

October 15, 2004

Mr. Steve Redeker
Manager, Plant Closure & Decommissioning
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S. Street, P.O. Box 15830
Sacramento, CA 95852-1830

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF DOCKETING AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE RANCHO SECO INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (ISFSI) REQUEST FOR PROPOSED EXEMPTION AND LICENSE AMENDMENT (TAC. NO. L23752 AND L23753)

Dear Mr. Redeker:

By letter dated July 19, 2004, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) submitted a request regarding the Rancho Seco ISFSI. SMUD requested an exemption from the requirement in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 72.44(d)(3) to submit an annual radioactive effluent report pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7. In addition, in accordance with 10 CFR 72.56, "Application for Amendment of License," SMUD submitted a proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Rancho Seco ISFSI Technical Specifications to delete the requirement to submit this annual radioactive effluent report.

This is to inform you that the applications appear to contain the necessary information to begin our technical review. The schedule below establishes the key milestones and dates associated with the applications through completion of our review. Please note that the schedule allows for the staff to issue a possible request for additional information (RAI) in November 2004. If no RAI is needed, and based on the staff's evaluation, our Safety Evaluation Report, Exemption, and ISFSI license amendment may be issued at approximately that time.

Action	Date
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Receives Application	07/29/04
NRC Issues Environmental Assessment (EA) for Proposed Exemption	10/30/04
If necessary, NRC Issues RAI for Proposed Amendment No. 1	11/30/04
SMUD Responds to RAI	12/30/04
NRC Issues ISFSI Exemption and License Amendment	01/30/05

S. Redeker

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In general, no changes or supplements to the applications should be submitted, except in response to an RAI.

I am enclosing a copy of the Notice of Docketing for the exemption and conforming amendment requests to License No. SNM-2510. The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Please reference Docket No. 72-11 and TAC No. L23752 (exemption) and L23753 (amendment no. 1) in future correspondence related to the licensing actions. If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-8580.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Amy M. Snyder, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 72-11 (50-312)

Enclosure: Federal Register Notice

cc: Mailing List

S. Redeker

- 2 -
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ML043940051

OFC:	SFPO		SFPO		SFPO				
NAME:	ASnyder*		EZiegler*		JMonninger				
DATE:	10/01/04		10/04/04		10/15//04				

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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Docket 72-11

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Sacramento, CA 95814

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 72-11

SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

RANCHO SECO INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

NOTICE OF DOCKETING OF MATERIALS LICENSE SNM-2510

APPLICATION FOR AN EXEMPTION AND FOR A CONFORMING AMENDMENT

By letter dated July 19, 2004, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD or the licensee) submitted an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) requesting an exemption from the requirements of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 72.44(d)(3) pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7 and also requesting a conforming amendment to the Rancho Seco Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) technical specifications pursuant to 10 CFR 72.56.

The licensee is requesting Commission approval to be relieved from submitting an annual report to the Commission specifying the quantity of principal radionuclides released to the environment in liquid and gaseous effluent during the previous 12 months of the Rancho Seco ISFSI operation. The licensee is currently storing spent fuel at the Rancho Seco ISFSI on the site of the Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station located in Sacramento County, California under license SNM-2510. If the exemption is granted, then as further requested by the licensee, upon approval of the Commission, the Rancho Seco ISFSI license, SNM-2510, would be amended to remove this requirement from the technical specifications.

This application was docketed under 10 CFR Part 72; the ISFSI Docket No. is 72-11 and will remain the same for this action.

In accordance with the requirement of 10 CFR 51.21, NRC will perform an environmental assessment of the potential environmental impacts of this exemption request. The exemption (in conjunction with the conforming license amendment) is subject to the Commission's approval.

If the Commission grants the requested exemption, the Commission may issue either a notice of hearing or a notice of proposed action and opportunity for hearing in accordance with 10 CFR 72.46(b)(1) regarding the proposed amendment or, if a determination is made that the proposed amendment does not present a genuine issue as to whether public health and safety will be significantly affected, take immediate action on the proposed amendment in accordance with 10 CFR 72.46(b)(2) and provide notice of the action taken and an opportunity for interested persons to request a hearing on whether the action (conforming amendment) should be rescinded or modified.

For further details with respect to this amendment, see the application dated July 19, 2004, which is publically available in the records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The NRC maintains ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. These documents may be accessed through the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by email to

pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of October 2004.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Amy M. Snyder, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by email to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15 th day October 2004.

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/RA/

Amy M. Snyder, Project Manager
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

*see previous concurrences

OFC	SFPO		SFPO		OGC		SFPO			
NAME	ASnyder*		EZiegler*		NJensen*		JMonninger*			
DATE	10/01/04		10/04/04		10/14/04		10/15/04			

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