Apr 27, 2013

Ms Cindy Bladey
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES BRANCH USNRC

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Dear Ms Bladey,

The comments that follow are regarding Docket ID NRC20130070.

We ask that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) take no action that could lead to a restart of the San Onofre nuclear power plant before the Commission completes a comprehensive investigation and provides full opportunity for public participation and independent expert testimony.

Southern California Edison (SCE) is attempting to shortcut the license review process by calling on the NRC to make a fast-track restart decision. We and other environmental groups have joined with U.S. Senator Boxer and U.S. Representative Markey in urging the NRC not to follow such a course.

We were deeply disturbed when on April 10 the NRC staff disregarded numerous statements of concern and announced a "preliminary finding" that a San Onofre restart at 70% power posed no significant safety risk.

We join a wide range of concerned citizens and public officials in believing that a full and transparent review of the failed San Onofre generators is essential before the NRC considers any potential restart at either partial or full power of the failed generator.

We support Senator Boxer, Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, who stated on April 10, 2013: "The NRC staff proposal, which could pave the way for the restart of the San Onofre nuclear power plant before the investigations of the crippled plant are completed, is dangerous and premature."

Given the recent failure of tubes that carry radioactive water, speeding restart of San Onofre through a so-called "license amendment" that shortcuts procedures is totally inappropriate. SCE's request to weaken its license requirements was made despite evidence showing that there could be a significant hazard from the operation of the deficient steam generators.

Given the troubled history and current condition of the plant and the raised level of public concern, the public deserves a full review by the NRC of conditions at San Onofre before it considers a restart of either failed generator.

I support the call by the Sierra Club for the NRC to block any restart of the failed San Onofre generators at this time, and to conduct a comprehensive and open review process.

We are seeing finally after these many decades Nuclear Power Plant operation that there are significant lapses in engineering design that could at any moment inflict
injury or death upon power plant employees, radioactive exposure in surrounding neighborhoods and on adjacent highways, ocean fisheries, and consequences of power failures. How confident are we in this fallible human creation that boils water into steam to then turn electric turbines and produce electricity? I am not confident that in human designs, whether it is a power plant or an electric iron, they both will
fail when you need them most. What other facts are yet to be uncovered that
might put human life at risk?

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Robert Taylor
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