Avenida Presidio  
San Clemente, California 92672

Bill Ossenmacher, Mayor  
City of Dana Point  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, California 92629

Doug Chotkevys, City Manager  
City of Dana Point  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, California 92629

Jeff Griffin, Regional Director  
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IX  
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200  
Oakland, California 94607-4052

Stephen A. Woods, Senior Health Physicist  
Department of Health Services  
Division of Drinking Water & Environmental Mgt.  
Nuclear Emergency Response Program  
P.O. Box 942732, MS 396  
Sacramento, California 94234-7320

Benjamin Tong, Manager  
Radiological Preparedness Unit  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
P.O. Box 419047  
Rancho Cordova, California 95741-9047

Electronic distribution by RIV:  
 Regional Administrator (EWM)  
 DRP Director (ATH)  
 DRS Director (DDC)  
 Senior Resident Inspector (CCO1)  
 Branch Chief, DRP/C (CEJ1)  
 Senior Project Engineer, DRP/C (WCW)  
 Staff Chief, DRP/TSS (PHH)  
 RITS Coordinator (NBH)

ADAMS:  Yes  No Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Publicly Available  Non-Publicly Available  Sensitive  Non-Sensitive

R:\ SO23\SO4-3-03 EOC MS.wpd

RIV:PE:DRP/C	C:DRP/C			
RVAzua;df	CEJohnson			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>			
4/16 /03	4/16 /03			

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

T=Telephone

E=E-mail

F=Fax

## END-OF-CYCLE MEETING ATTENDANCE

LICENSEE/FACILITY	Southern California Edison San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
DATE/TIME	April 3, 2003 / 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION	Country Inn San Clemente 35 Via Pico Plaza San Clemente, CA 92672
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ORGANIZATION
Vivian Barron	Home Schooling Mom-
Lyn Harris Hicks	CREED
Richard Redfield	Nuclear Witness
Art Howell	US NRC
RESE LAWRENCE	CITY OF OCEANSIDE FIRE DEPT.
DON MONAHAN	California State Parks
LEW HAYES	OCSD
EUGENE CRAMON	RESIDENT, SAN CLEMENTE
Russell Hoffman	Carlsbad CA
Brandon Ebeling	Self
Brian Kerry	City of San Juan Capistrano
Jan Senec	OCSD
James Cummins	Self

## END-OF-CYCLE MEETING ATTENDANCE

<b>LICENSEE/FACILITY</b>	Southern California Edison San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
<b>DATE/TIME</b>	April 3, 2003 / 7:00 p.m.
<b>LOCATION</b>	Country Inn San Clemente 35 Via Pico Plaza San Clemente, CA 92672
<b>NAME (PLEASE PRINT)</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
Marilyn J. O'Brien	Creed
Richard Nicol	CREED
Martin S. B...	Creed
Steven (C) Herby	CREED
Jerry Colman	CREED
S. Stenc	—
B. Freeman	none
Phil Diehl	North County Twp,
Flora-Lee Wray	CREED
Carol Scott	Homeowner in S.C.
Willis G. FRICK	Southern California Edison
JOHN TODD	SCE
Jim Perly	SCE



# ANNUAL ASSESSMENT MEETING



**Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

**Region IV**

# NRC Meeting Purpose

- Meeting with Licensee and Public
- Inform Public of Plant Performance

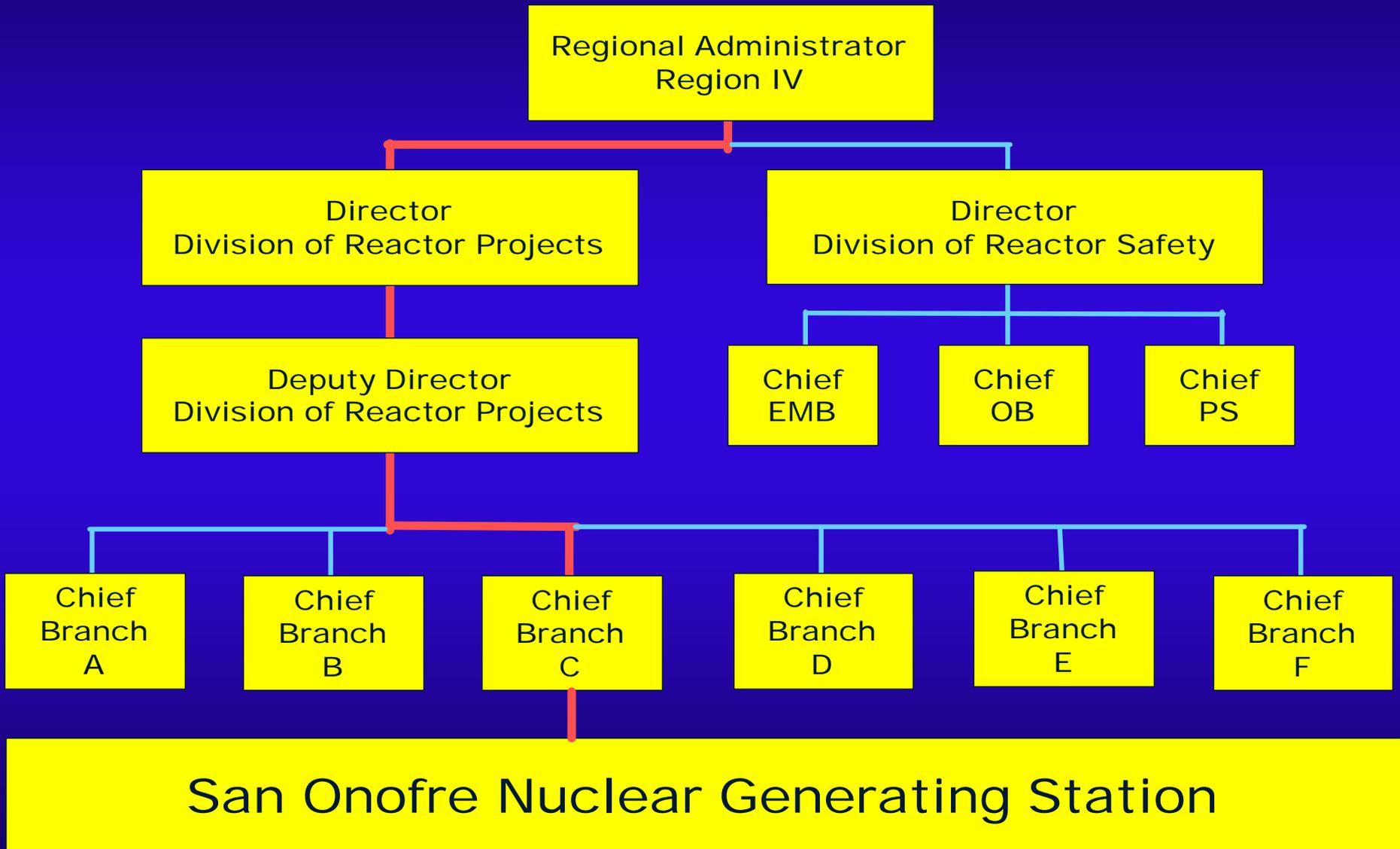


# NRC Meeting Guidelines

- Registration Table
- Questions and Answers
- Feedback Forms
- Handouts



# Regional Organization



# San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)





# **Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV**

# NRC PERFORMANCE GOALS

- Maintain public safety and protect the environment
- Enhance public confidence
- Improve:
  - Effectiveness
  - Efficiency
  - Realism of processes and decision making
- Reduce unnecessary regulatory burden



# Assessment of Safety Performance at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

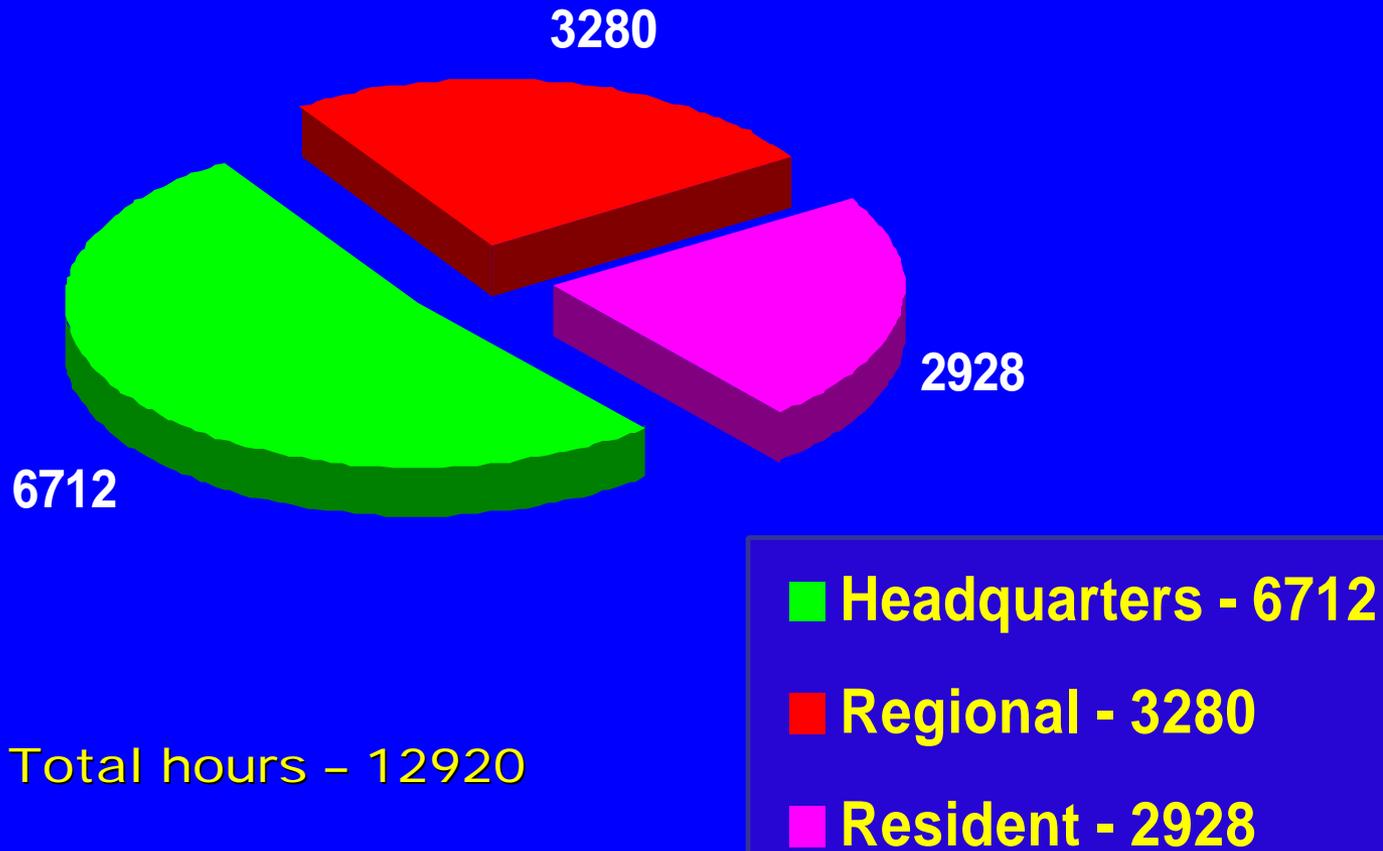


# Meeting Agenda

- REGULATORY OVERSIGHT
- FINDINGS AND ASSESSMENTS
- ADDITIONAL FOCUS AREAS
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



# Overall NRC Effort



# Resident Inspectors

- Stationed at the plant
- Prompt response capability
- 2928 hours of oversight



# Regional Inspectors

- Specialized
- Inspection teams
- 3280 hours of oversight



# Comprehensive Oversight Program

**NRC'S  
Overall  
Safety  
Mission**

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY  
AS A RESULT OF CIVILIAN  
NUCLEAR REACTOR  
OPERATION**

**Strategic Performance  
Areas**

**REACTOR  
SAFETY**

**RADIATION  
SAFETY**

**PLANT  
SECURITY**

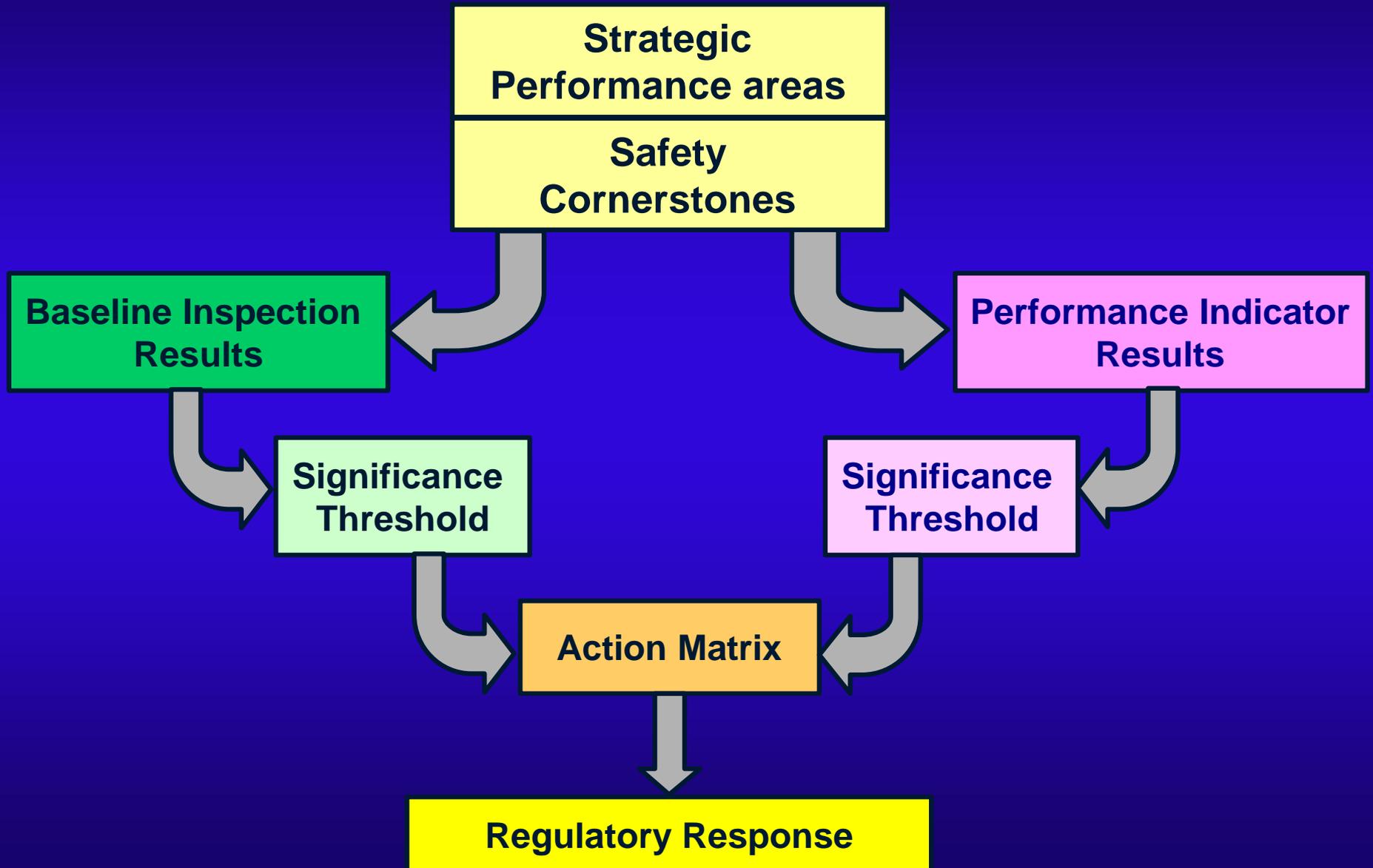
**SAFETY CORNERSTONES**

# NRC Oversight Activities

- Based on a logical and sound framework
- Provide assurance plants are:
  - Operating safely
  - Complying with regulations
- Inspections focused on key safety areas
- Objective indicators of performance
- Assessment program triggers regulatory actions



# Reactor Oversight Process



# Baseline Inspection Program

- Conducted at all plants
- Gathers objective evidence of plant safety
- Focuses on safety-significant:
  - systems
  - components
  - activities
  - events



# Baseline Inspection Program

- Inspection reports describe significant findings and non-compliance
- Inspection reports are publicly accessible

[www.NRC.gov/reading-rm/adams.html](http://www.NRC.gov/reading-rm/adams.html)



# Event Follow-up and Supplemental Inspections

- Review events for significance
- Follow-up significant inspection findings
- Determine causes of performance declines to ensure effective corrective actions
- Provide for graduated response



# Reactor Oversight Process

## SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE

---

GREEN

- very low

WHITE

- low to moderate

YELLOW

- substantial

RED

- high



# Performance Indicator Program

- Licensee monitors key safety parameters
- Data supplied to NRC quarterly
- Data verified by NRC



# Performance Indicators

- Performance indicator results and other assessment information available on the NRC's public web site:

