



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

May 28, 2009

Mr. Ross T. Ridenoure  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Southern California Edison Company  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
P. O. Box 128  
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

SUBJECT: MEETING SUMMARY CONCERNING SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING  
STATION PUBLIC MEETING ON MAY 20, 2009

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

This refers to the public meeting conducted at the NRC Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, on May 20, 2008. At this meeting, the NRC and San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station management discussed several initiatives that were being implemented to improve licensed operator training. These initiatives addressed strengthening the understanding of Technical Specifications, improving the training department, improving NRC examination quality, and succession plans for future replacement of operators.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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 website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Ryan E. Lantz, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Dockets: 50-361; 50-362  
Licenses: NPF-10; NPF-15

Enclosures:

1. Attendance List
2. Presentation Slides

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Mark L. Parsons  
Deputy City Attorney  
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Gary H. Yamamoto, P.E., Chief  
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Director, Radiological Health Branch  
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Mayor  
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California Energy Commission  
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- 3 -

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Mr. Steve Hsu  
Department of Health Services  
Radiologic Health Branch  
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Mr. Mike Short  
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- OEDO RIV Coordinator (John.Adams@nrc.gov)
- ROPreports

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| Publicly Avail   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Sensitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | Sens. Type Initials | TOM |
| SOE/DRS/OB       | C:DRS/OB  |           |   |                     |     |
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| /RA/             | /RA/  |           |   |                     |     |
| 5/28/09          | 5/28/09   |           |   |                     |     |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY T=Telephone E=E-mail F=Fax

## ATTENDANCE LIST

### Licensee

D. Bauder, Plant Manager  
A. Scherer, Director, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs  
R. Elsasser, Training Manager  
G. Cook, Compliance Manager

### NRC

C. Casto, Deputy Regional Administrator  
T. Pruett, Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Safety  
R. Lantz, Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Reactor Safety  
T. McKernon, Operations Branch  
C. Osterholtz, Operations Branch  
S. Hedger, Operations Branch  
T. Pate, Operations Branch  
G. Warnick, Senior Resident Inspector  
J. Reynoso, Resident Inspector

### Other

L. Beller, Superintendent, Operations Training, Brunswick Nuclear Generating Station

# San Onofre Training

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Public Meeting  
May 20, 2009

# Improving NRC Examination Pass Rates

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- Root Cause Evaluation Performed
- Benchmarked Utilities with high pass rates
- Revised Licensed Operator Training Program
  - Improved Candidate Screening Process
  - Senior Reactor Operator Mentor
  - Tougher Periodic Examinations
  - Instructor to Student Ratio Improved
  - Class success predictor metrics established

# Strengthening Understanding of Technical Specifications

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- Past weaknesses identified
- Systematic Approach used to address weaknesses
- Workshops for Operators, Instructors, and Engineers
- Technical Specification classes in each continuing training cycle - case studies approach
- Enhanced Technical Specification training and testing added to Initial License training



# Improving Training Department - Personnel

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- ❑ Hiring Plan supports operations 10 year staffing plans
- ❑ Recent high quality new hires
- ❑ Personnel rotation with Operations
- ❑ Former Manager of Plant Operations now Operations Training Manager
- ❑ Shift Manager assigned to Training full time
- ❑ Senior Reactor Operator Mentor for Initial Licensing Class full time
- ❑ Succession planning



# Improving NRC Exam Quality

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- Examination development process improvements
- Examination writing workshops at San Onofre coordinated with Palo Verde
- Shift Manager oversight of the examination validation process
- Long range planning and coordination



# Planning for Replacement Operators

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- San Onofre Long Range (10 year) Operations Staffing Plan
- Plan is updated yearly – currently meeting plan needs
- Retirement and other attrition assumptions are built in each fall
- A new class of operators is hired every year
- Currently 17 operators in Licensed Training
- The next license class selection process is currently in progress