UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-206

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1

ISSUANCE OF DIRECTOR'S DECISIONS

UNDER 10 CFR 2.206

By petitions received since November 1979 (44 FR 75535, December 20, 1979) approximately 1560 California residents have requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation suspend or revoke the operating license for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1. By letter dated July 10, 1981, Mr. Ralph Nader also requested that operation of San Onofre Unit 1 be suspended pending completion of a "license-review" for the facility. The petitions and Mr. Nader's letter have been considered under the provisions of 10 CFR 2.206.

The petitions allege that San Onofre Unit 1 is not designed to withstand possible ground motions from earthquakes that may occur and that evacuation plans are inadequate to cope with a potential accident at the site. Moreover, in an updated petition distributed by the Alliance for Survival in 1980, the petitioners expressed seismic concerns in light of the Livermore earthquake of January 1980. The updated petition also pointed out that the Rogovin Report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on the Three Mile Island accident recommended that old reactors near major cities be shutdown until evacuation plans are realistic. Mr. Nader requested that operation of San Onofre Unit 1 be suspended until that review is completed.

Upon review of information pertaining to the seismic and evacuation concerns at San Onofre Unit 1 and the information provided by the petitioners and Mr. Nader, the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has determined that suspension or revocation of the operating 1:cense for San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1, is not warranted. Accordingly, the requests of the residents of California and Mr. Nader have been denied. The reasons for this denial are explained in two "Director's Decisions" under 10 CFR 2.206 (DD-81-19; and DD-81-20) which are available for public inspection in the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Mission Viejo Branch Library, 24851 Chrisanta Drive, Mission Viejo, California.

A copy of the decisions will be filed with the Secretary for the Commission's review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206(c). As provided in this regulation, the decisions will become the final action of the Commission twenty-five (25) days after issuance, unless the Commission on its own motion institutes review of these decisions within that time.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 16th day of November, 1981.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Harold R. Denton, Director

Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation