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AUTHOR: Gary Headrick

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Joosten, Sandy

From: garyheadrick@gmail.com on behalf of Gary Headrick [gary@sanclementegreen.org]
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2012 11:10 AM
To: CHAIRMAN Resource; CMRSVINICKI Resource; CMRAPOSTOLAKIS Resource;
CMRMAGWOOD Resource; CMROSTENDORFF Resource
Subject: Letter to NRC Commissioners:

NRC Commissioners:

Yesterday I was writing a statement for the press based on the assumption that the petition from the Friends of the Earth would be flatly rejected, just as staff had recommended. As I listened to the very brief proceeding, I thought I heard something affirmative but it was quickly followed by what sounded like a denial and I was left wondering what it was exactly that had just taken place. As more details came to the surface, it became clear that all of us who are desperately seeking help from anyone that will listen to our concerns, a bright glimmer of hope.

With all the chatter about "safety first" coming from all sources, this is the first action taken that shows me that you are actually listening to us. While the media seems a bit confused about this decision it is clear to me that you have taken an important step in the right direction. Naturally, I am only cautiously optimistic, but at this point you would have to do something to the contrary to make me lose faith in you. I see this as what may be looked back on as an important turning point.

It may seem unusual for me to express my feelings in a personal way, but at this time it just seems appropriate. I usually speak for more than 1700 local residents in a very calculated and strategic way, because that is the position I find myself in. I did not take on this challenge because I was anti-nuclear. It came to me by way of whistleblowers, and that is what keeps me so committed to making sure that San Onofre is never allowed to restart again.

Today, another story will break in the news about an internal investigation Edison was hiding from the public having to do with a possible attempt to sabotage Unit 3's back-up diesel generators, perhaps by a disgruntled employee. Soon, you will see published some correspondence between Edison and a Union leader that will be revealing as well. Reasons for our concern seem to be never-ending, and then every once in a while we get some relief. Yesterday was one of those rare occasions.

It so happened that last night was a special time we had planned to have an early Thanksgiving dinner for this core group of concerned citizens that has become such a tight-knit family over this issue. Many of them were still unclear about what had transpired at the NRC that morning and they were relieved to know that this was not a flat out rejection. Your decision was not only reasonable but was also proactive in ways that we were not expecting. It made our celebration even more significant and I just wanted to share with you the gratitude that was expressed for your decision.

We all understand there is still a long and uncertain road ahead of us. As you know, we have one immediate objective, and that is to see that there is a court-like license amendment process including independent experts we have grown to trust. The decision to restart Unit 2 is simply too important to be handled in the typical manner. We understand that in your role as commissioners you have an incredible challenge and responsibility, considering the many issues spanning the fleet of nuclear reactors. We deeply appreciate the attention you are giving to San Onofre and for the unexpected ruling you made yesterday. I simply want to express our gratitude and hope that the system will be used as intended to protect the public's safety above all else.

Thank you from all of us at San Clemente Green,

Gary Headrick

(949) 218 4051

San Onofre Officials Investigating Case of Potential Sabotage

Posted: Friday, November 9, 2012 12:48 am

Officials at the idled San Onofre nuclear power plant are investigating why coolant was found in an important piece of safety equipment during recent maintenance and are trying to determine whether it was an accident or sabotage, according to federal regulators and the plant's operator.

Plant officials told regulators on Oct. 30 that they discovered coolant mixed with oil that helps run an emergency diesel generator in Unit 3, federal and utility officials confirmed Thursday.

"They don't know right now how the coolant got in there," said John Reynoso, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspector at San Onofre.

Southern California Edison, the plant's operator, is conducting a "comprehensive internal investigation" into the incident, which presented no risk to the public, according to Edison's statement.

"While the investigation has not resulted in any evidence of tampering, that scenario has not been ruled out," Edison stated.

Diesel generators are considered a critical safety component at nuclear power plants. In the event of a power outage, the giant machines power the plant and keep nuclear fuel from overheating.

The failure of emergency generators at Fukushima was cited as one of several factors in that plant's meltdown last year.

At San Onofre, however, Unit 3 has been shut down since a small radiation leak in January prompted a federal review of the plant's steam generators. Hundreds of steam generator tubes in Units 2 and 3 were later found to have rapidly deteriorated because of a faulty design.

San Onofre's diesel generator was taken offline on Oct. 21 for two weeks of maintenance when about two cups of coolant was found in the oil for its governor, Reynoso said.

If the coolant had been left in place and the generators activated, Edison believes the governor, which controls the generator's speed and prevents it from running too fast, would have failed, Reynoso said.

Edison "is committed to the safety of the public and its employees and takes this matter very seriously," according to its statement.

— NICK GERDA



San Clemente Green

Citizens for a Sustainable Future

I thought you should know the latest on San Onofre, especially concerning the recent revelation that there may be some cause for concern about sabotage from within or at the very least, some very incompetent workmanship. Documentation is provided below.

First of all, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has cancelled the next public meeting which was planned for Friday. No new date has been scheduled yet.

As the NRC contemplates a restart of Unit 2 without making repairs, we wonder if they will actually stand for public safety first. There was a glimmer of hope last week when the NRC Commissioners referred the matter of having a License Amendment Hearing to the Atomic Safety Board instead of rejecting our request as NRC staff had recommended.

Meanwhile, things continue to deteriorate at the plant. On October 23rd plant officials secretly began investigating how an important piece of safety equipment became compromised. Plant officials finally told the NRC on Oct. 30th that they discovered coolant mixed with oil that helps run an emergency diesel generator in Unit 3. Federal and utility officials confirmed this last Thursday, only after an insider tipped me off and I gave it to a reporter. Since then, I had it confirmed by an independent nuclear expert that there is no way to accidentally mix the two fluids which are entirely isolated from each other. Apparently it was either sabotage or gross incompetence.

Here is an excerpt from the article written about this serious matter.

"They don't know right now how the coolant got in there," said John Reynoso, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspector at San Onofre. If the coolant had been left in place and the generators activated, Edison believes the governor, which controls the generator's speed and prevents it from running too fast, would have failed, Reynoso said.

It may seem strange to think that someone would tamper with safety equipment on Unit 3 which may never restart, but when I asked the whistleblower about that, I was told security is now lax at Unit 3 and may have made it an easy target to hit without being noticed. What would motivate someone to do such a thing?

Workers are more stressed out than ever, and we must look at this worsening situation with eyes wide open. Below I have attached letters given to me by another insider between SCE's President, Ron Litzinger and Daniel Dominguez, leader of Union Local 246. Normally a staunch ally of Edison's, Dominguez openly criticizes management. He raises concerns that the cuts in the workforce will compromise safety. He points to SCE's proposals that will limit or deny workers the ability to raise safety concerns.

The letter goes on to say that, ***"Local 246 cannot support the restart of SONGS Unit 2 if we do not have sufficient confidence that it can be operated and maintained safely by, and without undue risk, to our members."*** He concludes, ***"Without a***

dramatic change in direction, we are unlikely to be able to say that the SONGS workforce is ready to restart and operate Unit 2."

These are all facts that the public and the NRC must take seriously. While there may be obvious reasons that workers have an incentive to save their jobs, reasons to be concerned are just as apparent. We are deeply indebted to those few brave souls who risk it all to bring these things to our attention. Now it is up to us to act on it. The media has a responsibility to report on it and the public needs to actively participate in this discussion. We have a right and an obligation to future generations to demand a trial-like hearing where independent experts can cross examine those who support a restart of Unit 2. The NRC will be watched closely as they proceed in what we trust is a new direction. We commend them for the progress they are making but we also will hold them accountable. Restarting Unit 2 under these circumstances would not only be irresponsible but also unforgivable. Too much is at stake to allow the industry to have their way yet again. The status quo has got to go.

