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 AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 NANDY,F.R. Southern California Edison Co.
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SUBJECT: Provides change to util 891019 commitment re actions
 required to respond to NRC Bulletin 88-008.

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 TITLE: Bulletin Response 88-08 - Thermal Stress in Piping to RCS.

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Southern California Edison Company

23 PARKER STREET

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92718

F. R. NANDY
MANAGER OF NUCLEAR LICENSING

TELEPHONE
(714) 587-5400

January 8, 1990

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362
NRC Bulletin No. 88-08
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Units 2 and 3

Reference: October 19, 1988 letter from M. O. Medford (SCE) to the NRC;
Subject: NRC Bulletin 88-08, San Onofre Units 2 and 3

This letter provides a change to a commitment made in the referenced letter concerning Southern California Edison (SCE) actions required to respond to NRC Bulletin No. 88-08, "Thermal Stresses in Piping Connected to Reactor Coolant Systems."

In accordance with Action 1 of NRC Bulletin 88-08, SCE reviewed all systems connected to the reactor coolant system (RCS) to determine whether unisolable sections of piping in these systems can be subjected to specific thermal stresses. These stresses would be caused by temperature stratification or temperature oscillations that could be induced by leaking valves. The concern is that these stresses may not have been evaluated in the design analysis of the piping. The SCE review identified one section of piping (pressurizer auxiliary spray/pressurizer spray) which could potentially be subjected to these thermal stresses.

As part of the referenced letter and in accordance with Action 2 of Bulletin 88-08, SCE committed to nondestructively examine the welds, heat-affected zones and high stress locations, including geometric discontinuities, of the pressurizer auxiliary spray/pressurizer spray line to provide assurance that there are no existing flaws. The commitment was to examine the piping before the end of the Cycle 5 refueling outage for each of Units 2 and 3.

After further evaluation, SCE determined that instead of examining the piping (per Action 2 of the bulletin) and then planning and implementing a program to provide assurance that this piping will not be subjected to combined cyclic, static thermal and other stresses that could cause fatigue failure during the remaining life of Units 2 and 3 (per Action 3 of the bulletin), a design modification to eliminate the concern was a preferable solution.

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Q PDC

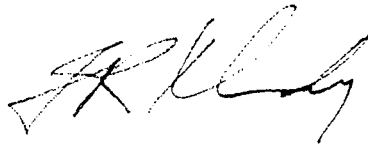
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January 8, 1990

A design change to replace the piping section and relocate a check valve (which was the potential cause of the cyclic thermal stress conditions) was completed during the recent Unit 2 Cycle 5 refueling outage and will be completed in the upcoming Unit 3 Cycle 5 refueling outage which is scheduled to begin in April 1990. This modification provides assurance that this section of piping will not be subjected to the thermal stresses addressed by Bulletin 88-08. Therefore, the examinations identified in our October 19, 1988 letter are not required and will not be performed. SCE will notify the NRC within 30 days after completing this modification on Unit 3.

If you need additional information or have questions on this issue, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. B. Martin", is written over the typed name in the distribution list.

cc: J. B. Martin, Regional Administrator, NRC Region V
C. Caldwell, NRC Senior Resident Inspector, San Onofre Units 1, 2 and 3