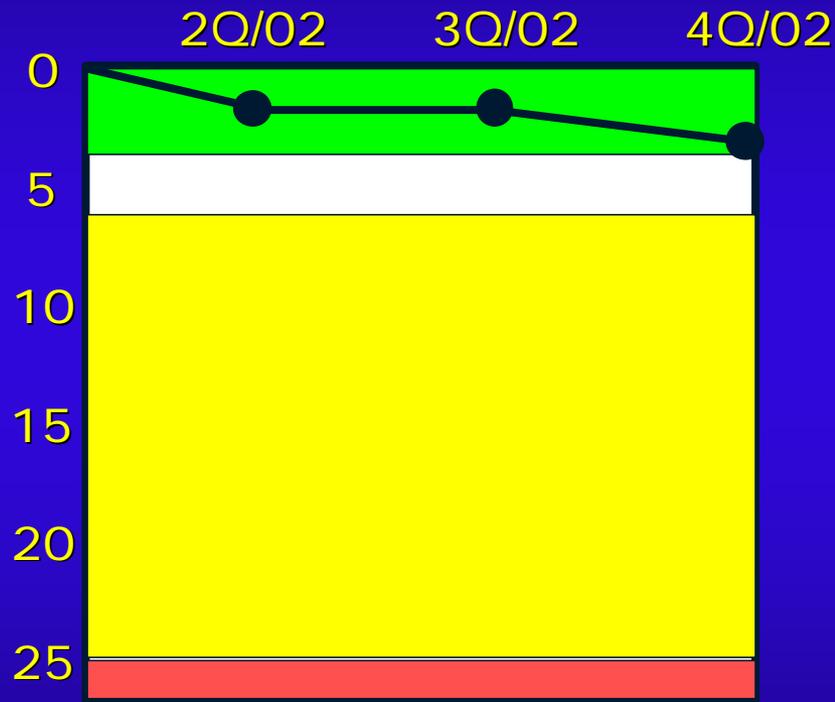
[www.NRC.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SANO2/sano2\\_chart.html](http://www.NRC.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SANO2/sano2_chart.html)

[www.NRC.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SANO3/sano3\\_chart.html](http://www.NRC.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/SANO3/sano3_chart.html)



# Performance Indicators

## Unplanned Scrams per 7000 critical hours



Thresholds:

White >3.0,

Yellow >6.0,

Red >25.0

Unplanned scrams per 7000 critical hours	2Q/02	3Q/02	4Q/02
Actual scrams	1	0	1
Critical hours	1206.2	2190.4	2124.1
Indicator value	0.9	0.9	2.7

# Key Aspects of the Assessment Program

- Objective review of licensee performance
- “Action Matrix” to determine agency response in three areas:
  - Inspection
  - Management Involvement
  - Regulatory Actions
- Plant specific assessment letters
- Information on NRC public web site



# Plant Safety Performance Summary



# Plant Specific Data

Name of Plant: San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station

Plant Operator: Southern California Edison

Number of Units: 2 (Operating)

Reactor Type & Vendor: Pressurized Water Reactor/  
Combustion Engineering

Location: San Clemente, CA

Power Output (electrical): 2260 Mwe (Total)

Source of Circulating Water: Pacific Ocean

# Major Plant Activities in 2002 Inspected by NRC

- IEB 2002-02 "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Penetration Nozzle" Inspection Programs performed during 2002 refueling outage
- Installation of additional security barriers

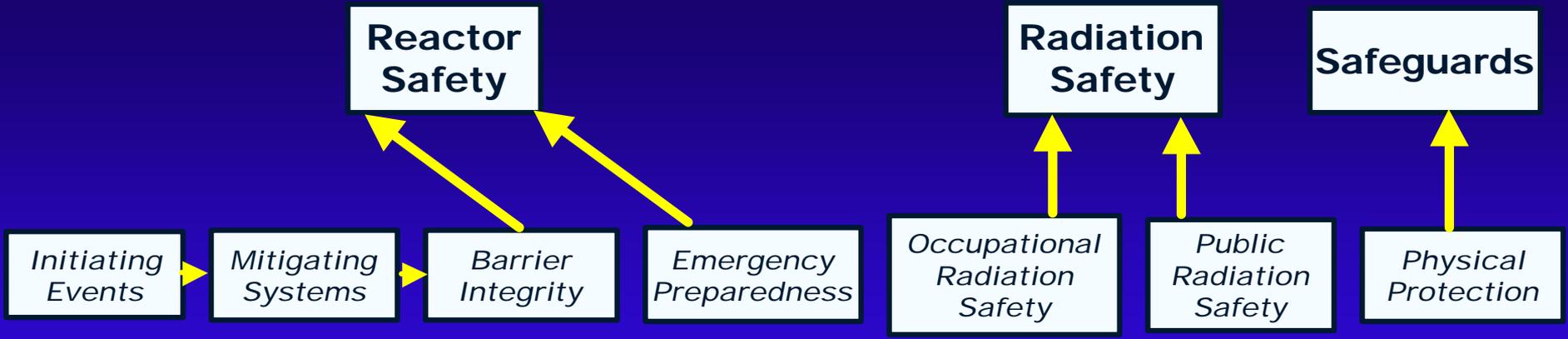


# Inspection Results

- NRC and Licensee identified inspection findings were of very low safety significance
  - A number of human performance issues were identified during this assessment period
  - Licensee is addressing these issues



# SONGS 4Q/2002 Performance Summary

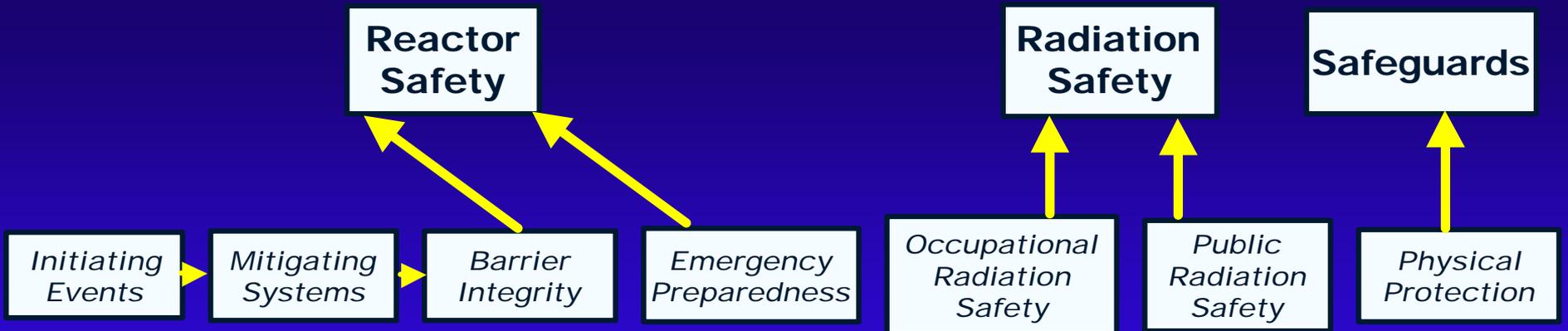


## Most Significant Inspection Findings

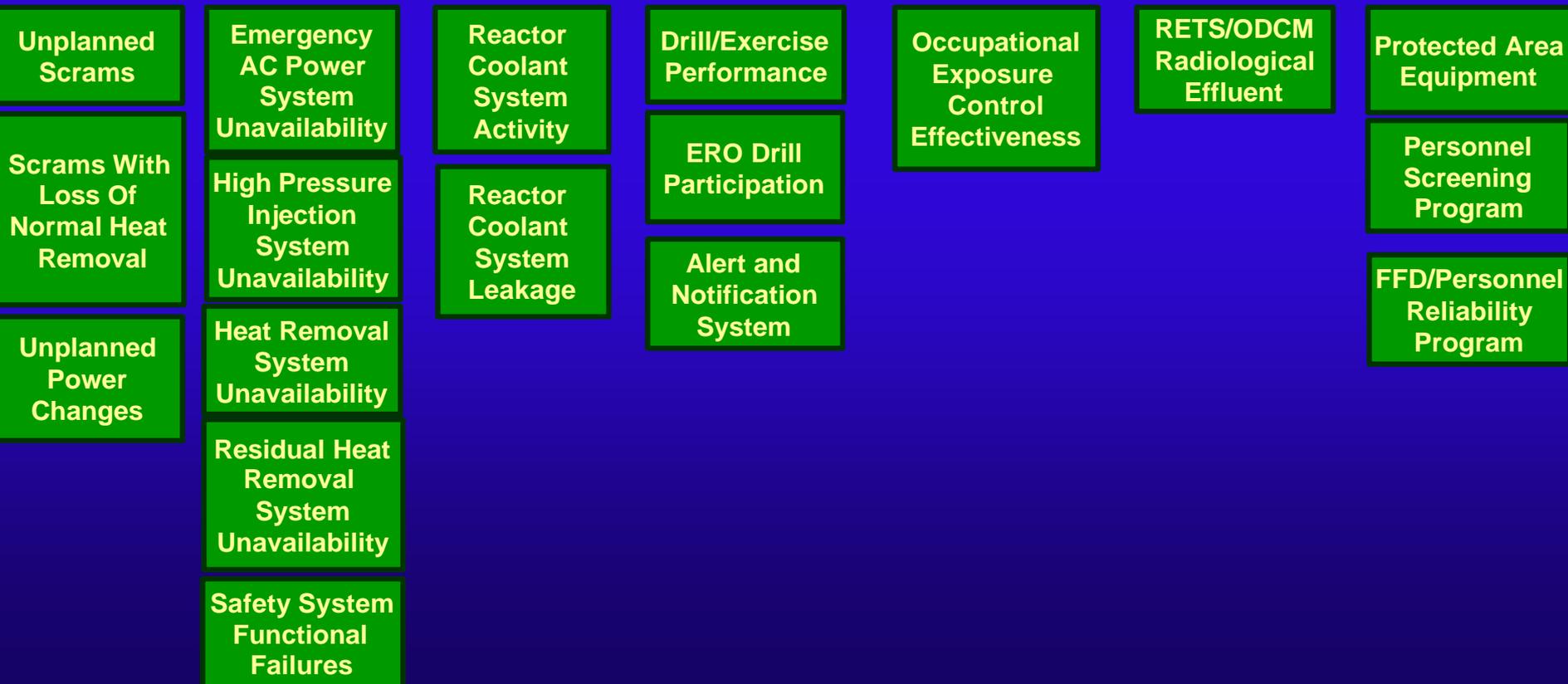
Quarter	Initiating Events	Mitigating Systems	Barrier Integrity	Emergency Preparedness	Occupational Radiation Safety	Public Radiation Safety	Physical Protection
4Q 2002	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter				
3Q 2002	No Findings this quarter	GREEN	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter
2Q 2002	No Findings this quarter	GREEN	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	GREEN	GREEN	No Findings this quarter
1Q 2002	No Findings this quarter	GREEN	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter	GREEN	No Findings this quarter	No Findings this quarter

Miscellaneous findings

# SONGS 4Q/2002 Performance Summary



## Performance Indicators



# Performance Indicator Results

All performance indicators within the  
Licensee Control Band during 2002



# Assessment Conclusion

Licensee effectively managed:

- Reactor safety
- Radiation safety
- Plant security

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
operated in a manner that protected  
the health and safety of the public



# LICENSEE RESPONSE



# Additional Focus Areas

- NRC Responds As-Needed
- Mandated Licensee Actions
- Implemented Emergency Plans



# Nuclear Industry Issues

- Reactor Vessel Head Penetration Inspection
- Security at Nuclear Power Plants



# Reactor Vessel Head Penetration Inspection

- Davis Besse – Significant reactor vessel head degradation identified near one of its penetrations.
  - NRC Bulletin 2002-02 “Reactor Pressure Vessel Head & Vessel Penetration Nozzles”
- NRC Specialist monitored SONGS reactor vessel head inspections during Unit 2 & Unit 3 outages
  - No degradation identified



# Security at Nuclear Power Plants

## Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

- Has expanded involvement with FBI, law enforcement and other intelligence agencies
- Communicates frequently with office of Homeland Security, DOD, FAA, FEMA, and others
- Continues to work in concert with:
  - Licensees
  - State and local officials



# Security at Nuclear Power Plants

- NRC created Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
- Threat Advisory and Protective Measures System:
  - Communicates threats potentially affecting NRC licensees
  - Corresponds to color-coded Homeland Security Presidential Directive
  - Identifies specific actions to be taken by NRC licensees for each threat level



# Security at Nuclear Power Plants

- Top-to-bottom review of Security Program
- Issuance of Orders/Interim Compensatory Measures (ICM)
- Verification of licensee actions regarding ICMs
- Nuclear facilities are far ahead of other industries with regard to the level of security



# Future Outlook

- Power Upgrades
- License Renewal



# Contacting the NRC

- Report an Emergency:  
(301) 816-5100 (collect)
- Report a Safety Concern:  
(800) 695-7403 or Allegation@nrc.gov
- General Information or questions:  
[www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)

Select "What we do" for Public Affairs

# Contacts for Additional Information

- Regional Public Affairs Officer
  - Victor Dricks
  - Phone: (817) 860 - 8128
  
- State Liaison Officer
  - William (Bill) Maier
  - Phone: (817) 860 - 8267

# **Official Transcript of Proceedings**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Title: Annual Assessment Meeting for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

Docket Number: (not applicable)

Location: San Clemente, California

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2003

Work Order No.: NRC-N/A

Pages 1-101

**1323 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20005**  
**(202) 234-4433**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

+ + + + +

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT MEETING FOR THE

SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

+ + + + +

PUBLIC MEETING

+ + + + +

THURSDAY,

APRIL 3, 2003

+ + + + +

SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA

+ + + + +

The meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the  
 Country Inn, 35 Via Pico Plaza, San Clemente,  
 California.

PRESENT

FOR THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION:

- CLAUDE E. JOHNSON, Chief, Project Branch C  
 Division of Reactor Projects
- CLYDE OSTERHOLTZ, Senior Resident Inspector  
 Division of Reactor Projects
- MARK A. SITEK, Resident Inspector  
 Division of Reactor Projects

1 ART HOWELL, Director, Division of Reactor Projects  
2 HERB BERKOW, Project Director, Division of Licensing  
3 Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor  
4 Regulation, Rockville, Maryland

5 STEPHEN DEMBEK, Chief, Project Directorate IV  
6 Division of Licensing Project Management  
7 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
8 Rockville, Maryland

9 VICTOR DRICKS, Public Affairs Officer  
10 STEFANI NEIDHOLDT, Site Secretary  
11 San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

12

13 FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON:

14 DWIGHT NUNN, Vice President of Engineering  
15 and Technical Services

16 RAY WALDO, Plant Manager

17 JOE WAMBOLD, Vice President of Nuclear Generation

18

19 ALSO PRESENT:

20 BRIAN PERRY, Chairman, Interjurisdictional Planning  
21 Committee, San Juan Capistrano Emergency Planning  
22 Office

23 JIM RUSSELL, Emergency Planning Office  
24 City of San Clemente

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

ALSO PRESENT:

LEN HAYES, Orange County Emergency Management

DON MONAHAN, California State Parks and Recreation

PETE LAWRENCE, Oceanside Fire Department

JAN SENER, Chairperson, Public Information Officer

SONGS Emergency Center

JOE CRAMER, United States Marine Corps

Camp Pendleton, California

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

## I-N-D-E-X

	<u>SPEAKERS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1		
2		
3	Russell Hoffman	39
4	Sharon Hoffman	42
5	Dan Farrell	54
6	R.K. Dickie	56
7	Lyn Harris Hicks	60
8	Marianne Brown	64
9	Steve Netherby	72
10	Richard Redfield	77
11	Bill Freeman	81
12	Ricardo Nicol	85
13	Pam Patterson	88
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

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

(7:00 p.m.)

1  
2  
3 MR. JOHNSON: Good evening and welcome to  
4 the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission's  
5 Annual Assessment Meeting for the San Onofre Nuclear  
6 Generating Station.

7 My name is Claude Johnson. I am the  
8 Branch Chief for Branch C, Division of Reactor  
9 Projects, in the Region IV office in Arlington, Texas.  
10 My branch has oversight responsibility for the San  
11 Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. I am very pleased  
12 to be here with you today, and we appreciate your  
13 attendance here tonight.

14 The purpose of this meeting is to publicly  
15 present the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's assessment  
16 of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station's safety  
17 performance for the past year. This is done at the  
18 end of each annual inspection cycle to publicly and  
19 formally inform our licensees of the results of our  
20 safety performance assessments.

21 Before we get to the results, I have a few  
22 announcements and some meeting guidelines that we'd  
23 like to address. You may have noticed the  
24 registration table as you came in. We have attendance  
25 sheets back there we'd like for you to sign up. And

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 also if you have any questions that you may want to  
2 present tonight, to sign up on that list and we'll go  
3 in that particular order as Stephanie, Ms. Neidholdt,  
4 will be reading the list after we complete this during  
5 our question-and-answer period for each of you that  
6 sign that list back there. So we appreciate if you'd  
7 do that.