Soon we will be announcing the next NRC meeting, and we trust that you will be there.

For more information I can be reached at 949 218 4051 or write to
gary@sanclementegreen.org



Ron Litzinger
President

October 19, 2012

Dan Dominguez
UWUA 246
10355 Los Alamitos Blvd.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Dear Dan:

Thank you for participating in the NRC panel discussion and for bringing so many of your brothers with you. I know it was a long and emotionally charged evening, but I want you to know that UWUA truly made an impact.

Your comments at the meeting were meaningful and timely. Just as importantly, the presence of your union brothers helped to create balance. That balance will be critical as the public discussion on the role of nuclear plays out over time.

Thanks again.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RL'.

P.O. Box 800
2244 Walnut Grove Ave.
Rosemead, CA 91770



UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

LOCAL NO. 246 AFL-CIO

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November 2, 2012

Via U.S. Mail and Email

Ron Litzinger
President
Southern California Edison
P.O. Box 800
Rosemead, CA. 91770

Subject: San Onofre Unit 2 restart

Dear Ron:

Thank you for your October 19th letter to me. As you know, CUE and Local 246 have a long history of supporting Edison's efforts when they are deserving of support. We have often expressed our views to the NRC and the CPUC, and expect to continue that practice. For the benefit of its members, Local 246 takes its commitment to the safe operation of the San Onofre station and of course, the protection of the public's health and safety, very seriously.

A critical requirement to safely operate San Onofre, like any other nuclear power plant, is to have an adequately sized and properly trained workforce. The skills needed for safe operation of a nuclear plant are substantial and demanding. No nuclear plant should be operated without multiple levels of redundant safety measures and the workforce that knows how to operate the plant safely and employ those measures if necessary.

It is also critical that the workforce be able to freely express its concerns about the safe operation of the plant without fear of retaliation or other adverse consequences.

We know that you understand the need for such a workforce and for open communications. This leaves us at a loss to understand the current actions of the management at SONGS.

First, SCE is proposing to dramatically shrink the workforce at SONGS. While we understand SCE's desire to control its costs, any shrinking of the workforce must be done thoughtfully and with absolute assurance that it does not compromise safety. Local 246 has requested information regarding the number of Local 246 represented employees and the specific classifications that will be eliminated, however, we have not been provided that information. Therefore, we are unable to determine if the impact of those reductions will affect the safe operation and maintenance of San Onofre.

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Local 246 cannot support the restart of SONGS Unit 2 if we do not have sufficient confidence that it can be operated and maintained safely by, and without undue risk, to our members.

Second, we are quite distressed with the positions and attitude with which SCE has begun contract negotiations with Local 246. Not only has SCE retained a well known anti-union consultant, but consistent with that philosophy, has, among other things, proposed to limit or deny the ability of the Local 246 membership to raise concerns through the grievance procedure and for the Union's leadership to address concerns with management. These proposals will create a chilled work environment at SONGS that limits the ability of our membership to file grievances and creates an atmosphere where our members will fear retaliation if they file a grievance or raise a concern. These proposals are fundamentally inconsistent with a good working relationship with the employees and their elected representatives, and incompatible with safe operation of the plant. They should be withdrawn immediately.

Restarting and operating Unit 2 will be a challenging endeavor. We are hopeful that SCE is interested in the good relationship with its workforce and their representatives that is a prerequisite to safely restarting and operating Unit 2. Unfortunately, we do not see evidence that SCE wants that sort of relationship. Without a dramatic change in direction, we are unlikely to be able to say that the SONGS workforce is ready to restart and operate Unit 2.

Sincerely,



Daniel Dominguez
Business Manager
UWUA, Local 246

CC: Ted Craver
Pete Dietrich
Doug Bauder
Michael Langford
Marc Joseph
Carl Wood
Sharon Anstaett
Rob Howard



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