

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 06/20/12

EDO CONTROL: G20120376  
DOC DT: 05/17/12  
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Dianne Feinstein

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 12-0222

Chairman Jaczko

DESC:

Restart of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station  
(SONGS) (EDATS: SECY-2012-0280)

ROUTING:

Borchardt  
Weber  
Johnson  
Ash  
Mamish  
OGC/GC  
Leeds, NRR  
Collins, RIV  
Zobler, OGC  
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 06/04/12

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

EDO

Rihm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Please prepare response in accordance with OEDO  
Notice 2009-0441-02 (ML093290179). NRR and Region  
IV to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if  
required. Roger Rihm will coordinate response with  
OGC and OCA.

# EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System



**EDATS Number:** SECY-2012-0280

**Source:** SECY

## General Information

**Assigned To:** OEDO

**OEDO Due Date:** 6/20/2012 11:00 PM

**Other Assignees:**

**SECY Due Date:** 6/22/2012 11:00 PM

**Subject:** Restart of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

**Description:**

**CC Routing:** NRR; RegionIV; OGC; OCA

**ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming:** NONE

**Response/Package:** NONE

## Other Information

**Cross Reference Number:** G20120376, LTR-12-0222

**Staff Initiated:** NO

**Related Task:**

**Recurring Item:** NO

**File Routing:** EDATS

**Agency Lesson Learned:** NO

**OEDO Monthly Report Item:** NO

## Process Information

**Action Type:** Letter

**Priority:** Medium

**Signature Level:** Chairman Jaczko

**Sensitivity:** None

**Urgency:** NO

**Approval Level:** No Approval Required

**OEDO Concurrence:** YES

**OCM Concurrence:** NO

**OCA Concurrence:** NO

**Special Instructions:** Please prepare response in accordance with OEDO Notice 2009-0441-02 (ML093290179). NRR and Region IV to provide input to Roger Rihm, OEDO, if required. Roger Rihm will coordinate response with OGC and OCA.

## Document Information

**Originator Name:** Senator Dianne Feinstein

**Date of Incoming:** 5/17/2012

**Originating Organization:** Congress

**Document Received by SECY Date:** 6/1/2012

**Addressee:** Chairman Jaczko

**Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE

**Incoming Task Received:** Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Jun 01, 2012 11:03

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-12-0222 LOGGING DATE: 05/18/2012

ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: SEN Dianne Feinstein

AFFILIATION: CONG

ADDRESSEE: CHRM Gregory Jaczko

SUBJECT: Request explanation of how the NRC will decide whether the San Onofre nuclear generating station will re-start

ACTION: Signature of Chairman

DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack

LETTER DATE: 05/17/2012

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 06/22/2012

DATE SIGNED:

EDO --G20120376



**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504  
<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

May 17, 2012

The Honorable Gregory Jaczko  
Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

I am writing to request a clear explanation of how the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will decide whether the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) is safe to re-start.

Your March 27, 2012, Confirmatory Action Letter requires Southern California Edison to take certain actions before SONGS can re-start. These actions include determining the cause of the tube leak, taking action to prevent future leaks, plugging damaged tubes, and plugging other tubes as a precautionary measure.

I recently read reports issued by Fairewinds Associates and was concerned to learn that plugging some steam generator tubes without making other repairs might not address what appears to be an underlying vibration problem. I also noted Fairewinds' assertion that faulty computer codes might have been used to analyze the new SONGS steam generators when they were designed.

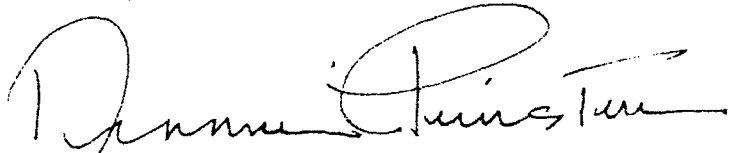
I encourage you to employ a variety of inspection techniques and consider multiple sources of data to determine whether the SONGS reactors can be re-started. In order to better understand how you will make that important safety decision, I would appreciate it if you could answer the following questions.

- How will NRC decide whether SONGS is safe to re-start? Please include a description of the specific inspections, testing, and technical reviews that will inform your decision.

- Will you rely primarily on computer simulations to decide whether SONGS will be allowed to re-start? If so, please justify why you believe the computer codes would use valid assumptions and properly account for the unique design features of the SONGS steam generators, in light of the apparent inaccuracy of codes used to date.
- How will you determine whether tube plugging or making other repairs would ensure that SONGS can be operated without harming the public or the environment?
- If NRC authorizes SONGS to re-start, what steps, if any, will you take to monitor the SONGS steam generators to ensure that tube wear does not continue?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you regarding this important request. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

DF/mbn/ba