8           Following our formal presentation, we have  
9 a question-and-answer period. And, if you wish,  
10 please use the question-and-answer forms on the  
11 registration table to fill out those particular forms.  
12 And if it's a question or answer that we can't  
13 address, we will formally respond to you by mail.  
14 This will allow us at least formally to capture the  
15 topic of your questions.

16           As you can see, we also have a court  
17 reporter here tonight. He will be recording the  
18 meeting and this will help us answer any questions  
19 accurately that you may have that we'll capture when  
20 we get back so we won't miss or leave out anything  
21 that you may ask us.

22           In addition, each of you should have found  
23 a feedback form on your chairs. If you did not get  
24 one, please go back to the table there and we'll  
25 provide you one for this meeting. We would appreciate

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 you filling it out because we do value your comments  
2 and we appreciate hearing from you as it helps us  
3 improve our processes. Also, if you have any  
4 questions to which you would like formal response,  
5 please include them on the forms.

6 There should be a list also that you may  
7 want to put your name and address and everything on so  
8 we can make sure that we can call you in some type of  
9 order when we end this session.

10 We also have handouts in the back of the  
11 room. We have a limited supply, so if you want to  
12 know a little bit more about the NRC, we have them at  
13 the back of the room on the table there.

14 This pretty much concludes our  
15 administrative portion of the meeting but, before I  
16 continue with the NRC's responsibilities and the main  
17 agenda, I want to introduce the other NRC  
18 representatives here tonight with me.

19 To my right, Mr. Clyde Osterholtz. He  
20 works for me as the NRC Senior Resident Inspector at  
21 the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. He's been  
22 assigned to the site for approximately two years.

23 Running the slides, Mr. Mark Sitek. He's  
24 also a resident inspector here at the site, and he's  
25 been assigned at the San Onofre Station here for

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 approximately one year.

2 In the audience, we have Mr. Art Howell,  
3 who is the Director for the Division of Reactor  
4 Projects in Region IV office in Arlington, Texas. Mr.  
5 Howell has oversight responsibility of the project  
6 branches that oversees the inspection program at all  
7 the nuclear reactor facilities in Region IV.

8 Also in the audience we have Mr. Herb  
9 Berkow, Project Director, Division of Licensing  
10 Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor  
11 Regulation in Rockville, Maryland; Mr. Stephen Dembek,  
12 Chief, Project Directorate IV, Division of Licensing  
13 Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor  
14 Regulation in Rockville, Maryland; Mr. Vic Dricks,  
15 Public Affairs Officer for the Region IV office in  
16 Arlington, Texas. And at the rear, we have Mrs.  
17 Stefani Neidholdt, the Site Secretary, for the  
18 resident staff at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating  
19 Station. Ms. Neidholdt will be calling each person  
20 that has signed up on the list there in the back in  
21 order to add into this presentation.

22 Mr. Dwight Nunn is the Southern California  
23 Edison's official spokesman here tonight. Mr. Nunn is  
24 the Vice President, Engineering and Technical Services  
25 for the Southern California Edison Company San Onofre

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1       Generating Station.

2               Mr. Nunn, would you please introduce your  
3       staff.

4               MR. NUNN:   Also on the San Onofre team  
5       here with me tonight is Ray Waldo, who's the Station  
6       Manager at San Onofre.   And Joe Wambold, who's the  
7       Vice President of Generation.   We're all co-equals in  
8       running San Onofre.

9               MR. JOHNSON:   Thank you, Mr. Nunn.   Now I  
10       would like to acknowledge any state and local  
11       officials who are here tonight.   I have a list.   I'll  
12       call -- as I call your name, would you please stand.

13               Mr.       Brian       Perry,       Chairman,  
14       Interjurisdictional Planning Committee at San Juan  
15       Capistrano Emergency Planning Office.   Thank you, sir.

16               Mr.   Jim   Russell,   Emergency   Planning  
17       Office, City of San Clemente.

18               Mr.   Len   Hayes,   Orange   County   Emergency  
19       Management.   Thank you, sir.

20               Don Monahan, California State Parks and  
21       Recreation.

22               Mr.   Pete   Lawrence,   Oceanside   Fire  
23       Department.   Thank you, sir.

24               Jan Sener, Chairperson, Public Information  
25       Officer, SONGS Emergency Center.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I'm not sure if Mr. Joe Cramer's here yet.  
2 When he shows up, Mr. Joe Cramer, he's with United  
3 States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton. His role is he  
4 oversees United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton  
5 involvement in e-planning.

6 At the end of this meeting, I along with  
7 the other NRC representatives will be available to  
8 meet with you and any members of the press who wish to  
9 speak with us.

10 Before I discuss our assessment results,  
11 I want to briefly discuss the NRC's role.

12 The mission of the Nuclear Regulatory  
13 Commission is to protect the public health and safety,  
14 and the environment from the effects of radiation from  
15 nuclear reactors, materials, and waste facilities. We  
16 carry out this mission by policy formulation,  
17 rulemaking, and oversight. To make sure that we  
18 effectively meet our mission, we have established four  
19 performance goals. I want to highlight two of those  
20 goals.

21 First, as you can see, our primary goal is  
22 to maintain safety and protect the environment. This  
23 goal is foremost in everything we do.

24 Second, as public servants, we also want  
25 to enhance public confidence. We believe that this

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 goal is best achieved by making ourselves available to  
2 discuss relevant issues with the local community.  
3 That's why we are here this afternoon -- evening.

4 The other goals, as you can see, are  
5 improve efficiency, effectiveness, and our processes  
6 for decision-making, and also to reduce unnecessary  
7 regulatory burden.

8 Specifically, we are here tonight to talk  
9 to you about San Onofre Generating Station's safety  
10 performance. Formally, this is a meeting between  
11 Southern Edison and the NRC to discuss the plant's  
12 safety performance with public observation. In  
13 addition, the presentation is intended to increase  
14 public understanding of the Nuclear Regulatory  
15 Commission and it is, therefore, being directed to the  
16 public.

17 Our presentation tonight is divided up  
18 into four sections. First, we want to provide an  
19 overview of the NRC's role in the regulatory oversight  
20 process.

21 Second, we will describe our inspection  
22 findings and how they factor into our assessment using  
23 the regulatory oversight process. At that point, Mr.  
24 Nunn will have the opportunity to comment on the  
25 assessment.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           After Mr. Nunn's comments, we have a short  
2 presentation on areas we feel may be of some interest  
3 to you. These areas required additional NRC attention  
4 during the past year. Then we will open up the  
5 meeting to questions and answers.

6           With that, I will proceed into the  
7 presentation.

8           During the assessment period, the NRC  
9 provided approximately 12,920 hours of independent  
10 regulatory oversight of the activities at the San  
11 Onofre Generating Station. This came from three  
12 different sections of the NRC: Our headquarters  
13 office of the Nuclear Reactor Regulation, the NRC  
14 Region IV office, and the resident inspectors.

15           The Office of the Nuclear Reactor  
16 Regulation used 6,712 hours on reviewing license  
17 change requests and supporting regional inspection  
18 efforts for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.  
19 The license, which includes technical specifications,  
20 controls the terms of plant operation and assures that  
21 the plant will be operated safely.

22           The two resident inspectors stationed at  
23 the plant conduct various inspections required by the  
24 Regulatory Oversight process and monitor critical  
25 activities on a daily basis. By stationing residents

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 at the plant, they are available if needed for prompt  
2 emergency response. During the recent assessment  
3 period, the resident inspectors provided approximately  
4 2,928 hours of oversight.

5 As part of our routine and baseline  
6 inspection program, we also send technical specialists  
7 or, in some cases, we send teams of technical  
8 specialists to the site to perform reviews in their  
9 areas of expertise (such as radiation protection,  
10 emergency preparedness, fire protection, and  
11 engineering inspections). The regional technical  
12 specialists provided approximately 3,280 hours of  
13 oversight. These efforts included infrequently  
14 performed baseline inspections and emergent efforts.  
15 And when I say "infrequently," it's like when a fire  
16 protection inspection is performed or the engineering  
17 inspection that's conducted.

18 All of this inspection effort is part of  
19 the NRC's comprehensive reactor oversight program.  
20 The program is designed to ensure that NRC's overall  
21 safety mission is accomplished at nuclear reactors.  
22 The program is divided into three strategic  
23 performance areas: Reactor safety, radiation safety,  
24 and plant security.

25 To measure plant performance in these

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 three broad strategic performance areas, the oversight  
2 program focuses on seven specific "Cornerstones" which  
3 support the safety of plant operations in three broad  
4 strategic areas:

5 Here we have the cornerstones. I'll just  
6 go over the seven cornerstones. They're not listed in  
7 the slide here, but they're initiating events,  
8 mitigating systems, occupational radiation safety,  
9 physical protection, barrier integrity, emergency  
10 preparedness, and public radiation safety.

11 Throughout the assessment period -- cycle  
12 -- various inspections are conducted to evaluate the  
13 licensee's performance in each of these strategic  
14 performance areas. Congress receives reports on the  
15 plant's performance in these strategic areas.

16 We have established regulations and  
17 license requirements that set the safety standards for  
18 reactor safety, radiation safety, and plant security.  
19 Our oversight program is based on a logical framework  
20 that focuses on risk-significant plant systems and  
21 activities. The program provides assurance that the  
22 plants are operating safely by ensuring that they are  
23 complying with the regulations. This is done through  
24 inspections and monitoring objective indicators of  
25 performance. The results of the assessment program

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 will then trigger regulatory actions.

2 The process is illustrated in the flow  
3 chart you see on the slide. Our inspection results  
4 and performance indicator results, which are focused  
5 on safety areas, are used to assess safety performance  
6 and determine necessary regulatory actions.

7 Our baseline inspection program is  
8 conducted at all plants and provides most of the  
9 inspection results. Through the baseline inspection  
10 program, we gather objective evidence of plant safety  
11 in every strategic performance area. The program  
12 focuses on safety-significant, components, activities,  
13 and events. The inspection results can have varied  
14 safety significance which may reach one of our  
15 significant thresholds. When this occurs, we use the  
16 action matrix to determine the appropriate regulatory  
17 response. And our policy -- we didn't have a place to  
18 put the poster. It's at the back back there, but I'd  
19 be glad to discuss the action matrix with you, any  
20 interested individuals, at the end of this meeting.  
21 There's nowhere really to post it up here, so I  
22 apologize for that.

23 The results of our inspections are  
24 documented in quarterly inspection reports. These  
25 reports describe the various inspections performed by

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the resident inspectors and the regional-based  
2 technical specialists. When a violation of NRC  
3 regulation is identified, the violation or finding is  
4 documented in the section of the report describing the  
5 inspection. These inspection reports are publicly  
6 accessible. The website is listed on the slide.

7 The NRC reviews events for significance.  
8 Significant events, significant inspection findings,  
9 and safety performance declines have the potential to  
10 trigger significant thresholds. When this occurs, the  
11 NRC responds with event follow-up or supplemental  
12 inspections. The goal of these additional inspections  
13 is to determine the cause of the performance decline  
14 and to ensure that effective corrective actions have  
15 been taken. Our program provides for a gradual  
16 increase in NRC's response as safety significance  
17 increases.

18 Significant events, significant findings,  
19 and safety performance declines are given a color code  
20 based on their safety significance. For example,  
21 Green issues have very low safety significance and do  
22 not require further NRC follow-up. We speak of them  
23 as being within the licensee's control bond from the  
24 matrix -- action matrix that I spoke about to you  
25 earlier. It's back on the back wall. On the other

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 hand, Red issues denote a high safety significance and  
2 receive the most significant NRC response. As the  
3 safety significance increases, the regulatory response  
4 increases.

5 Each licensee monitors the performance of  
6 their plants and provides performance indicators to  
7 the NRC. Specific plant performance data is required  
8 by the NRC to construct the required performance  
9 indicators. The licensee provides performance  
10 indicator information to the NRC once a quarter. This  
11 allows us to monitor plant performance. We also  
12 verify that the data is accurate by sampling data used  
13 by the licensee to report this information.

14 Performance indicator results and other  
15 assessment information are available on the websites  
16 that you see there.

17 As an example of a performance indicator,  
18 the reactor safety area is the number of unplanned  
19 scrams (or number of unplanned reactor trips or rapid  
20 shutdowns) per 7000 critical hours of operation, where  
21 "critical" is used in the sense of normal operation of  
22 the reactor. Similar to inspection findings, you can  
23 see that the performance criteria have been developed  
24 for each safety significance level, and you can see  
25 the thresholds to the right over there -- to your

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 right, my left. In this example, licensee performance  
2 is green, or what we call the licensee response band.

3 To summarize, we review licensee safety  
4 performance by monitoring the performance indicators  
5 and evaluating inspection findings. Depending on  
6 these results, we have preplanned agency actions. We  
7 have two posters that include more detail about our  
8 plan for real-time regulatory response to declining  
9 safety performance. Every six months, we write a  
10 safety performance assessment letter and, annually, we  
11 hold public meetings like this to discuss the results  
12 with the public. As discussed earlier, safety  
13 performance information for each site is available on  
14 the NRC public web.

15 The next few slides provide the results of  
16 our assessment of the San Onofre Generating Station's  
17 safety performance.

18 This slide is basically plant-specific  
19 data. As you can see, the name of the plant, San  
20 Onofre Generating Stations; the operator, Southern  
21 Edison; number of units, two operating units; reactor  
22 type and vendor, which is a pressurized water  
23 reactor/combustion engineering. Just basic data  
24 there.

25 Next slide, please.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           In 2002, the NRC inspected several major  
2 activities performed by the licensee at the San Onofre  
3 Generating Station. These included mandated reactor  
4 vessel head inspections and security-related  
5 activities that were implemented to enhance the  
6 licensee's security program.

7           MR. HOWELL: Claude, I just want to point  
8 out that these activities occurred at -- at all the  
9 plants nationwide, not because of just one specific  
10 reason or problem at San Onofre.

11           MR. JOHNSON: That's true. This was --  
12 this -- Mr. Howell's comments are true. This was done  
13 at every plant in the nation. This was not just San  
14 Onofre. This was -- there were bulletins --

15           THE REPORTER: I can't pick him up over  
16 here. I'm not able to pick him up unless he's on a  
17 microphone.

18           MR. JOHNSON: Okay. We'll take -- we'll  
19 do that next time. Okay. Thank you.

20           All of the findings identified by the NRC  
21 and licensee during the inspection cycle were of very  
22 low safety significance. A number of -- a number of  
23 these findings involved human performance issues --  
24 errors. The licensee has identified the need to  
25 improve in this area and has implemented programs to

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 address this issue.

2 Overall, San Onofre Nuclear Generating  
3 Station operated in a manner that preserved public  
4 health and safety and fully met all cornerstone  
5 objectives. Plant performance for the most recent  
6 quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of  
7 the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response  
8 Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all  
9 inspection findings being classified as having very  
10 low safety significance (Green) and all performance  
11 indicators indicating performance at a level requiring  
12 no additional NRC oversight.

13 However, a supplemental inspection will be  
14 performed as a result of the Unit 2 reactor trip which  
15 occurred in February of this year, and which caused  
16 Unit 2 to exceed its performance indicator threshold  
17 for the number of reactor trips per 7000 critical  
18 hours. And if need be, we'll go a little bit more in  
19 detail later on in questions. But it was several  
20 trips, and I'll just kind of briefly describe them.

21 Early in the year, June 30th, they had a  
22 steam bypass control system, which was a reactor trip;  
23 feed water reg. valve, which -- due to a steam --  
24 water level bad circuit cord; and also a pressurized  
25 spray valve that was stuck open. They had some

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 problems there.

2 I want to make it clear that, note, this  
3 event -- the last reactor trip -- was -- this event  
4 occurred outside of the 2002 assessment period and  
5 will be evaluated as part of the 2003 assessment  
6 period. The focus of this supplemental inspection  
7 will be to review the root causes and the extent of  
8 condition and the corrective action for this  
9 performance indicator exceeding the Green to White  
10 threshold.

11 This slide displays the performance  
12 summary that is posted in the public web for the most  
13 significant inspection findings. As you can see, all  
14 the inspection findings are pretty much Green. You  
15 see no White or Red issues there. And as you can see,  
16 the licensee remained within the licensee response  
17 band throughout the fourth quarter.

18 This slide, like the previous one,  
19 displays the performance summary that is posted in the  
20 public website for performance indicators. And, as  
21 you can see, all the performance indicators are Green.

22 We reviewed the licensee's performance  
23 indicator data. Performance indicators in the three  
24 strategic areas -- reactor safety, radiation safety,  
25 and plant security -- indicated that the licensee had

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 not exceeded any performance thresholds.

2 Our overall assessment conclusion is that  
3 San Onofre -- Southern California Edison effectively  
4 managed the facility in all three areas. The San  
5 Onofre Nuclear Generating Station was operated in a  
6 manner that protected the health and safety of the  
7 public. Based on the 2002 results, the NRC does not  
8 need to perform additional inspections beyond the  
9 baseline inspection program. However, as I previously  
10 stated, the NRC will conduct a supplemental inspection  
11 because of Unit 2 crossing the Green to White  
12 threshold for exceeding the number of reactor trips  
13 per 7000 critical hours during the first quarter of  
14 2003.

