

JANUARY 9 1980

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50-206

Ms. Yolanda Guerra
 1039 S. Hicks
 Los Angeles, California 90023

Dear Ms. Guerra:

Thank you for your letter received December 17, 1979, wherein you indicated a general concern regarding nuclear power plant safety and supported your concern by offering examples of reportable occurrences. We appreciate your concerns and assure you that every effort is being made to ensure the continued protection of the health and safety of the public, not only at the San Onofre Nuclear Plant, but also at all nuclear power plants.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in its review of applications for licenses to construct and operate nuclear power plants, is required to consider those measures necessary for the protection of the public's health and safety and the environment and to assure proper regard for antitrust laws and policies. To carry out its responsibilities, the NRC staff conducts detailed reviews of each nuclear power plant application. Once a nuclear plant becomes operational the NRC, through its inspection and enforcement program, maintains surveillance over construction and operation of a plant throughout its lifetime to assure compliance with Commission regulations.

Recently the NRC has taken a number of actions at all nuclear power plants as a result of the Three Mile Island (TMI-2) incident. After review of this incident, licensees were required to make immediate plant modifications, to provide additional operator training, and to revise certain operating procedures. Full time NRC inspectors have been permanently assigned to operating plants which utilize a design similar to TMI-2, and inspectors have been, or will be assigned to all other operating plants in the near future. In addition, long term actions were ordered to further upgrade certain plant systems, operator training and procedures.

In the past the NRC has reviewed the design of nuclear plants and has regulated the operation of these plants with the objective of ensuring public health and safety. Since TMI-2 this effort has been intensified to further ensure health and safety. It is hoped that the above is responsive to your concerns and has provided you with a degree of assurance that the NRC has considered, and continues to review, the necessary aspects of the design and operation of nuclear plants.

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Ms. Yolanda Guerra

- 2 -

Thank you again for your letter. Please feel free to communicate with this office in the future.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
W. P. Gammill

W. P. Gammill, Acting Assistant Director
for Operating Reactor Projects
Division of Operating Reactors
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

OFFICE	ORB #3	ORB #3	AD-ORP		
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12/14

Mimi -

Per Steve Burns, ELD -

This should not be handled as
a 2.206 [§] for included with the
other petitions on San Onofre.

He asked that I send to

Denton -

Thanks

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