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 50-362 San Onofre Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Southern Californ 05000362  
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 Project Directorate V

*See Rpts.*

SUBJECT: Summary of 890406 meeting w/util & C-E in Rockville, MD re control element assembly drop time testing.

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April 14, 1989

Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362

FACILITY: SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 2 AND 3  
LICENSEE: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY (SCE)  
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 6, 1989  
RE: CONTROL ELEMENT ASSEMBLY DROP TIME TESTING

On April 6, 1989, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) and Combustion Engineering, Inc. (C-E) met with NRR staff to discuss Control Element Assembly (CEA) Drop Time Testing at San Onofre Units 2 and 3. The list of attendees is provided in Enclosure 1.

The new method of performing the CEA drop time test which CE developed provides a more accurate measurement of the drop times that would occur in an actual reactor trip. However, this new test method also results in longer drop times. A license amendment was issued to SCE on August 10, 1988 to increase the allowable CEA drop time from 3.0 to 3.2 seconds. This amendment required SCE to increase Core Protection Calculator addressable constants to compensate for the increased drop times. After analyzing the results of the Units 2 and 3 Cycle 4 startup tests, SCE has determined that the 3.2 second allowable drop time does not provide sufficient margin for variations from test to test. SCE therefore, in conjunction with CE, evaluated a new method for specifying the allowable CEA drop times. The present analytical method is to assume that all CEAs drop at the same rate as the slowest CEA. The method which SCE and CE analyzed assumes that all CEAs drop at the same rate as the average CEA. SCE requested this meeting with the staff to report the results of their analysis and to present a technical specification for CEA drop times which they may submit as an amendment request. The briefing slides are included as Enclosure 2.

original signed by

Donald E. Hickman, Project Manager  
Project Directorate V  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:  
As stated

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