15 Now I would like to give Mr. Nunn, the  
16 Vice President of Southern California Edison Company,  
17 an opportunity to comment on the assessment. And  
18 following Mr. Nunn's comments, I will address the  
19 additional focus areas that I had mentioned earlier.

20 Mr. Nunn.

21 MR. NUNN: Thank you for that summary. I  
22 hope that gives everyone a great deal of confidence in  
23 the thoroughness and depth of the NRC's oversight of  
24 San Onofre.

25 We pride ourself in safely operating the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 plant. Crossing the threshold due to the latest trip  
2 on the Unit 2 causes us to reevaluate some of our  
3 programs and reducing the errors in our -- human  
4 errors in the operation of the plant.

5 They're at a relatively low level. All  
6 the -- okay. I thought maybe we're not recording or  
7 something.

8 I lost my train of thought. The -- all of  
9 the -- the issues that have been raised as a result of  
10 your oversight and our own oversight are being  
11 addressed, and we welcome your assessing our  
12 corrective action program in that regard.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Nunn. As I  
15 had indicated earlier, at this time I would like to  
16 take a few minutes to discuss some areas that required  
17 additional NRC resources during this assessment cycle.  
18 When conditions change or occur that have the  
19 potential to impact public health and safety, the NRC  
20 responds by providing additional oversight as needed.  
21 Should the conditions warrant, we will even mandate  
22 licensee actions to assure the public's safety and  
23 implement our emergency plans.

24 During this assessment cycle, two areas  
25 required ongoing attention. First was the degradation

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 of the Davis-Besse reactor vessel head. And the  
2 second was -- the second concern was the security at  
3 nuclear power plants following the tragic terrorist  
4 attacks of 9/11.

5 And if you have any questions that you  
6 would like to ask on the Davis-Besse event, Mr. Art  
7 Howell was definitely involved in reviewing that  
8 particular issue, so he's here today. If you really  
9 want to know some answers and what they did, he can  
10 definitely shed some light on that at the end of this  
11 presentation.

12 During the performance of the refueling  
13 activities at the Davis-Besse plant, located in Ohio,  
14 significant reactor vessel head degradation was  
15 identified. This degradation was caused by boric acid  
16 corrosion, which occurred following the leak of a  
17 control rod drive nozzle. The potential for this type  
18 of problem was recognized in the early 1990s. This  
19 event resulted in the NRC issuing a number of NRC  
20 Bulletins describing the inspection activities  
21 necessary to assure that other reactor vessel heads  
22 were not degraded. The NRC learned more from further  
23 evaluations and inspections based upon these  
24 bulletins. This resulted in the issuance of an order  
25 to mandate inspection requirements related to Reactor

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Pressure Vessel Heads at Pressurized Water Reactors.

2 At the San Onofre Nuclear Generating  
3 Station, that inspection was performed during the last  
4 refueling outage for each unit. For Unit 2, that  
5 inspection was performed June of 2002, and for Unit 3  
6 that inspection was performed in January 2003. Both  
7 inspections were monitored by the NRC specialists.

8 Overall, no significant reactor vessel  
9 head degradation was identified at the San Onofre  
10 Nuclear Generating Station.

11 Additional NRC and industry actions are  
12 pending in response to the degradation of the Davis-  
13 Besse reactor vessel head.

14 Since September 11th, 2001, the NRC has  
15 undertaken changes to enhance the already substantial  
16 security at our nation's nuclear power plants. Some  
17 of these changes have been made via orders to nuclear  
18 facilities.

19 The NRC has expanded involvement and  
20 enhanced liaisons with the FBI and other intelligence  
21 and law enforcement agencies.

22 The NRC has established ongoing dialogue  
23 through frequent communications with the Office of  
24 Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, the  
25 Federal Aviation Administration, the Federal Emergency

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Management Agency, and others. For example, the NRC  
2 has worked with FAA to prohibit planes from circling  
3 or loitering above nuclear power plants.

4 The NRC has always worked in concert with  
5 the licensee, state and local officials, and continues  
6 to do so today. Through this cooperation,  
7 enhancements of security at NRC-licensed facilities  
8 are being continually implemented.

9 The NRC established the Office of Nuclear  
10 Security and Incident Response in April 2002 to  
11 consolidate incident response and security  
12 responsibilities and resources. This improves  
13 communication and coordination with both internal and  
14 external organizations. The creation of NSIR  
15 streamlines decision-making and improves the  
16 timeliness and consistency of information. It also  
17 provides a more visible point of contact and effective  
18 counterpart of the Office of Homeland Security, as  
19 well as other federal agencies.

20 The NRC has also developed a new Threat  
21 Advisory and Protective Measures System to communicate  
22 and respond to threats affecting NRC licensees and NRC  
23 facilities. This is in response to the Homeland  
24 Security Presidential Directive. The system  
25 corresponds to the color-coded Homeland Security

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Advisory System which provides a consistent national  
2 framework for allowing Government officials to  
3 communicate the nature and degree of terrorist  
4 threats. The NRC system identifies specific actions  
5 to be taken by NRC licensees for each threat level to  
6 counter projected terrorist threats.

7 Currently, the NRC has underway a  
8 comprehensive top-to-bottom review of agency's entire  
9 safeguards and security programs, regulations, and  
10 procedures. The review is ongoing and has resulted in  
11 numerous security improvements.

12 The NRC has issued orders which mandate  
13 Interim Compensation Measures to increase the level of  
14 security at nuclear facilities. The specific actions  
15 are sensitive but generally include requirements for  
16 increased patrols, augmentation of the number and  
17 capabilities of security guards, additional security  
18 posts, installation of additional physical barriers,  
19 vehicle checks at greater distances from the plant,  
20 enhanced coordination with law enforcement and  
21 military authorities, and more restrictive site access  
22 controls for personnel.

23 In addition, the NRC has pending orders on  
24 fatigue and guard training, and has initiated a pilot  
25 of the force-on-force exercise.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           Resident inspectors and security  
2 specialists have independently verified that the  
3 appropriate measures were taken at each site to meet  
4 the Interim Compensatory Measures.

5           Additionally, the industry has undertaken  
6 a number of initiatives which have required licensing  
7 reviews by the NRC's office of Nuclear Reactor  
8 Regulation. For example, over the past few years, a  
9 number of plants have taken advantage of advancements  
10 in technology to request amendments to their operating  
11 licenses to slightly increase the power output of the  
12 plants. The NRC has approved more than 80  
13 applications to increase reactor power thus far, and  
14 approximately 51 applications are expected over the  
15 next five years.

16           License renewal is a recent initiative,  
17 with the first application submitted in 1998 and  
18 approved in February 2000. Currently, 12 applications  
19 are under review.

20           This pretty much concludes our  
21 presentation.

22           We would like to adjourn for a short break  
23 and we will begin the question-and-answer portion of  
24 the presentation. I am going to leave the contact  
25 numbers on the board, so any information that you want

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to write down let us know and we will get that  
2 information to you. If you would like to use our  
3 question-and-answer form on the registration table to  
4 formally capture your question, please feel free to do  
5 so. Handouts, as I stated, are at the back of the  
6 room. Also, as a reminder, we use the sign-up sheet  
7 to call on these -- on different folks who wish to  
8 make a statement. So just make sure you have your  
9 microphone. We want to make sure that our court  
10 reporter gathers any information. So if it's a  
11 question that you ask that we can properly address it  
12 and it's recorded, we'd appreciate that.

13 We'll -- let's take about a ten-minute  
14 break and assemble back -- five-minute break and we'll  
15 assemble back in here. Thank you. We have coffee  
16 back in the back.

17 (Recess from 7:37 p.m., until 7:47 p.m.)

18 MR. JOHNSON: The list is fairly long.  
19 I'd like to limit it to at least three minutes. And  
20 Stefani has the list. She'll call you out in that  
21 order as you sign the list.

22 MS. NEIDHOLDT: As I understand it, first  
23 we have -- okay. He wants me to go to a mike. The  
24 officials that Mr. Johnson pointed out to you earlier  
25 wanted to take an opportunity to say hello. So Brian

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Perry.

2 MR. PERRY: Good evening. My name is  
3 Brian Perry. I'm the City of San Juan Capistrano  
4 representative to SONGS -- the SONGS  
5 Interjurisdictional Planning Committee. And I'm the  
6 interim chair of the IPC.

7 My comments tonight, I wanted to make  
8 principally for the general public, to make them aware  
9 that there is a strong off-site organization  
10 associated with SONGS known as the Interjurisdictional  
11 Planning Committee which both support SONGS and is  
12 supported by SONGS.

13 The Federal Emergency Management Agency  
14 requires that exercises are carried out to demonstrate  
15 the off-site preparedness to respond to an incident at  
16 SONGS. These exercises have been carried out since  
17 SONGS inception.

18 And the most recent evaluated exercise was  
19 November the 6th, 2002. This exercise was completed  
20 successfully and we're currently preparing for another  
21 federal-evaluated exercise October the 22nd, 2003.

22 The IPC, for those who don't know, is a  
23 collaboration of off-site jurisdictions and agencies,  
24 and many of those representatives are here tonight.  
25 The IPC meets monthly and the mission statement of the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 IPC, the goal of the IPC, is to promote nuclear power  
2 preparedness through agency coordination and  
3 integration of emergency plans.

4 There are eight primary members of the  
5 IPC: The three cities of San Juan Capistrano, San  
6 Clemente, and Dana Point, the two counties, San Diego  
7 County and Orange County, California State Parks, the  
8 United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, and  
9 Southern California Edison.

10 Those eight primary members don't work  
11 alone. There are also six associate IPC members: The  
12 American Red Cross, the California Highway Patrol,  
13 Capistrano Unified School District, Mission Hospital,  
14 Orange County Fire Authority, and the Oceanside Fire  
15 Department.

16 I've been involved with the SONGS program  
17 at the Emergency Center and the IPC for close to 20  
18 years. It's been a positive experience for me, with  
19 both the cooperation of SONGS and all the off-site  
20 agencies' staff.

21 In addition to the main monthly IPC  
22 meetings that we hold, there are a number of  
23 subcommittees which meet to address and improve issues  
24 such as communications, public information, off-site  
25 dose assessment, emergency operations facility,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Emergency Alert System, private schools, reception  
2 centers, evacuation, interjurisdictional policies,  
3 training, and exercise design.

4 I'm pleased to note for all the residents  
5 within the PUC that the NRC has concluded that for the  
6 reporting period, SONGS has operated in a manner that  
7 preserved public health and safety and fully met all  
8 cornerstone objectives.

9 The IPC exists to protect the health and  
10 safety of the public.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Jim Russell. Jim Russell.

13 MR. RUSSELL: I haven't a lot to add to  
14 what Brian covered. He covered about all of it. I  
15 have been asked to stand in and represent the State  
16 Office of Emergency Services, if any of you have  
17 questions about KI and the distribution program that  
18 we've got going on within the EPZ right now. So I'll  
19 be around later. If you want to talk to me  
20 individually, I'd be glad to do that.

21 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Len Hayes.

22 MR. HAYES: Well, really what is there  
23 left to say after those two distinguished gentlemen?  
24 I represent the County of Orange. I'm an employee of  
25 the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The emergency

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 management function is embedded in the Sheriff's  
2 Department in Orange County.

3 I've had the pleasure of working with  
4 SONGS during my active duty career in the United  
5 States Marine Corps, and I continue to enjoy a very  
6 positive relationship with SONGS now as a member of  
7 the Interjurisdictional Planning Commission. I could  
8 perhaps answer any questions from the County of Orange  
9 perspective.

10 But I want to assure you that we take  
11 these SONGS exercises very, very seriously. We've  
12 just been successful in our last one, as Brian  
13 mentioned, and we're now pointing towards a success on  
14 the next one. Thank you very much.

15 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Don Monahan.

16 MR. MONAHAN: Thank you very much. My  
17 comments are primarily to the members of the NRC here.  
18 To let you know the relationship that was formed  
19 between employees of the California State Park System  
20 and Southern California Edison, we have developed an  
21 outstanding relationship with these folks over many  
22 years. We've worked in concert on a variety of  
23 issues, whether it's traffic management, park visitor  
24 safety, employee safety at the plant, the  
25 decommissioning that's going on currently, resource

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 management, things of that nature. We are in constant  
2 communication with folks regarding security measures  
3 as a result of 9/11. And we look forward to in the  
4 future continuing to develop this relationship between  
5 the California State Parks and the employees of  
6 Edison.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Pete Lawrence.

9 MR. LAWRENCE: Good evening, members of  
10 the Commission, Jurisdictional representatives, and  
11 members of the public. My name is Peter Lawrence and  
12 I'm representing the Oceanside Fire Department. While  
13 the City of Oceanside is outside of the ten-mile  
14 emergency planning zone, the City's been involved in  
15 San Onofre-related response activities and planning  
16 activities since the early 1980s. We are contracted  
17 by the County of San Diego to provide the off-site  
18 radiological monitoring teams. And I've been directly  
19 involved with San Onofre planning since the mid-1980s,  
20 including a couple-year stint as the Orange County  
21 Chief Nuclear Planner.

22 The City takes the process of San Onofre  
23 response and planning very seriously. We provide off-  
24 site radiological monitoring teams. We provide  
25 assistance in the off-site dose assessment center.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 The City is very appreciative of the work that is done  
2 by Southern California Edison and the employees at San  
3 Onofre and the cooperation and coordination that  
4 occurs in the emergency planning field. Having been  
5 involved in emergency management and the management of  
6 large-scale fires throughout the United States for  
7 many years, it is second to none in terms of the  
8 ability to coordinate and communicate.

9 On the issue of communications, there has  
10 been significant concern lately -- and the new  
11 buzzword in emergency planning seems to be  
12 "interoperability" or "communications  
13 interoperability." And I -- one of my roles within  
14 the City is that I'm the City's communications  
15 officer. I manage training, safety, communications,  
16 and the nuclear power coordination.

17 As such, as the communications officer,  
18 I'm responsible for ensuring that our entity is able  
19 to communicate with all of the personnel, all of the  
20 agencies, all of the organizations that would be  
21 involved in any emergency that might affect the  
22 citizens of the City of Oceanside or our  
23 responsibilities, of which San Onofre, because of  
24 contract requirements, becomes one of our  
25 responsibilities.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           As such, I've spent a tremendous amount of  
2 time studying the communications issue, and I can  
3 safely say that the ability of the off-site response  
4 agencies to communicate is very robust, it is probably  
5 the most interoperable system that we operate under in  
6 -- in the fire service. We have multiple frequency  
7 bands. We have multiple repeater sites. And we have  
8 multiple mechanisms of getting information in and  
9 among the -- the entities, both to the radiological  
10 monitoring teams as well as the -- the off-site  
11 responders, from law enforcement to public works, to  
12 bus drivers, and on down the line.

13           So the -- the summary, I guess you could  
14 say, is that the City has been very supportive of the  
15 role that we've provided to San Onofre. We've been  
16 very appreciative of the support that has been  
17 received in turn from San Onofre. That must be  
18 somebody moving their car. Actually, the chef is  
19 moving everyone's car. And that the -- the level of  
20 planning and the level of coordination is very  
21 extensive, probably the best of any of the entities  
22 that we deal with, both from a fire emergency  
23 management standpoint and it is no -- by no means --  
24 we would not expect anything other than the results  
25 that the NRC came up with, that there is a full

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 support of protection of the public based on the  
2 emergency response activities.

3 So thank you very much.

4 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Did Mr. Cramer from  
5 Pendleton come? There he is.

6 MR. CRAMER: Hi. Good evening, everyone.  
7 My name is Joe Cramer. I am the Disaster Preparedness  
8 Coordinator for Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton.  
9 And of course we have a very close relationship with  
10 the planning with SONGS since we are literally -- they  
11 sit right on our property. We also share a very  
12 unique security concern and we tie in very well with  
13 the relationship, sharing information, and making sure  
14 that, from a security perspective, we do everything we  
15 can to -- to support the effort there at SONGS.

16 In fact, I was late tonight because I was  
17 actually at a town hall meeting on Camp Pendleton  
18 where we were actually distributing KI to our  
19 residents there at Camp Pendleton and answering their  
20 questions, and that's why I was running a little late  
21 tonight.

22 And with that, I thank you very much.

23 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Jan Sener.

24 MS. SENER: Thank you. I've had a unique  
25 experience with SONGS because, actually, I started my

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 career with San Clemente Police Department. And at  
2 that time, we were the responding agency for San  
3 Onofre. And so I've had the pleasure and the  
4 privilege of really working with SONGS for probably  
5 about -- oh, years.

6 And I think the previous speakers have  
7 really illustrated the professionalism that is a part  
8 of this Interjurisdictional group. My role, as the PI  
9 Chairperson -- actually, I'm with Orange County  
10 Sheriff's Department. I'm the Director of Crime  
11 Prevention -- but in this capacity, I am the PIO  
12 Chairperson. And I'm kind of the mother hen because  
13 I facilitate what happens at our media center, I help  
14 all of our professionals to know that it's going to be  
15 okay.

16 One of the other tributes that I can  
17 really give to SONGS is the fact that we, the  
18 information officers that are all at the media center,  
19 will many times have suggestions on how things could  
20 maybe be run a little better, a little more  
21 efficiently as we're dealing with the mock media. And  
22 they listen to us. They have taken our suggestions  
23 and they've helped this to be an even greater  
24 professional experience and helped us all to do a  
25 better job. It's been very much of a pleasure to work

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 with these people, as you have heard the many  
2 disciplines that are represented throughout this group  
3 of professionals, and it's a pleasure and I know we'll  
4 continue to do great things for them and they provide  
5 us the training and the skills to make good things  
6 happen.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. One last  
9 chance to move your cars. Okay. I have a list of  
10 people who wanted to either speak or had a question.  
11 Do I have everybody's name that wants to speak or ask  
12 a question? Okay.

13 Three minutes and I'll let you know when  
14 that's up. Russell Hoffman is our first speaker.

15 MR. HOFFMAN: Thank you very much. I have  
16 a list of 25 simple ways a small band of terrorists  
17 could destroy a nuclear power plant. I don't think in  
18 three minutes I can go over all 25. So you'll have to  
19 guess what the missing ones are going to be.

20 The number one way is, of course, hijack  
21 a commercial airliner and, if one isn't enough, hijack  
22 two, and if two aren't enough, hijack four.

23 Another way, you can just rent a corporate  
24 jet so there's no pesky passengers to get in your way.

25 And you can also bring a boat to bomb or

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 a depth-carrying boat could go up to the outlet tubes.

2 You can steal a tank. Many of you are  
3 probably long-time residents here and know that about  
4 six or eight years ago, somebody did that. And if it  
5 had decided to come up the coast, they don't know how  
6 they would have stopped it. There's some people here  
7 who might be able to stop it now if they are paying  
8 attention.

9 .50-caliber machine gun bullets can go  
10 right through the control room. They can go right  
11 through most of the pipes that are coming out of the  
12 containment room.

13 Until recently, the NRC posted the GPS  
14 locations of the site to six decimal places, which is  
15 maybe two feet across or something. So all you need  
16 to do is find that document.

17 You can throw a short-circuiting bomb or  
18 a grenade in the switch yard. That's something with  
19 a lot of wires. And they -- instead of exploding, it  
20 just spreads the wires out. Could easily cut off the  
21 power.

22 Somebody told me, one of your employees,  
23 that the -- two of the generators are located right  
24 next to each other with just a cement -- a cinder  
25 block wall between them. So one Cessna 172 could take

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 out both of those generators, and another one could  
2 take out the other set; you've got all four gone, and  
3 you need those generators.

4           Somebody working inside the plant, not a  
5 friend of mine, but somebody else, might switch pages  
6 in the control room operating manuals. Are you sure  
7 those are all in proper order and all of the  
8 information in them is right?

9           Obviously, you can get insiders to do  
10 things.

11           Derail trains off the tracks. Now, I did  
12 get a letter from the NRC saying that the plant is far  
13 enough from the tracks that there is no way that two  
14 trains going towards each other with the engines in  
15 the rear and the cars buckling up, there's no way they  
16 could fall over on the track and there's nothing --  
17 there's no loads, I guess, that could be carried that  
18 might explode something that would go onto the control  
19 room or anything like that. But I don't believe it.  
20 So, anyway, that's number ten.

21           Number 11, derail a chemical train nearby  
22 or a truck on the highway. They bring cyanide down to  
23 the power -- the recycling -- the water recycling  
24 plants use cyanide or arsenic, I guess it is, to  
25 reduce the smell. That could cause a problem.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   You could lob mortars at the plant from  
2 San Onofre State Beach.

3                   Crop duster airplanes filled with gasoline  
4 or something else to create sort of a napalm-type  
5 explosion, take out the whole place.

6                   You could rent a piece of construction  
7 equipment, like a Caterpillar.

8                   MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you.

9                   MR. HOFFMAN: That's three minutes. We  
10 got to number 14. You'll just have to guess what the  
11 others are.

12                   MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. Sharon  
13 Hoffman.

14                   MS. HOFFMAN: My name is Sharon Hoffman.  
15 And I'm a resident of Carlsbad. And if Oceanside is  
16 outside of the evacuation area, Carlsbad is certainly  
17 outside of the evacuation area. I am here to tell you  
18 that the residents of Carlsbad are not going to think  
19 of staying home if there is an accident at San Onofre,  
20 nor are the residents of San Diego, Los Angeles, the  
21 rest of Orange County. And anybody who has driven  
22 these roads on a normal weekday morning knows that the  
23 idea that we could evacuate this area is ridiculous.  
24 So what I would like to know is what is the evacuation  
25 plan that deals with the realities of the number of

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 people that live in the vicinity of this plant that  
2 would try to leave and with the road and traffic  
3 conditions that we have here?

4 That's the first thing I'd like to know.

5 The second thing I'd like to know is if  
6 the primary purpose of the NRC is to maintain public  
7 safety and to protect the environment, who is in  
8 charge of looking at the regulations that the NRC has  
9 and saying that they do those things? Because a lot  
10 of people a lot more knowledgeable about the subject  
11 than I do not believe that they do those things, and  
12 nor do I.

13 So I would like to know who is in charge  
14 of that. Who oversees the overseers?

15 The next question I have is findings and  
16 assessments were presented this evening. A rather big  
17 deal was made about the fact that this is a public  
18 forum, that these are being presented in public, and  
19 I would like to know to what extent Southern  
20 California Edison sees that information prior to this  
21 public meeting. If there was something to say that  
22 wasn't Green, would that have been discussed prior to  
23 this meeting? And what are the criteria of what the  
24 different levels are?

25 I've been to several of these meetings.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I've never seen a finding that wasn't Green. Again,  
2 I question whether those regulations are regulating  
3 anything.

4 And, finally, when we talk about the  
5 protection and the security of the plant, there is a  
6 very great tendency to talk about the reactors  
7 themselves. And there are lots of other parts of the  
8 plant that are vulnerable -- the spent fuel pools, the  
9 generators, the control room. To what extent are  
10 those protected, and to what extent can the plant  
11 continue to function, say if it has no outside  
12 electricity? And the answer is it cannot.

13 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Do we want to address --  
15 yes. We'd like to address those now.

16 MR. HOWELL: Yes. Good evening. My name  
17 is Art Howell. I think I got all the questions. I  
18 might need a little help with all the questions. I  
19 tried to write those down.

20 To answer I believe your second-to-the-  
21 last question, to what extent are there criteria for  
22 the various findings, we tried to cover those briefly.  
23 We'd be more than happy to discuss those further  
24 following this meeting. But just to give you some  
25 insight into that, they are defined and there's

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 various processes. They're all publicly available.  
2 And we can help you -- show you where those are so  
3 that -- so you can see those for yourself.

4 Also, we didn't show it, but we have a  
5 summary that provides a summary of the various  
6 findings for all the Region IV plants. And to give  
7 you some idea, we have 21 reactor units in our region.  
8 Thirteen plants are in the Green band and we have five  
9 in the -- which is the licensee control band. That  
10 means all their findings and performance indicators  
11 were Green. We have five plants that are in the  
12 regulatory response column, which means they have at  
13 least one White finding. And we have two plants, I  
14 believe, that have -- have either multiple White  
15 findings or at least one Yellow finding. And,  
16 finally, we have one plant that has had multiple  
17 repetitive White findings that puts them in column  
18 four of the action matrix.

19 So that's a summary of the results for  
20 2002 for all the plants in Region IV. As Mr. Johnson  
21 indicated, they are available on the public website.

22 In conjunction with your question, I  
23 believe you asked whether or not this information was  
24 discussed with the licensee. In the sense that all  
25 our findings are publicly available and documented in

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 inspectional reports, that information is provided to  
2 all, including the licensee. If there were a  
3 significant finding -- for example, let's say there  
4 was an event and we sent out one of these teams that  
5 we referred to during the discussion and we did  
6 follow-up on that event and characterized that finding  
7 as something greater than Green, in all likelihood, by  
8 our process, we would conduct a meeting such as this  
9 to discuss the results of that inspection at the time  
10 that the inspection was conducted.

11 Also, once the finding was characterized,  
12 its significance was characterized, we would also hold  
13 another public meeting to discuss the -- the NRC's  
14 view on the significance of that finding. And then,  
15 again, the documentation associated with the finding  
16 would be made publicly available.

17 In terms of who reviews NRC regulations,  
18 we have representatives here from the Office of  
19 Nuclear Reactor Regulation. They are what we refer to  
20 as our program office. They are in charge of  
21 developing the programs, also which includes, in many  
22 instances, development of revisions or new regulations  
23 to address generic problems that may -- may face the  
24 industry that are identified either through problems  
25 that -- that crop up from time to time or as a result

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 of generic safety issues that are identified by  
2 various means, including research, both domestically  
3 and internationally.

4 So they review the regulations basically  
5 on a continual basis and do make revisions from time  
6 to time. They also review implementing procedures and  
7 regulatory programs that we use to provide oversight  
8 for the implementation of those regulations by our  
9 licensees. And then, finally, we do have an  
10 independent Inspector General who conducts audits of  
11 their choosing and who reports to our Chairman  
12 separately from the NRC staff and also reports  
13 directly to Congress.

14 For example, the Office of Inspector  
15 General conducted a number of investigations  
16 associated with the reactor vessel head degradation of  
17 the Ohio plant, Davis-Besse, that we referred to, just  
18 to give you some idea of some of the reviews that they  
19 conduct.

20 So hopefully that addresses that question.

21 MR. BERKOW: Art, Congressional oversight  
22 committees.

23 MR. HOWELL: Yes. Recently -- Mr. Berkow  
24 has just pointed out that we also report to Congress  
25 various Congressional oversight committees at their

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 request to come and talk about issues that they wish  
2 to be briefed on. For example, we've had a number of  
3 recent Congressional oversight committee --  
4 subcommittee hearings on various matters facing the  
5 agency, including the reactor vessel head degradation  
6 issues at Davis-Besse and also some emergency  
7 preparedness issues at a plant in New York.

8 In terms of emergency response, in terms  
9 of evaluating the number of folks in the planning  
10 areas that would have to -- who live in the planning  
11 areas and would have to be evacuated, that is assessed  
12 periodically by the licensee. I believe in the  
13 planning area, there's somewhere in the order of what?  
14 -- 175,000, 200,000 folks; is that --

15 MR. NUNN: One seventy-five-.

16 MR. HOWELL: One seventy-five-. And  
17 studies are done on the evacuation times and they are  
18 reviewed periodically.

19 In terms of folks who live outside the  
20 EPZ, emergency planning zone, if there were to be a  
21 serious accident or a condition in which the emergency  
22 response portions were mobilized, depending on the  
23 nature of the event, recommendations would be made --  
24 considered and made for folks who live outside the  
25 ten-mile EPZ, as necessary, so I just wanted to point

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that out.

2 Mr. Nunn, did you want to add anything?

3 Did I capture --

4 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. There was one  
5 question, Ms. Hoffman, that you asked -- I may not  
6 have it characterized, but it says if something -- if  
7 something was not Green, would it be brought to the  
8 attention I guess of the public? And I gave a good  
9 example of a -- of an issue where it exceeded its  
10 threshold from Green to White, and it didn't even  
11 happen in this particular assessment period, but we  
12 thought we'd bring it up front. It happened in this  
13 particular 2003 inspection cycle. So we do bring that  
14 -- we -- anything greater than Green, it is definitely  
15 brought to the attention of the public.

16 MR. HOWELL: That's an excellent point.  
17 I mean, what Mr. Johnson was referring to is that the  
18 -- the fourth reactor trip scram, automatic shutdown  
19 of the plant, occurred in the first calendar quarter  
20 of 2003. We issue our reports on a quarterly basis.  
21 That report has not even been issued yet, and yet  
22 we're here tonight to share with you the fact that  
23 that occurred and that we would need to do a  
24 supplemental inspection as a result of crossing that  
25 threshold.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. JOHNSON: Art, there was one other  
2 question, I think. It was if you lost off-site power,  
3 what would run the plant? And you can mention the  
4 diesel generators. I think, Ms. Hoffman, if you  
5 characterize --

6 MR. HOWELL: Yes. The plant is designed  
7 to cope with a loss of all off-site power for a number  
8 of hours, and there are emergency procedures and plans  
9 to restore power from -- from various multiple sources  
10 in the event that that occurs. And that -- that has  
11 been reviewed by the NRC as part of a regulation that  
12 governs being able to cope with a loss of all off-site  
13 power.

14 MS. PATTERSON: You know, I just -- maybe  
15 I misunderstood. But I thought that one of her  
16 questions was that if in fact Southern California  
17 Edison is privy to some of the information, when do  
18 they get it? Do they get that information the same  
19 time as the public does or do they get it before we  
20 know about it?

21 MR. HOWELL: They get the preliminary  
22 results of all of our inspections at the completion of  
23 the inspection. They get the official results at the  
24 same time the public does, when the inspection report  
25 is issued.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MS. PATTERSON: But they do get  
2 information before the public does; is that what you  
3 said?

4 MR. HOWELL: In that they become aware of  
5 the inspection because we're at their facility  
6 inspecting them, and so they get -- they obviously  
7 know what questions we're asking them. In some cases  
8 -- in many cases, almost in every case in fact,  
9 there's -- there has to be two-way communication to  
10 understand what information is provided, what it  
11 means, and so in that sense they know what issues  
12 we're looking at and what we're pursuing. They don't  
13 know what the regulatory characterization of those  
14 issues are until an exit meeting is conducted and a  
15 report is issued.

16 MS. PATTERSON: So they don't get any  
17 preliminary results before the public?

18 MR. HOWELL: No. I want to be clear.  
19 They do get an exit meeting. Not all the exit  
20 meetings are open to the public. We have guidance  
21 that provides for different thresholds on which we do  
22 conduct meetings for -- that are open to the public  
23 that discuss inspection results. They're typically  
24 associated with significant inspection findings, as  
25 opposed to the more routine, very low safety

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 significant inspection findings.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you.

4 MS. HOFFMAN: And I would just like to say  
5 that you spoke for considerably more than three  
6 minutes.

7 MS. NEIDHOLDT: I'm sorry. The court  
8 reporter can't pick you up there. If you would like  
9 to have someone cede your minutes, that would be --  
10 cede their minutes to you, that would be great. I  
11 have Dan Farrell.

12 MS. HOFFMAN: Can I just -- I forgot one  
13 point.

14 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Dan Farrell, please.

15 MS. HOFFMAN: Three seconds.

16 MR. FARRELL: No. It's okay.

17 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Is it okay?

18 MR. FARRELL: Sure.

19 MS. NEIDHOLDT: All right.

20 MS. HOFFMAN: Please. Thank you.

21 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Go right ahead.

22 MS. HOFFMAN: I would just like to say  
23 that you spoke for considerably more than three  
24 minutes, and you did not give a substantive answer to  
25 anything that I asked. And let me tell you I have a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 lot more than three minutes' worth of questions.

2 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you.

3 MR. HOWELL: Yes. I understand that  
4 perhaps just up here I didn't address fully everything  
5 that you inquired about, and that's one of the reasons  
6 why we have a court reporter, to capture all of those  
7 issues, and --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What about my  
9 questions? Am I chopped liver?

10 MR. HOWELL: Not at all, sir. At any time  
11 -- as we indicated up here, we have contact  
12 information. What -- the reason why we're trying to  
13 limit it to three minutes is a lot of folks want to  
14 communicate tonight, and we want to hold it and give  
15 everybody here a chance to communicate. If you do  
16 have additional issues or we weren't responsive, we  
17 can deal with you after the meeting. We can certainly  
18 have our contact information provided. And we can  
19 work with you after the meeting in person, work with  
20 you over the phone. If you wish to provide us with  
21 additional issues or concerns, we would welcome that  
22 and -- but, beyond that, we really do need to observe  
23 some meeting rules so that everybody here has an  
24 opportunity to participate in the meeting.

25 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. All right.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Dan Farrell.

2 MR. FARRELL: Thank you. I'll be brief.  
3 I'm going to ask for a little audience participation.  
4 I'm going to ask the people in the audience if they  
5 would raise their hand if they've been involved in an  
6 evacuation. Anybody evacuated from Saigon? Anybody  
7 evacuated from Chernobyl?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not Chernobyl.  
9 Evacuated during hurricanes and it's been very well-  
10 organized and very well-planned.

11 MR. FARRELL: Anybody evacuated from  
12 Boston with the British? Anybody evacuated from Three  
13 Mile Island? Jay, raise your hand. There we go. So  
14 two people in the room have been involved in a nuclear  
15 evacuation.

