POCKET 361/362

Southern California Edison Company

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TELERHONE

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February 2, 1983

ROBERT H. BRIDENBECKER

The Honorable Donald P. Hodel Secretary of Energy Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20585

Dear Mr. Hodel:

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PDR

SUBJECT: ADVANCE CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1982

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 prohibits the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") from issuing or renewing nuclear power plant licenses unless the applicant for such has either:

- a, entered into a contract with the Secretary of Energy for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste; or
- b. the Secretary of Energy affirms in writing that such applicant is actively and in good faith negotiating with the Secretary for such a contract.

Southern California Edison Company ("Edison") hereby respectfully requests that this letter be accepted as our offer to enter into good faith negotiations with the Department of Energy ("DOE") to complete and execute, at the earliest practicable date, contract(s) for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. Edison understands that a proposed standard contract to be used by DOE for furnishing such disposal services is about to be published for comment in the <u>Federal Register</u>. This letter is also to inform you that it is Edison's intent to submit comments for DOE's consideration on this standard contract at the earliest possible date in furtherance of our efforts to expedite negotiations for such contract(s).

Edison presently has operating licenses for each of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station units. However, by mid to late February Edison expects the NRC to take action authorizing, by license amendment, full power operation of San Onofre Unit No. 3. This licensing activity is expected to be subject to the advance contracting requirements of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. It is our intent, therefore, to pursue these negotiations with the objective that you will be able to provide the appropriate affirmation letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by that time. We are prepared to continue to pursue this matter through formal written submission of comments on the proposed contract and in any other manner that DOE deems appropriate.

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Very truly yours,

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RHB:br

cc: H. R. Denton (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) R. Morgan (Department of Energy) Robert Rosselli (Department of Energy) M. Kurgan (Department of Energy)