

Southern California Edison Company



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March 20, 1980

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region V
Suite 202, Walnut Creek Plaza
1990 North California Boulevard
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Attention: Mr. R. H. Engelken, Director

Docket No. 50-206
San Onofre Unit 1

Dear Sir:

This letter describes a reportable occurrence involving the chemical and volume control system. Submittal is in accordance with the reporting requirements stipulated in Section 6.9.2b(2) of Appendix A to the Provisional Operating License DPR-13.

On Sunday, February 24, 1980 with the unit operating at full power the north charging pump miniflow line was reported weeping. A 1/8" linear indication (through wall) longitudinally located in the toe of a socket weld downstream of the pressure reducing orifice was found. The north charging pump was cleared and the affected piping repaired within 72 hours as required by Section 3.3.1B(4) of the technical specifications. Visual examination of the interior of the defective piping found evidence of a cavitation condition. The pressure reducing orifices upstream are creating cavitating conditions in the area of the defect. Ultrasonic examination of the south charging pump miniflow line was performed to determine if similar conditions exist in this line. The results of this examination found wall thinning in the south miniflow line downstream of the pressure reduction orifices. On Friday, March 5, 1980 the south charging pump was cleared, and the affected piping repaired within 72 hours.

During a review of the repair work completed on the north charging pump miniflow line, it was found that a socket tee pipe fitting had been modified to a non-standard configuration. The north charging pump miniflow line has since been repaired by replacing the non-standard fitting with a standard fitting.

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Pending completion of the south charging pump miniflow line repair and installation of a standard fitting on the north charging pump miniflow line, administrative controls were established to prevent charging pump discharge pressure from being applied to either miniflow line thereby assuring pressure integrity of the lines.

An engineering evaluation of the operating conditions of these lines has been initiated to determine a means to eliminate the existing cavitation conditions or modify the system to be compatible with these conditions. Until such time as modifications are made to the system, UT reinspection of the affected areas of the piping will be undertaken on a yearly basis.

As one of the two charging pumps remained operational during the repairs, there was no degradation of plant safety.

If you should require additional information concerning this occurrence, please contact me.

Sincerely,



H. L. Ottoson
Manager, Nuclear Generation

Attachment: Licensee Event Report 80-007

cc: Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation (30)
Director, Office of Management Information & Program Control (3)
Director, Nuclear Safety Analysis Center