16 Twenty-four years ago last week was the  
17 anniversary. I'm not here to hash over old things.  
18 My name is Dan Farrell. I live in San Juan. I'm a  
19 concerned citizen. I'm also a member of the  
20 Physicians for Social Responsibility. I got my  
21 potassium iodine tablets -- thank you very much. I  
22 didn't throw it out. And I've got more than a two-day  
23 supply. I know you need more because, as a member of  
24 the Physicians for Social Responsibility, I went to a  
25 symposium at UCLA and heard what would happen up there

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 if there was a catastrophe of the magnitude of Three  
2 Mile Island or San Onofre that caused the people in  
3 Koreatown, for instance, to evacuate the area and head  
4 south. If that dry drunk fruitcake, that prince,  
5 decided to throw a nuclear stink bomb into Koreatown,  
6 the people that walk to Los Angeles over the last 60  
7 years might easily walk back the same way they came.  
8 And I'd like to know if the Sheriff, if the Marines,  
9 if anybody here has made any thoughts as to what would  
10 happen if it was the reverse.

11 It took me three days to get to my mother  
12 at Three Mile Island. She lives a mile and a half  
13 away. I came to California from Middletown in 1963.  
14 But I was obsessed with -- and that's the word my wife  
15 likes to use -- with what was happening back at Three  
16 Mile Island two decades ago, 24 years ago, just like  
17 the people that can't get enough television, that  
18 can't get enough newspaper, that can't get enough --  
19 so I came here tonight to find out, one, what the hell  
20 is this strange occurrence that tripped us over the  
21 threshold for Unit 4? I'm very aware of all the off-  
22 site things that terrorize me, and I don't want to  
23 touch those. But I do like to think that if a hundred  
24 thousand people decided to walk through San Onofre,  
25 that the Sheriff's Department or the Marines or

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 somebody would be able to address that kind of reverse  
2 traffic flow, which concerns me as somebody that went  
3 through it.

4 That's all, folks. Thanks.

5 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. R.K. Dickie.

6 MR. DICKIE: Thank you.

7 MS. NEIDHOLDT: We're trading mikes.  
8 Okay.

9 MR. DICKIE: We're going to trade mikes?

10 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Yeah.

11 MR. DICKIE: I really had very little to  
12 discuss concerning the specifics. I was concerned  
13 more about I think another evacuation problem that we  
14 have concerning this area that has very little to do  
15 with San Onofre, having considerable experience with  
16 the overall safety factors that are associated with  
17 that particular facility. My concern has been  
18 strictly -- and I put on my sheet there that we've  
19 been talking about a -- this 241 toll road and other  
20 access things coming from North County, which would  
21 impact the I-5 problem which we all have. And I have  
22 been pushing for many years and would hope that we  
23 would get the concerns of county, state, and federal  
24 people involved in getting something as -- like 241 to  
25 go in the direction of I- -- over to I-15 and forget

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 about any further I-5 access. I think we're over-  
2 impacted on I-5 at the moment. Has nothing to do with  
3 nuclear security whatsoever. I don't think that's a  
4 problem we should even be discussing.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Stefani, wait just one  
7 second. Excuse me, sir. Did you ask a question a  
8 while ago that -- that you wanted addressed? You kind  
9 of --

10 MR. FARRELL: I would like somebody to  
11 tell me that is there a reverse -- if we had a fuel  
12 reversal that tripped the reactors and we weren't  
13 gonna hear about it till next year, is there a plan in  
14 effect to have a reverse migration if everybody starts  
15 coming at us instead of leaving the area and coming  
16 into the area? Are we thinking outside the box for a  
17 contingency that --

18 MR. JOHNSON: Are you talking about egress  
19 from the plant if an accident occurred? Maybe I'm not  
20 following you.

21 MR. FARRELL: I'm saying somebody throws  
22 a nuclear missile into Koreatown and everybody that  
23 lives around Koreatown decides to come and go stay  
24 with their aunt in Mexico, then the freeways are so  
25 crowded because the cars are clogged and everybody's

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 motor home that hasn't been off the block in five  
2 years is suddenly jammed with all the family valuables  
3 and breaks down every hill, the people that are  
4 causing accidents kind of get out of the way and  
5 nobody's going to be moving except the people that  
6 walk. So the people that walk are gonna be walking  
7 towards --

8 MR. JOHNSON: So -- excuse me, sir. So  
9 are you asking is there an emergency plan or something  
10 set up for that?

11 MR. FARRELL: Is there an emergency plan  
12 set up to deal with the reverse migration?

13 MR. HOWELL: People walking on foot as  
14 opposed to vehicles.

15 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

16 MR. FARRELL: And walking south instead of  
17 north.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Nunn, do you have  
19 anybody that -- we want to refer this to the licensee  
20 -- as far as your emergency plan.

21 MR. NUNN: Well, I'm not sure I understand  
22 the question. If I understand the question, if  
23 someone set off a nuclear weapon in Koreatown and  
24 everyone in Los Angeles started going south, is there  
25 an emergency plan for that? Not to my knowledge.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. JOHNSON: Sir, did you -- did you  
2 leave a question? We don't want to miss any questions  
3 that you may have asked. I'm not sure if you asked a  
4 question or not.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm on the list  
6 later.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. I'm talking about the  
8 gentleman sitting next to you.

9 MR. DICKIE: I'm sorry?

10 MR. JOHNSON: Did you ask a question?

11 MR. DICKIE: My concern was just has there  
12 been any consideration, that you're aware of, in terms  
13 of federal or county activity or state that would  
14 direct -- have other access routes for north and  
15 south, regardless of whether it's just involving San  
16 Onofre, which is probably not consequentially in this  
17 discussion, but we have no other north-south route.  
18 That's a major problem with activity -- people either  
19 having to go north or south. At the moment, we keep  
20 dumping people onto the I-5 and I think it just  
21 further impacts both Camp Pendleton and San Onofre  
22 unnecessarily. I don't think it's anything that's  
23 within your purview.

24 MR. JOHNSON: So is it -- I guess the  
25 question is --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MS. NEIDHOLDT: No. It's not a question.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

3 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Go ahead.

4 MR. NUNN: We're not aware of any -- any  
5 initiative taken by any agency or certainly our  
6 company that thought about or addressed the issue of  
7 the new freeway proposal for 14 or whatever the number  
8 is.

9 MS. NEIDHOLDT: All right. Lyn Harris  
10 Hicks.

11 MS. HARRIS HICKS: Firstly, I'd like to  
12 thank our moderator for being generous about offering  
13 the chance for people to yield their time, because  
14 it's very distressing when citizens come to a meeting  
15 like this and then they listen for a long time to the  
16 people talking about it and then ask their questions  
17 and the answers take three times as long as the -- as  
18 the question and the comment, and then maybe they're  
19 shut off just before they reach the most important  
20 part of what they want to say.

21 It's really distressing and so I think  
22 that that's nice that she has allowed us to have some  
23 yield their time so that we don't have that problem.

24 I'm Lyn Harris Hicks and I did not get my  
25 comments approved before I came from my Creed Steering

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (ph) group. But I think that I can say fairly that  
2 the ones in the Creed Steering group that I work with  
3 have been very appreciative of the fact that you who  
4 most of the room -- in the room here are -- Edison and  
5 Nuclear Regulatory Commission and so forth -- that you  
6 are on the same target that we are here and that you  
7 are doing everything you can to make things safe for  
8 us and yourselves, and we know that. And when we come  
9 and ask questions and bring up issues that we think  
10 should be considered, we're trying to help. And if --  
11 if there were some way that we could have our  
12 participation received in the spirit in which it's  
13 offered, we would appreciate that very much, too,  
14 because we now have a directive from a subcommittee of  
15 the Congress on -- they were -- they are taking up the  
16 matters of emerging terrorist threat at nuclear power  
17 plants. And it's not just threats that already exist,  
18 but they are thinking in terms of emerging terrorist  
19 threats, what might we expect now that we are in a  
20 war, in a sense.

21 So the directive is that FEMA conduct a  
22 reassessment of the evacuation planning and they chose  
23 four areas -- pardon me -- four plants. They were  
24 focusing at the time of this meeting on the Indian  
25 Point, which of course is very important to New York

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 and Connecticut. But they wanted to be national since  
2 they are Congressional subcommittees. So they picked  
3 four. I thought it was three, but I found out today  
4 it was four -- four plants geographically spaced.

5 And one of them was San Onofre.

6 MS. NEIDHOLDT: You're done with your  
7 three minutes.

8 MS. HARRIS HICKS: Okay. I think there's  
9 somebody there who said I could have her time. Carol,  
10 yes.

11 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay. Go ahead.

12 MS. HARRIS HICKS: Okay. Thank you very  
13 much. The -- the purpose of the hearing was to delve  
14 into problems of evacuation. And there were some very  
15 -- very angry persons on that panel because they were  
16 asking questions from someone from the Nuclear  
17 Regulatory Commission, someone from FEMA, and many  
18 others, and they weren't getting the answers. And so  
19 they did this. They said, Go back and study it and  
20 make the -- make the changes that are needed.

21 One point which I think is very important  
22 is that they were not considering the types of drills  
23 that we've been doing as adequate, where everybody  
24 knew it was going to happen and then they were -- they  
25 went through the process of the communications

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 exercise. They want to have an exercise where the  
2 people involved don't have the bus drivers on the bus  
3 ready to come get the children and all that sort of  
4 thing.

5 So that's one that is very important. And  
6 we would like to help. We as citizens here would like  
7 to have a part in the talking about, the suggestions  
8 for, the planning for, that has been going on all  
9 along and that we feel that we're shut out. So if you  
10 can figure out a way that we can -- can have some  
11 participation, we would very much like that.

12 Secondly, we have become aware as we're  
13 studying this over the years of areas where we get  
14 information that we feel that the public should have  
15 and it's -- it's covered up. And I know that it  
16 happens probably gradually where people don't want to  
17 have -- to distress the citizens too much. But I --  
18 I wanted to tell you that several of us who have heard  
19 recent presentations on emergency planning from  
20 emergency planners, they are saying that many of that  
21 is going away, that the presentation is much more  
22 forthright, and it isn't in a situation where every  
23 three sentences we wish we could get up and say,  
24 That's deceptive, or whatever. It's becoming much  
25 better.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   And so, in a sense, I am saying to the  
2 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Edison people, and  
3 the people who are doing the emergency planning and so  
4 forth, are really giving us a much better  
5 presentation, from our standpoint.

6                   And -- and we'd like to have the  
7 opportunity to sit down with one or another of you  
8 when you do something like that, when you're through  
9 with it, and say, Well, what about this? Couldn't you  
10 say this a little differently so people really know  
11 what's happening? So that's mine for the night. And  
12 thank you.

13                   MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

14                   MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. And you're  
15 right. Someone did cede their minutes. When I grow  
16 up, maybe I'll learn how to read. Okay. Marion Beane  
17 had a question. Is it -- you're not Marion. Okay.  
18 I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

19                   Okay. I'll leave her and go on to Steve  
20 Netherby.

21                   MS. BROWN: Yeah. Excuse me. Could that  
22 be Marianne Brown?

23                   MS. NEIDHOLDT: It could.

24                   MS. BROWN: If so, I'll give my time to  
25 Steve.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MS. NEIDHOLDT: It could. Okay.

2 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

3 MS. NEIDHOLDT: I think maybe it is.

4 MS. BROWN: Yeah. I'm sorry. I can't  
5 walk up. Perhaps you can hear me.

6 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Do you want -- I'll bring  
7 -- I will bring you the mike.

8 MS. BROWN: Yeah. I just had hip surgery.  
9 They put a hip in me from a very credible firm in  
10 Switzerland. They forgot to check it, though, and it  
11 was defective. Like you buy batteries and tires, so  
12 slips do happen.

13 I'm fairly new to the area -- okay. I'm  
14 fairly new to the area and curious and impressed with  
15 certain things. I'd like some answers. You've talked  
16 first about security. I'd like to know a lot more  
17 specifics. What local groups are you working with,  
18 and specifically what are you really doing? Because  
19 I've encountered, just because of my nature to do  
20 research projects, some pictures on the Internet at  
21 various places where it doesn't look to me like things  
22 are really safe here. So could that be -- could you  
23 enhance and enlarge your discussion of that? What  
24 groups are you working with within this area, question  
25 one? And specifically, what are you really doing?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Because I don't see that much change from what I've  
2 observed.

3 MR. JOHNSON: Well, as far as security --  
4 what's your name?

5 MS. BROWN: Marianne.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Marianne, we don't --  
7 there's certain things that we can't really discuss  
8 security-wise, but I can tell you with all of -- the  
9 NRC's put out about 50 advisories and orders to help  
10 enhance our security organization, at least the  
11 licensee's security organization. And a lot of that  
12 information is not privy to the public. There's some  
13 sensitive information and we really don't like to get  
14 into the safeguards information publicly like that.  
15 But I assure you these orders have enhanced the  
16 security at all of our nuclear power plants.

17 MR. HOWELL: But, in general, I think as  
18 we alluded to during the presentation, these  
19 enhancements include such things as enhancing or  
20 increasing the guard force at these plants, which you  
21 wouldn't see from the street, increasing the number of  
22 guard posts, increasing the standoff distances for  
23 vehicles that could have access to the plant,  
24 increased security checks, increased or more stringent  
25 requirements for access to the plant in terms of

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 background investigations of individuals. The  
2 Commission is also working with industry to provide  
3 new requirements that would require more training for  
4 security guards, limit their hours of work. These are  
5 some of the issues that were raised at the Indian  
6 Point plant. Some folks in the audience may be aware  
7 of that. And so these are in response to some of  
8 these generic issues that a number of plants, not  
9 necessarily here at San Onofre, but across the board  
10 that are being undertaken as part of this top-to-  
11 bottom review that Mr. Johnson referred to that's  
12 ongoing by the agency.

13 And so we can talk in general terms but,  
14 because of the sensitive nature of the information,  
15 this information is protected, for obvious reasons --  
16 because we don't want folks who can exploit the  
17 details of this information to have access to it, and  
18 that's one of the reasons why we can't talk in great  
19 detail about it.

20 But we can work with you if you have an  
21 interest in other information about what enhancements  
22 are being made to security. We can give you -- we can  
23 get your contact information and we can provide that.

24 MS. BROWN: Thank you. Second thing: Can  
25 you clarify more about the hazardous events? What

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 actually was the potentia -- you spoke before, I  
2 believe, hazardous events that have occurred within  
3 the last year or so here; right? What -- frankly, I  
4 think you slid through those. I wasn't clear as to  
5 what the potential problems were with it.

6 MR. HOWELL: We were trying to share with  
7 you -- the question was what hazardous events were  
8 there. What we were trying to do was share with you  
9 some of the issues that have taken up a lot of time in  
10 the industry, in the NRC nationwide, and one of those  
11 issues was this -- there's a problem at a plant in  
12 Ohio in which there was significant degradation to the  
13 reactor pressure vessel; in other words, there's a  
14 steel shell on top to the reactor. It's about six  
15 inches thick. And this thing corroded to the point  
16 where there's only about three eighths of an inch  
17 left. And so, as a result of that problem, the agency  
18 has taken a number of actions nationwide to make sure  
19 that that doesn't happen at another nuclear power  
20 plant in the country.

21 And so Mr. Johnson was referring to some  
22 of the inspections that are being done to check -- to  
23 ensure that that level of degradation has not  
24 occurred. So that's one of them.

25 And -- but in terms of events, there's no

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 -- there's been no particular events at this plant  
2 that rise above the level of very low safety  
3 significance that we referred to. There was some  
4 automatic shutdowns and we have some other inspector  
5 findings, but they were all very low safety  
6 significance and not -- not particularly significant.

7 MS. BROWN: Okay. Thank you very much.

8 MR. HOWELL: Oh, I think you did have one  
9 other question, and that was local law enforcement,  
10 who the plant coordinates with. I don't want to  
11 speak --

12 MR. NUNN: Yeah. Let me briefly talk  
13 about security. For the 99 percent of what goes on in  
14 security, you can't see from driving by the plant.  
15 All you can see is our armed security officers  
16 checking IDs on plants, going -- on personnel going  
17 into the plant.

18 As the NRC has indicated, access to even  
19 the owner-controlled area, which is not the plant  
20 itself but office buildings and the like, has been  
21 limited to employees and business persons and positive  
22 identification has to be made to enter that area.

23 We have a highly trained professional  
24 security force. Eighty-five percent of those either  
25 have military experience or prior police experience.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Do you want me to wait till you finish to continue  
2 talking? Are you interested in this?

3 MS. BROWN: Yes. Then there's one further  
4 question that's rather pressing, and --

5 MR. NUNN: I haven't finished my answer  
6 yet.

7 MS. BROWN: Oh, I'm sorry.

8 MR. NUNN: You asked who our local law  
9 enforcement contacts are. Our local law enforcement  
10 authority for San Onofre is the FBI. They're our  
11 primary contact for any crimes or threats. We also  
12 have the Orange County Sheriff, the San Diego County  
13 Sheriff, the Highway Patrol. Perhaps if you've driven  
14 by the plant, you've noticed that typically in the  
15 condition Orange, there is a Highway Patrol officer  
16 stationed outside the plant. We have access to the  
17 Marine Corps in the event of an event at San Onofre,  
18 so I think we're very lucky in many respects to have  
19 both the FBI and very professional County Sheriff's  
20 Departments, the Highway Patrol, and the Marine Corps  
21 to call upon in the event of an attack on San Onofre.

