



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 26, 2010

Mr. John Conway
Senior Vice President
Generation and Chief Nuclear Officer
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, MC B32
San Francisco, CA 94105

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE REVIEW OF
THE DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE
RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC NOS. ME2896 AND ME2897) – AGING
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Dear Mr. Conway:

By letter dated November 23, 2009, Pacific Gas & Electric Company submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54, to renew the operating licenses for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff). The staff is reviewing the information contained in the license renewal application and has identified, in the enclosure, areas where additional information is needed to complete the review.

The request for additional information was discussed with Mr. Terry Grebel, and a mutually agreeable date for the response is within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1045 or by e-mail at nathaniel.ferrer@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Ferrer", written over a horizontal line.

Nathaniel Ferrer, Project Manager
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-275 and 50-323

Enclosure:
As stated

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Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2
License Renewal Application
Request for Additional Information Set 20
Aging Management Programs

RAI B2.1.9

The Open-Cycle Cooling Water System Aging Management Program “detection of aging effects” element in the Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) Report, Section XI.M20, indicates that the program includes inspections for detecting degradation.

The Diablo Canyon Power Plant Open-Cycle Cooling Water System Program includes the aging management of cracking for titanium components exposed to raw water. The Open-Cycle Cooling Water System Program describes that it will evaluate cracking found in coatings by visual inspection, but does not discuss how cracking in the titanium components is managed.

Provide additional information on how cracking in titanium components will be managed by the Open-Cycle Cooling Water System Program. If visual inspection will be used, provide details on how the visual inspection will be implemented to take into consideration the tightness of cracks that can form in titanium.

RAI B2.1.21-5

License renewal application (LRA) Section A1.21 provides the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) Supplement summary description for applicant’s Flux Thimble Tube Inspection Program, and states in part that “[t]he inspection frequency may be adjusted based upon items such as operating experience and recommendations from the Westinghouse Owners Group.”

NRC Bulletin 88-09 permits an applicant for a Westinghouse-design pressurized water reactor facility to rebaseline the inspection frequency for its flux thimble tubes based on the use of actual plant-specific wear data, which is reflected in the staff’s recommended FSAR Supplement in the Standard Review Plan – License Renewal (SRP-LR).

The staff noted that neither NRC Bulletin 88-09 nor the SRP-LR account for the possibility that generic vendor or owner’s group recommendations may be used as an acceptable basis for rebaselining the inspection frequency for a Westinghouse plant’s flux thimble tubes. The provision in UFSAR Supplement A1.21 permitting for thimble tube inspection frequency adjustment based upon items such as operating experience and recommendations from the Westinghouse Owners Group does not conform to the “monitoring and trending” recommendations for Flux Thimble Tube Programs in NRC Bulletin 88-09, the GALL Report, or the SRP-LR.

Justify why the UFSAR Supplement incorporates a “monitoring and trending” option that would permit the applicant to use Westinghouse Owners Group recommendations to adjust the inspection frequency criterion for the plant’s flux thimble tubes. Justify this option when it does not appear to be consistent with either the staff’s recommendations in NRC Bulletin 88-09 or the staff’s “monitoring and trending” program element recommendations in GALL AMP XI.M37.

ENCLOSURE

August 26, 2010

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Nathaniel Ferrer, Safety Project Manager
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-275 and 50-323

Enclosure:
As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML102240277

*via e-mail

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DATE	08/18/10	08/24/10	08/26/10	08/26/10

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Letter to John Conway from Nathaniel B. Ferrer dated August 26, 2010

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