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DRAKE, J. H.

Southern California Edison Co.

RECIP. NAME

RECIPIENT AFFILIATION

DENTON, H. R.

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: Requests timely resolution of licensing open items re

geology, seismology, dewatering well cavities & structural audit results, so that Nov 1980 OL issuance date can be met.

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## Southern California Edison Company

P. O. BOX 800

2244 WALNUT GROVE AVENUE ROSEMEAD, CALIFORNIA 91770

September 4, 1979

TELEPHONE 213-572-2258

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Commission REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

Subject:

Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

Units 2 and 3

My letter of August 16, 1979, transmitted a report entitled, "Evaluation and Action Plan for San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Units 2&3 Relative to the Three Mile Island The report is the result of an extensive study of regulatory and industry-wide consensus of lessons learned from the Three Mile Island incident, and provides commitments to proceed with engineering and physical modifications deemed appropriate to provide an upgraded level of nuclear safety for San Onofre Units 2 and 3. As indicated in my letter, we have initiated engineering and procurement for the items in the report.

Also, on August 16, 1979, a meeting was held with members of your staff to review our report, to discuss the status of open items, and to reaffirm our request that licensing activities for San Onofre Unit 2 be placed back on a schedule consistent with issuance of an operating license by November, 1980. During this meeting, we also discussed with your staff additional steps we have taken to complete plant construction by November, 1980.

Regarding the status of open items, the majority of information requested by your staff has been provided, and all the information requested on the following four key issues in our license review has been submitted:

1. Geology-Seismology

Seismic Qualification Review

Dewatering Well Cavities
Structural Audit Results

We believe your staff generally agreed that expeditious disposition of these items is required for timely issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report.

September 4, 1979

At our meeting of August 29, 1979, I reiterated our requests that San Onofre licensing activities be placed back on a schedule consistent with issuance of an operating license in November, 1980, and that special attention be given to the four key areas noted above. Towards this end, Mr. Baskin will be requesting a meeting with Mr. Vasallo the week of September 24, to discuss the status within the NRC staff of each of the above items.

As noted in my letter of August 16, 1979, and as discussed in the above-noted meetings, it is extremely critical that San Onofre Units 2&3, remain on schedule. In addition to a monthly reduction in consumption of one million barrels of oil and resultant savings each month of \$21 million to our customers from the operation of Unit 2, the capacity and energy from San Onofre are critical to reliably serve southern California customers in the summer of 1981 and beyond.

We have been responsive to your staff to address outstanding non-TMI licensing items. In addition, it is our view that we have made an unparalleled evaluation of TMI, coupled with the commitment to resolve safety questions prior to fuel load. Because of this, we believe that the NRC must at this time realistically face up to the schedular needs of the intermediate-term plants. Accordingly, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company again respectfully request that you take steps to provide the required effort to resolve the San Onofre Unit 2 open items in a timely manner consistent with a November, 1980, issuance of an operating license.

Sincerely,

cc: Joseph M. Hendrie