22 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

23 MR. HOWELL: Did that answer --

24 MS. BROWN: Have they ever thought about  
25 using a water tube to remove -- placing them all along

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 highways?

2 THE REPORTER: I cannot hear you when you  
3 talk without a microphone.

4 MR. JOHNSON: Excuse me, Miss. Could you  
5 talk --

6 MS. NEIDHOLDT: I've got to give her a  
7 mike back.

8 THE REPORTER: None of the last two  
9 questions have been on the record. She has not had a  
10 mike.

11 MS. BROWN: Has there been any thought of  
12 ever using the ocean and boats to evacuate people  
13 rather than for the congestion of freeways? I'm from  
14 Colorado, so I don't understand some of your issues  
15 out here.

16 MR. NUNN: No.

17 MS. BROWN: No. Okay.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Why not?

19 MS. BROWN: Why not?

20 MR. HOWELL: Who's that?

21 MR. NUNN: Who's got a boat?

22 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay.

23 MR. JOHNSON: We'd like to get your name  
24 also so we can respond to some of your questions.

25 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Marianne Brown. Marianne

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Brown. Okay? Steve Netherby.

2 MR. NETHERBY: Steve Netherby from San  
3 Clemente. To truly enjoy family life in their quiet,  
4 beautiful, throwback beach town, San Clemente citizens  
5 live in a self-imposed state of denial, denial that we  
6 might be inundated by urban sprawl, that an ill-  
7 conceived toll road might slice our irreplaceable and  
8 globally priceless back-country in two and multiply  
9 our I-5 traffic problems, that double-tracking might  
10 wreck our beaches, and finally that a radiation  
11 disaster at SONGS might make all our other local  
12 threats seem less than trivial.

13 I'd like to read a paragraph from an  
14 article that many of you may have seen in the June 24,  
15 2002 Newsweek that shook some of us, at least  
16 temporarily, from our denial state.

17 Jonathan Alter in his article "At the Core  
18 of Nuclear Fear" was talking about Indian Point that's  
19 been mentioned.

20 "At least the containment facility that  
21 houses the reactor was designed to be  
22 protected. Unless you include beefed-up  
23 perimeter security after 9/11, the same  
24 cannot be said of the nearby spent fuel  
25 pools, the 38-foot-deep pools with no

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           hardened dome that house the depleted  
2           fuel rod assemblies removed from the  
3           reactor. Indian Point's three pools are  
4           in bedrock, but at many other nuclear  
5           plants (I won't tell you which ones) the  
6           pools are above ground level. As Frank  
7           Von Hippel of Princeton explained to me,  
8           'If the water is somehow drained, the  
9           rods could ignite in a horrendous  
10          zirconium fire, releasing Cesium-137 that  
11          would render hundreds of square miles  
12          uninhabitable for generations, a horror  
13          no pill could help.' The odds are very  
14          low, but not low enough."

15                 My questions are two, and we've discussed  
16          one of them. Are our containment pools sufficiently  
17          impermeable to seismic events, for instance, and  
18          terrorist attack that could trigger such a disaster?  
19          And, two, have SONGS security measures been  
20          sufficiently hardened since 9/11 to protect against  
21          the terrorist threats that have become such an  
22          undeniable part of our daily lives, even in quiet,  
23          beautiful San Clemente?

24                         MR. JOHNSON: Yes. He had two questions.

25                         MS. NEIDHOLDT: Yeah. I have a gentleman

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that people have ceded time to that also has Unit 1  
2 questions, so should we let him talk first and get all  
3 the questions or -- you want to do this to start?

4 MR. HOWELL: Yes.

5 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay. Who's --

6 MR. JOHNSON: I think the first question  
7 -- the very last question you asked, you asked about  
8 the zirconium fire. Am I correct? -- the first  
9 question. Now, your last question -- let me -- I want  
10 to make sure we address that.

11 As -- I think you mentioned about  
12 security. I can say with the order that's been passed  
13 down from the NRC, that the security -- the security  
14 enhancements have definitely been improved. And I  
15 want to make sure that you understand with all these  
16 enhancements -- and, again, we can't get into  
17 specifics -- but the security has definitely been  
18 enhanced since 9/11. And to this day now, we have  
19 security inspectors, NRC inspectors, that come to this  
20 site and all other sites and review security measures  
21 to determine or verify that the enhancements have been  
22 implemented at the sites.

23 I think that was your last question. Did  
24 I --

25 MR. NETHERBY: Yeah. And to cover the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 sort of press that this gentleman over here brought  
2 up, are they to the level that you feel that that sort  
3 of -- those sorts of threats can be effectively  
4 avoided?

5 MR. HOWELL: I just wanted to add another  
6 point to what Mr. Johnson said. In addition to all  
7 those things, the NRC is continuing to analyze any  
8 potential vulnerabilities associated with spent fuel  
9 pools. In fact, some of the enhancements that we've  
10 talked about in general terms have stemmed from some  
11 of these ongoing reviews that have transpired over the  
12 past year and a half. Not all those reviews have been  
13 completed. They're still ongoing. And so the NRC is  
14 further assessing not only impacts from different  
15 potential terrorist threats not only to the spent fuel  
16 pools but also to the plant -- plants overall.

17 And so one could expect that, in the  
18 future, that there will be additional actions. But  
19 there has been significant upgrading of security for  
20 these pools and the site -- the site as a whole.

21 And I just want to point out that the  
22 security that existed prior to 9/11 was quite robust.  
23 If you look at what's going on at a national level,  
24 one of the main focuses of not only the Federal  
25 Government, but also state and local governments, is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to -- to upgrade protection of critical  
2 infrastructure, of which nuclear power plants are just  
3 one small piece of, a very important piece. Nuclear  
4 power plants prior to 9/11 had a robust security  
5 protection scheme that has been enhanced. Further  
6 reviews are ongoing, and we expect that additional  
7 measures will be taken in the future.

8 In terms of zirconium fires, the NRC has  
9 specifically assessed that potential for the drainage  
10 of water and the potential for a fire from uncovered  
11 spent fuel and, as you indicated, a fire can occur  
12 under certain circumstances. The probability is very  
13 low. And one of the reasons it's very low is that  
14 there's multiple sources at the plant. I think  
15 there's at least six or seven, if not more, pre-  
16 positioned sources to maintain water and keep that  
17 fuel covered in case there was a problem with the  
18 level of cooling -- or the level of water for the  
19 spent fuel pool.

20 So --

21 MR. NETHERBY: Do you feel that the spent  
22 fuel pool housing is -- is robust enough, to use your  
23 term, to withstand a terrorist attack?

24 MR. HOWELL: That's a broad question and,  
25 depending on how you define that -- you know, we can

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 talk about, you know, anything from one or two folks  
2 trying to do something -- do ill toward the plant --

3 MR. NETHERBY: Let's say a shoulder-fired  
4 missile from a parking lot.

5 MR. HOWELL: I can't -- I can't really get  
6 into the details, but yes, the plant is very robust.  
7 And you had a question about seismic, too, and the  
8 plant is designed to withstand all the worst-case  
9 predicted seismic events based on real data that  
10 exists for this part of the country, as well as the  
11 rest of the plant, for that matter. So --

12 MR. NETHERBY: And, Rick, are you going to  
13 address seismic? Okay.

14 MR. HOWELL: Thank you.

15 MR. JOHNSON: Again, so we can capture all  
16 your questions, please talk into the mike. Don't  
17 start talking until we give you the mike. Thank you.

18 MS. NEIDHOLDT: The court reporter keeps  
19 giving me dirty looks 'cause he can't hear you guys.

20 Richard Redfield. And you've had two  
21 people cede their minutes to you, so you have nine  
22 minutes.

23 MR. REDFIELD: Okay. I may not need all  
24 of that time. I may be able to give it back. I hope  
25 to wrap this up fairly quickly.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I also want to address the spent fuel pool  
2 at Unit 1 and the possibility of terrorism and the  
3 vulnerability of that spent fuel pool. There's been  
4 numerous -- there's been much debate in the United  
5 States recently about exactly those issues, and there  
6 are differing opinions, and those opinions haven't  
7 been expressed here tonight.

8 Dr. Gordon Thompson has produced a  
9 videotape that addresses some of those issues, and it  
10 is available from Mothers for Peace at Diablo Canyon  
11 and it is a very enlightening videotape to watch and  
12 see those issues.

13 My main concern is about robustness and  
14 ability of Unit 1 spent fuel pool to resist a  
15 terrorist attack or a seismic event, particularly the  
16 roof and supporting structures of the roof, and I'd  
17 like the NRC and the plant officials to address those  
18 issues.

19 In addition, I would like them to state  
20 from that report, from the NRC report, the  
21 consequences of a full-scale, fully-involved zirconium  
22 fire at the Unit 1 spent fuel pool.

23 And I also believe that they are seriously  
24 in error in their assessment of the security at the  
25 plant in relation to the Unit 1 spent fuel pool,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 particularly in relation to truck bomb barriers, which  
2 Paul Leventhal and Dan Hirsch spent ten years arguing  
3 with the NRC to get those installed. They weren't  
4 installed until 1994. The effort began in 1984. It  
5 took ten years for those two activists to convince the  
6 NRC to install truck bombs. I believe that there is  
7 a serious deficiency concerning those types of  
8 physical barriers at San Onofre Unit 1 near the spent  
9 fuel pool.

10 Thank you very much.

11 MR. WALDO: Claude, --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you want us to  
13 answer that?

14 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, if you don't mind.

15 MR. WALDO: I'd like to bring up a couple  
16 of points regarding the questions and try to address  
17 the questions that were asked.

18 One thing to understand is that the fuel  
19 at Unit 1 is stored below grade, below ground level;  
20 all right? So water draining out of the spent fuel  
21 pool would be a difficult thing to -- to anticipate.

22 Second of all, a zirconium fire is not  
23 applicable. Unit 1's fuel was stainless steel, not  
24 zirconium. The fuel at Unit 1 did not use zirconium.  
25 Zirconium fire is not credible at Unit 1.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           The structure as designed, it's  
2           seismically analyzed.

3           The other thing I guess I'll point out is  
4           the last time that Unit 1 operated was in 1992. So  
5           the heat load in the spent fuel pool is extremely low.  
6           So there's no particular need to even cool the spent  
7           fuel pool at all. The heat load is minor enough so  
8           that the pool is slightly above room temperature and  
9           that's it.

10           So, anyway, I think there may be concerns  
11           that are raised for generic plant sites and things  
12           like that. They're not applicable to Unit 1.

13           MR. REDFIELD: I'd like to -- I'd like the  
14           members to address the possibility that there is fuel  
15           from Units 2 and 3 stored at Unit 1, okay? And, also,  
16           I'd like you to address the problem of truck bomb  
17           barriers guarding the entrances to the spent fuel pool  
18           at Unit 1.

19           MR. NUNN: We have barriers outside the  
20           plant. I'm not aware of any problems with them. So  
21           -- nor do I think there is any problems with them.

22           MR. REDFIELD: Without addressing too much  
23           in the way of specifics, I'd like to say that I have  
24           photographs that prove that there is a problem and you  
25           should take a look at it.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Be happy to.

2 MR. JOHNSON: We'll get with you after the  
3 meeting.

4 MR. REDFIELD: Thank you.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

6 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Bill Freeman.

7 MR. FREEMAN: Hi. I'm just a resident of  
8 San Clemente and I came down here basically because I  
9 was worried about the possibility of an airplane  
10 crashing into the facility, and I had a chance to talk  
11 to the representative from Edison, and he basically  
12 answered that he didn't think the risk was sufficient  
13 enough to incur the expense.

14 And I was just wondering who makes those  
15 calculations and who decides whether a 767 going into  
16 that dome might cause a major problem, and maybe the  
17 fellow from Pendleton could answer that question  
18 because engineers didn't think that a plane going into  
19 the World Trade Center would bring the entire  
20 structure down either. So I was just wondering -- it  
21 doesn't seem like it would cost that much to station  
22 some surface-to-air missiles there. So -- and any  
23 time I have left, --

24 MR. JOHNSON: Would you rephrase the  
25 question? What is --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. DRICKS: I got it. I got it.

2 MR. FREEMAN: He understands it. And then  
3 if I've got two minutes left, I'd like to cede it to  
4 Pam here.

5 MR. DRICKS: I'll try to answer your  
6 question. Although the possibility of an aircraft  
7 being deliberately crashed into a reactor was not  
8 specifically analyzed, the NRC believes that the  
9 containment buildings that surround the nuclear power  
10 plants in the country are very robust in design, among  
11 the hardest industrial targets in the country.

12 We have a number of studies that are  
13 currently underway that will specifically analyze what  
14 the effects could be. But at this point, as I say, we  
15 think that the structures are extremely robust and  
16 would probably be able to withstand that kind of an  
17 impact. But there are a number of studies which are  
18 currently underway that will look at specific  
19 scenarios like that.

20 MR. FREEMAN: While those studies are  
21 underway, is there any --

22 MR. JOHNSON: Excuse me, sir. Please talk  
23 into the microphone.

24 MR. FREEMAN: I need to use the  
25 microphone. Okay. Since there is some possibility,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I'm wondering what would be the problem or the  
2 downside of stationing something there that could take  
3 out an airliner if it was heading in? I mean, just  
4 common sense.

5 MR. DRICKS: There have been a lot --

6 MR. FREEMAN: Maybe one, so I don't have  
7 to come up here again, --

8 MR. DRICKS: Okay.

9 MR. FREEMAN: -- real quickly, you  
10 mentioned that the airspace above San Onofre was  
11 closed for loitering. I mean, that indicates that  
12 there must be some concern, but I don't think that a  
13 plane would loiter before it came in. So there must  
14 be some, again, concern there. That's why you've  
15 instituted that no-fly loitering zone. It doesn't  
16 sound like there's a no-fly zone. There's no hanging  
17 around up above the plant zone. So that would be, you  
18 know -- wondering what -- I mean, what would be the  
19 expense of --

20 MR. JOHNSON: It's just not San Onofre,  
21 sir. It's just not San Onofre. This is -- this is at  
22 all power plants.

23 MR. DRICKS: There have been notices to  
24 airmen that have been issued by the FAA that basically  
25 prohibit the planes from, as you say, loitering in the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 vicinity of the plants. Over the last year and a  
2 half, there have been a number of incidents of planes  
3 that have strayed too close into the airspace of some  
4 nuclear plants and have been either intercepted by  
5 military aircraft or have had interviews with the FBI  
6 immediately when they landed. There have been a  
7 number of suggestions made over the last year and a  
8 half about different approaches that might be taken to  
9 protect the plants. These range from placement of  
10 anti-aircraft guns around the plants to the  
11 construction of some sort of structure that would  
12 protect the airspace over the plant or deflect it.

13 All of these things are currently under  
14 consideration. Clearly, the plants were not designed  
15 to be able to withstand acts of war. In light of  
16 9/11, we realize that the previous threat that we  
17 asked the plants to be able to defend themselves  
18 against scenarios that were not considered probable,  
19 are now considered possible. Nobody anticipated the  
20 possibility of kamikaze attacks into a nuclear plant.

21 So all of those things are being looked  
22 at. We have a number of -- we have the National  
23 Laboratories working with us to try to come up with  
24 some solutions to the problem. And we've been working  
25 on it for the last year and a half.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. Ricardo Nicol.

2 MR. NICOL: Thank you. The focus, of  
3 course, in terrorist attack is naturally predominant  
4 right now. It's certainly a possibility. But there  
5 is the other hazard, which is not only possible but a  
6 virtual certainty and it would bear -- bring forces to  
7 bear on San Onofre and the surrounding area greater  
8 than any terrorist attack, and that's of course a  
9 catastrophic earthquake.

10 Given that -- that earthquakes -- recent  
11 earthquakes in the last 15 years around Los Angeles,  
12 Southern California, have rendered the freeways  
13 unpassable due to falling bridges and other things,  
14 the freeways in a catastrophic earthquake are not  
15 usable. All you have to do is have one bridge come  
16 down and that's -- that's the end of that freeway as  
17 an escape route.

18 So the -- the Indian Point -- with that as  
19 a preamble, the Indian Point, a New York nuclear  
20 plant, an emergency evacuation plan was recently  
21 submitted to a review and analysis by an independent  
22 panel of experts. That process resulted in the  
23 discovery and public awareness of many severe  
24 weaknesses in the emergency plan. The review of the  
25 Indian Point plan cost about \$800,000. Given that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Southern California Edison has received billions of  
2 dollars in stranded assets and may receive further  
3 money, bailout money from the citizens of California,  
4 would Southern California Edison and the San Onofre  
5 Nuclear Plant be willing to provide money to allow  
6 performance of an equally independent and  
7 comprehensive analysis of the emergency plan for the  
8 San Onofre Nuclear Plant?

