

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 09/01/06

EDO CONTROL: G20060736
DOC DT: 08/21/06
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Dianne Feinstein

TO:

Chairman Klein

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 06-0418

Chairman Klein

DESC:

Radioactive Groundwater Beneath Unit 1 at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

ROUTING:

Reyes
Virgilio
Kane
Silber
Dean
Cyr/Burns
Mallet, RIV
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 08/23/06

ASSIGNED TO:

NMSS

CONTACT:

Strosnider

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Template: SECY-017

ERIDS: SECY-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Aug 23, 2006 09:24

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-06-0418 **LOGGING DATE:** 08/22/2006
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: SEN Dianne Feinstein
AFFILIATION: CONG
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Dale Klein
SUBJECT: Concerns discovery of radioactive groundwater beneath Unit 1 at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack.

LETTER DATE: 08/21/2006
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence
NOTES: OCM #197
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS
DATE DUE: 09/06/2006 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20060736

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
CALIFORNIACOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

August 21, 2006

Mr. Dale Klein
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Dr. Klein:

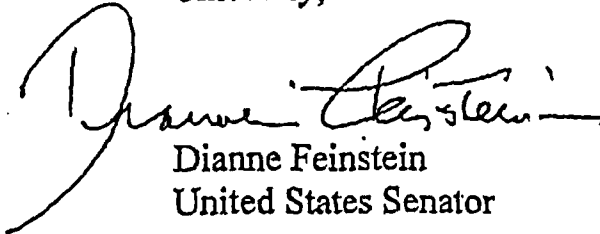
I am writing to express my concern regarding the recent discovery of radioactive groundwater beneath Unit 1 at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) operated by Southern California Edison in northern San Diego County. I consider this a very serious matter and urge you to take whatever steps necessary to protect public health and safety.

It is my understanding that the radioactive groundwater was discovered in the course of the decommissioning and deconstruction of Unit 1 at the plant when tests revealed an abnormally high concentration of tritium, a radioactive hydrogen. I am very concerned about the possibility that the tritium may have seeped into the groundwater, potentially impacting local water supplies. My staff has been informed that SONGS officials are conducting samplings of water wells located on Camp Pendleton and the City of San Clemente is testing its own wells nearest to the facility. Please keep me informed about the results of these tests.

I am also concerned about the potential impacts of any discharges of the contaminated water into the ocean. While I understand that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission does permit discharges of tritium contaminated water with concentrations below 1 million picocuries per liter, I would like your assurances that no contaminated water shall be released unless you are certain it poses no risk to human or marine life. Additionally, I would like to know what actions the Commission plans to take to ensure that both groundwater and contaminated soils under or adjacent to the SONGS facility are fully remediated.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please feel free to contact me directly in Washington, D.C. or James Peterson in my Los Angeles office to discuss the issue.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

UNITED STATES SENATE

Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein

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Fax Cover Sheet

Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2006

To: Mr. Dale Klein

Fax Number: 301-415-1757

From: Senator Dianne Feinstein
c/o James Peterson

Number of Pages (Including Cover Sheet): 3

Regarding: Letter from the Senator.

CHAIPMAN REC'D
06 AUG 22 P11 2:38