9 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you. Stay here.

10 MR. JOHNSON: Would you --

11 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay. Did you -- did you  
12 want to stay here in case you want to ask another  
13 question?

14 MR. NICOL: Yes.

15 MR. NUNN: Our emergency plan is  
16 independently assessed by both the Federal Emergency  
17 Management Agency -- almost said Commission -- and the  
18 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. You've heard a number  
19 of people here tonight, including things that were  
20 brought up in the Witt (ph) report, which you referred  
21 to, that indicated that our communications, our  
22 drills, and the assessment of our program is very  
23 high. So we don't -- I don't basically agree with  
24 your premise that it needs yet another independent  
25 assessment.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           MR. NICOL:   What about the subject of  
2   freeways being -- being -- I'm sure they're a big  
3   component of the emergency evacuation plan.   Given  
4   that they would be rendered unusable in an event of a  
5   catastrophic earthquake, what alternatives are there,  
6   if any?

7           MR. NUNN:   Well, as a result of some of  
8   the earthquakes you mentioned, the freeway overpasses  
9   have been upgraded, and I think you can see that in  
10  several modifications on some of the older overpasses  
11  in this vicinity.

12           The San Onofre Plant is designed for a  
13  very substantial earthquake, which would not cause a  
14  -- the safety systems nor San Onofre would not fail in  
15  the event of a very substantial earthquake.   So the  
16  combination of the freeway -- or the overpasses being  
17  upgraded as a result of earthquakes throughout  
18  California, to a higher standard than those that were  
19  built that failed in the Pacoima and other  
20  earthquakes, and the high seismic design of San  
21  Onofre, indicate that that's adequate protection for  
22  the public health and safety.

23           MR. NICOL:   I listened to what you're  
24  saying, and the -- and I can remember the earthquake  
25  in Pacoima or Sylmar earthquake, the bridges did come

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 down. But then also the freeway right away itself  
2 buckled to the point that it was unusable. So I don't  
3 know whether the roadway itself has been upgraded to  
4 take care of that. It wasn't just the bridges coming  
5 down. The buckling of the roadway itself made it  
6 impossible. And I know that from first -- personal  
7 experience because I tried to negotiate those freeways  
8 after going through Ventura County and they were  
9 totally unpassable, not just because of the bridges  
10 but also because the roadway buckled for miles and it  
11 was impossible.

12 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Pam Patterson.

13 MS. PATTERSON: I've been studying this  
14 issue for about two weeks, so I'm pretty new to it.  
15 But one of my questions was what is the role that the  
16 NRC plays? Because it doesn't seem to me, just based  
17 on what I've seen tonight, that it's a neutral role.  
18 I mean, you seem more like an advocate and you're  
19 using conclusionary wording, such as "very low safety  
20 significance" and, you know, that the plant was  
21 effectively managed. I mean, I don't know. It seems  
22 like if it was effectively managed, we wouldn't be  
23 having this hearing tonight.

24 Also, you know, I don't see any other  
25 people that you've brought up to speak as far as what

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the opposing issues are so, to me, you don't seem like  
2 you're neutral -- you're not playing a neutral role.

3 My big concern, obviously, is the security  
4 of the power plant. I have small children that live  
5 in -- you know, we live in San Juan Capistrano. And  
6 actually, from what I've now been seeing and  
7 researching, it doesn't seem like it's secure to me.  
8 There -- you know, there's this Princeton study that  
9 just came out February 13th of this year that refers  
10 to the High Density Storage Systems of those fuel rods  
11 that a couple people already mentioned, and it says  
12 that -- and, actually, they're specifically looking at  
13 -- it's a study entitled "High Density Storage of  
14 Nuclear Waste Heightens Terrorism Risks."

15 Now, these people don't have a vested  
16 interest in the outcome, which I kind of feel like you  
17 people do, and obviously Southern California Edison  
18 has a vested interest in the outcome of this hearing.  
19 Princeton, obviously, is, you know, one of -- a  
20 renowned institution in the United States, and I think  
21 that we all respect studies that Princeton does.

22 So it says here, "High Density Storage of  
23 Nuclear Waste Heightens Terrorism Risks." And it  
24 specifically is talking about the way that these rods  
25 are not being properly stored. I guess that maybe

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 there wasn't enough space allocated for the rods. And  
2 so because they're, you know, packing in more rods  
3 than they should, it's increased the density and has  
4 -- it says that -- excuse me.

5 MR. NUNN: Excuse us.

6 MS. PATTERSON: Thank you. Basically,  
7 what it says here is that it could contaminate -- that  
8 a fire -- if the water in these tanks leaked, it would  
9 cause a fire which could contaminate a land area eight  
10 to 70 times greater than that in the Chernobyl  
11 incident, which if you do the math, that's somewhere  
12 between 160-mile radius up to 1400 miles which, you  
13 know, obviously, that's a concern.

14 Okay. So -- so that's one of my -- you  
15 know, I want that addressed.

16 I want to know -- you know, you say that  
17 you're considering or you're looking into I guess how  
18 you're going to handle planes coming over the power  
19 plant. I mean, so -- I mean, to me, it seems like  
20 you're in the default, that a terrorist attack is not  
21 going to happen. Obviously, since September 11th, you  
22 know, we should all be pretty much clued in on the  
23 fact that, yes, it can happen and it did happen and  
24 now we're at war; okay? So it's a completely  
25 different situation.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1           And -- so, you know, waiting until a plane  
2 lands and then you're going to have the FBI talk to  
3 them, that's not really sufficient. You people have  
4 an absolute responsibility to secure that plant. So  
5 I want to know what is your no-flight policy?

6           And I know that you like to keep saying,  
7 Well, it's, you know, confidential and we can't give  
8 you the specifics. Well, then, you know, we have  
9 concerned citizens here. Let's get some people  
10 together who have a security clearance, that know the  
11 issues and are familiar with it, that we can trust and  
12 then you can meet with them and you can give them the  
13 specifics so that we know that all bases are covered.

14           Because I don't want to just rely on the  
15 fact that we have -- you have enhanced security; okay?  
16 My kids' lives are not going to depend on that. I  
17 have -- no, excuse me. I have time ceded.

18           (Applause.)

19           Thank you. Okay. So I also wanted to  
20 know -- oh, even -- you know, here your own what? --  
21 the spokesperson for the power plant, I mean, does  
22 this instill you with confidence? They said --  
23 they're using retired -- you know, retired military  
24 and police people to guard the gate at San Onofre. I  
25 want to know how old these people are -- 65, you know.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Good, let's go get the retirees, you know.

2 In the City of San Clemente, the Domestic  
3 Terrorism Preparedness, their like official statement,  
4 is that, "The City of San Clemente is not considered  
5 a high-risk area as are cities with high population  
6 densities." Are you people crazy? Okay. They  
7 already did New York City. What do you think is a  
8 prime target next? L.A. maybe? And what's L.A.'s  
9 nuclear power plant? What can you get more bang for  
10 the buck than hitting San Onofre? Okay? I mean, it  
11 takes nothing. They'll take out Hollywood. They'll  
12 take out L.A. They'll take out the whole region. And  
13 you people are basing it on the fact that it's not  
14 high risk because San Clemente doesn't have a high  
15 population density? I mean, come on.

16 And then it also says here, "Also, the  
17 likelihood of a terrorist attack reaching the  
18 containment vessels at SONGS is remote." Well, you  
19 know what? It was pretty remote that they would take  
20 down the World Trade Center, too, so maybe you'd  
21 better start considering remote.

22 And then this. And you know what? If  
23 we're so secure, why are you handing out pills?

24 (Applause.)

25 This -- I just love this. Okay. This is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the spokesperson for Ray Golden, the spokesperson for  
2 the power plant. "We could further enhance security  
3 if we feel we need to be more vigilant. We do have  
4 the capability if we were ever to identify a credible  
5 and real threat to call upon other resources." You  
6 really think somebody's going to give you a phone  
7 call, "We're planning to hit the plant next Thursday"?  
8 Is that what you think? You know, I don't know what  
9 -- what more you need. Okay. We freakin' have taken  
10 on these terrorists and so we're at war.

11 And they -- you know, so, anyway, I'm not  
12 really happy. I don't feel confident. I don't feel  
13 secure. I feel that my children's lives are at risk.  
14 And I feel like the lives of everybody around here are  
15 at risk and you're playing with us. Okay? You're not  
16 taking it seriously.

17 And you know what? The evacuation plan,  
18 are you people crazy? Have you ever tried to be on  
19 the freeway even at rush hour? How long does it take  
20 to get from San Juan to Santa Ana? An hour. And  
21 that's just a typical day, you know. You kidding me?

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Thank you.

24 MR. JOHNSON: We'd like to get with you  
25 after that, but I want to make one thing clear. I

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 don't know if you heard when I first opened this  
2 presentation, I stated the purpose of this  
3 presentation, and I thought that was clear. And if I  
4 didn't make that come across, I apologize for that.

5 But I think I did state the purpose of  
6 what the NRC's role was, and I don't know if you were  
7 here at the time. So if not, we'll get together and  
8 I'll explain to you the role.

9 MS. PATTERSON: Is it a PR thing? Is it  
10 a PR thing? I mean, --

11 MR. JOHNSON: I guess I don't understand  
12 the question of what our purpose -- I gave you the  
13 purpose of what this meeting was about. So maybe we  
14 need to talk a little bit after that.

15 MS. PATTERSON: I don't believe -- I just  
16 don't like that, you know, it's like your little  
17 Powerpoint presentation -- you know, it's like, come  
18 on. You're just trying to make us -- you're just  
19 trying to placate us. Okay? You're not addressing  
20 any of the real issues. You're not giving us any real  
21 information. You know, let us be the judge if there's  
22 a low safety security risk. You know, don't give us  
23 conclusionary language. We want to know what's going  
24 on. And the fact that there's a hearing here at all  
25 tonight shows that it's not being run properly.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MR. JOHNSON: That's --

2 MS. PATTERSON: Or there wouldn't be a --  
3 you've exceeded the number of --

4 MR. JOHNSON: This is not a hearing. This  
5 is a presentation of an annual assessment of the  
6 licensee's performance. I'm sorry if you weren't here  
7 at the beginning of this presentation, but I thought  
8 I made the purpose very clear, and I will go over it  
9 again after this. We'll get together and I'll state  
10 our purpose again. We'll get your concerns. But I  
11 stated the purpose very clearly I thought.

12 MR. DRICKS: Let me try to respond to a  
13 number of the things that you said. We are an  
14 independent regulatory agency. What you heard and  
15 characterized as conclusions were conclusions that  
16 were drawn on the basis of experts that we have who  
17 work for the agency. They're nuclear engineers,  
18 electrical engineers, security experts, inspectors  
19 like the residents who are permanently assigned to  
20 each of the facilities in the country. They spend  
21 time going through the plant each day, interviewing  
22 people, looking at records, and drawing conclusions.

23 The reason we have this meeting is so that  
24 at least once a year we give you, the members of the  
25 public, an opportunity to meet with the federal

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 officials who are mostly in Washington, D.C. or in  
2 Arlington, Texas that you might normally not have a  
3 chance to interact with and get to see that they're  
4 people who, like yourself, live in the community, who  
5 have children and families here, who are not going to  
6 do anything to endanger those people, and so that you  
7 can get some of your questions answered.

8 Now, you asked a lot of questions and I  
9 understand that you're pretty upset about them. I'll  
10 try to respond to as many as I can recall. You asked  
11 again about the spent fuel pools, and it's a theme  
12 that we've heard a lot about tonight. As the folks  
13 from Southern California Edison indicated, in two  
14 thirds of the power plants in the United States with  
15 pressurized water reactors, the spent fuel pools are  
16 located below ground level. That means that in order  
17 to penetrate -- the study that you talked about at  
18 Princeton presumes that one were able to draw -- knock  
19 a hole in the bottom of a 40-foot-deep pool. All  
20 right? These pools are filled with water. They have  
21 walls that are three or four or five feet thick of  
22 steel and reinforced concrete. For the purpose of  
23 that Princeton study, they looked at -- they asked the  
24 question, What would happen if we drained all the  
25 water out of one of these spent fuel pools and the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 spent fuel was then allowed to catch fire?

2 So there's a couple things that would  
3 preclude that. The first is the fact that these walls  
4 are three or four feet thick. The second is that you  
5 would have -- you would have to drill a hole  
6 perpendicularly through the very bottom of the pool  
7 and have all the water drain out. The third thing is  
8 that the folks at the plant wouldn't -- would just sit  
9 by and do nothing and let all the water drain out of  
10 the pool and not make any attempt to cover the fuel.

11 MS. PATTERSON: But what you're doing is  
12 you're basing your information just on what Southern  
13 California Edison is providing you, who obviously has  
14 a vested interest in that plant. And, secondly, I  
15 don't want to know how it can't happen. I want some  
16 people that --

17 MR. DRICKS: Well, --

18 MS. PATTERSON: -- know about this to tell  
19 us how it can happen and then you need to make sure  
20 that it doesn't happen.

21 MR. DRICKS: We are making sure it doesn't  
22 happen because --

23 MS. PATTERSON: And I want to know how  
24 you --

25 MR. DRICKS: Because we -- because we have

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 inspectors who are at the plants --

2 MS. PATTERSON: And I want to know who the  
3 inspectors are. I don't --

4 MR. DRICKS: They're sitting right in  
5 front of you, these --

6 MS. PATTERSON: Yeah, but I don't think  
7 you're a neutral party. I can tell by the way that  
8 you're talking that you are advocates of nuclear --

9 MR. DRICKS: We're not advocates of  
10 nuclear power.

11 MS. PATTERSON: I can tell by this whole  
12 presentation.

13 MR. DRICKS: Well, all I can say is we're  
14 an independent safety regulator. Our job is to ensure  
15 that --

16 MS. PATTERSON: Well, I think that we  
17 should be able -- concerned citizens should be able to  
18 get our group of people that have the security  
19 clearance required and then you -- and then they will  
20 assure us that you're doing it properly.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Independent group.

22 MR. HOWELL: Yes. As Victor indicated,  
23 you have a lot of issues. We understand you're upset.  
24 What we would offer is that perhaps we could get with  
25 you and -- so that we capture all the concerns and

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that we -- it's a lot of information for us to process  
2 here tonight, and we really very much want to  
3 understand in detail all the issues so that we can --

4 MS. PATTERSON: And I want you to think  
5 about all the kids that live here.

6 MR. HOWELL: Believe me, we do. We do.  
7 We have folks that live in the community --

8 MS. PATTERSON: Yeah, but they don't see  
9 us. Okay? I -- and I don't have any confidence in  
10 the security over there. And you're handing out  
11 pills? You know, the fact that you're handing out  
12 pills for people to take is, per se, you know -- I  
13 mean, we don't even need to discuss it any further  
14 than that. If you think that there is any reason that  
15 we need to be taking these pills, you need to freaking  
16 get on the security issue.

17 MS. NEIDHOLDT: We do need to move on, and  
18 I need to say one thing. I've been with the NRC for  
19 12 years. All but eight, I've lived in San Clemente.  
20 I've raised two kids. I'm not a stupid person.

21 MS. PATTERSON: That was before the  
22 terrorists --

23 MS. NEIDHOLDT: I just want you to know my  
24 kids are fine.

25 MS. PATTERSON: -- came to this country.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 You know, that was before the World Trade Center.

2 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay.

3 MS. PATTERSON: It's a different  
4 situation.

5 MS. NEIDHOLDT: That -- okay.

6 MS. PATTERSON: We're at war.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Point of order. In  
8 the documents we were shown, it says NRC performance  
9 goals are to enhance public confidence.

10 MS. NEIDHOLDT: Okay. That concludes the  
11 question-and-answer portion of which I have people on  
12 the list. Okay? Everyone that was on the list that  
13 wanted to speak has had their time. I thank you very  
14 much. I'm going to turn this back over to Mr.  
15 Johnson.

16 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Stefani. For  
17 those that apparently we didn't satisfy on our  
18 question and answers, I would like for you to get with  
19 us after this meeting and we'll document your concerns  
20 and try to provide you a formal response of some type.  
21 However, it would be much easier and it's over now,  
22 but if you'd have spoke into the microphone, we could  
23 have documented it a little better. And I think our  
24 court reporter had a hard time to capture all that.  
25 But we'll be -- we'll stay around -- we'll be --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 several of us will stay around this afternoon --  
2 tonight -- to capture your concerns specifically.

3 Art, do you have anything you want to add  
4 to this?

5 MR. HOWELL: Might want to ask Mr. Nunn.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Nunn?

7 MR. NUNN: None.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. We appreciate your  
9 attendance tonight, and that concludes our  
10 presentation tonight. And I just want to make sure --  
11 this is not a hearing. This was an annual assessment  
12 of the licensee's performance.

13 Thank you.

14 (Whereupon, at 9:26 a.m., the assessment  
15 meeting was concluded.)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701