

JUN 18 1979

Docket No. 50-206

Mr. James H. Drake  
Vice President  
Southern California Edison Company  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Post Office Box 800  
Rosemead, California 91770

Dear Mr. Drake:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 41 to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-13 for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit No. 1 (SONGS, Unit 1). The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your request dated May 4, 1979.

The amendment increases the annual discharge limits of sulfate for calendar years 1979 and 1980, as specified in Subsection 2.2.2, "Added Process Chemicals" in the Appendix B Environmental Technical Specifications (ETS).

This ETS change will allow temporary discharge of waste water containing sulfates from the startup flushing of SONGS, Units 2 and 3, via the SONGS, Unit 1 service water system. This method of disposal of the startup water from SONGS, Units 2 and 3, would be utilized through 1980 when the circulating water system of these units is expected to be placed in service. The effluent containing sulfuric acid from Units 2 and 3 would be neutralized with sodium hydroxide to a pH of 6.0 to 9.0. This procedure would increase the sulfate concentration presently allowed in the Unit 1 ETS.

The current ETS limits the maximum sulfate concentration in the discharge into the Pacific Ocean to 1.89 ppm. The natural occurring sulfate concentration of the Pacific Ocean near San Onofre is 2,650 ppm. Thus, the present ETS allows only a 0.07% increase over ambient sulfate concentration. The proposed temporary increase of the discharge of sulfate from Units 2 and 3 via the Unit 1 discharge structure would allow a maximum sulfate concentration of 17.9 ppm into the Pacific Ocean or a 0.07% increase over ambient sulfate concentration through 1980. On January 1, 1981, the sulfate limits would revert back to the current ETS limits.

*Conch  
UP*

7907300030

OFFICE >						
SURNAME >						
DATE >						

Mr. James H. Drake

- 2 -

JUN 18 1979

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permit for San Onofre, Unit 1 issued by the California Regional Water Quality Board (the Board) does not include a sulfate concentration limit. Nevertheless, we have discussed the licensee's proposal with the Board in San Diego. They indicated that the proposed 18-month higher sulfate concentration is environmentally insignificant and would not cause a noticeable impact to the Pacific Ocean. This is consistent with our previous findings discussed in the San Onofre, Unit 1 Final Environmental Statement (FES); that these proposed sulfate concentrations do not cause an environmental impact to the Pacific Ocean. Since the proposed 18-month increase of sulfate is temporary and still insignificant compared with the ambient concentrations, the assessment of sulfate discharge being environmentally insignificant in the FES for Unit 1 is still valid and acceptable.

Based on the above, we conclude that a temporary increase in sulfate concentration to permit the Units 2 and 3 startup flushing is acceptable as proposed.

We have evaluated the potential for environmental impact of plant operation in accordance with the enclosed amendment. The amendment applies only to temporarily increasing discharge of sulfate at environmentally insignificant concentrations. We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or an increase in power level, and will not result in any environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Since the amendment only permits a temporary increase in the concentration of sulfate in the effluent and is environmentally insignificant, it does not involve significant new safety information of a type not considered by a previous Commission safety review of the facility. It does not involve a significant increase in the probability

OFFICE ➤

SURNAME ➤

DATE ➤

Mr. James H. Drake

- 3 -

JUN 18 1979

or consequences of an accident, does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, and therefore does not involve a significant hazards consideration. We have also concluded that there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by this action and that the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

A copy of the related Notice of Issuance is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:  
Dennis L. Ziemann

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #2  
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 41 to DPR-13
2. Notice of Issuance

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket 50-206

NRC PDR  
Local PDR  
ORB#2 RDG  
NRR RDG  
DEisenhut  
BGrimes  
RVollmer  
TCarter  
WRussell  
HSmith  
ABurger  
Attorney, OELD  
OI&E(5)  
BJones(4)  
BScharf(10)

DBrinkman  
BHarless  
ACRS(16)  
OPA(CMiles)  
RDiggs  
HDenton  
GLear  
DDavis  
JRBuchanan  
TERA

*no legal objection  
to amendment  
& FR notice*  
*DBZ*

OFFICE	DOR:ORB#2	DOR:ORB#2	OELD	DOR:ORB#2	DOR:AD/S&P
SURNAME	HSmith:sah	ABurger	WZiemann	DLZiemann	RHollmer
DATE	6/15/79	6/15/79	6/15/79	6/18/79	6/18/79

*W. Miller* *Appendix B - adding 17 new chemicals and chemical byproducts*

William O. Miller, Chief  
License Fee Management Branch, ADM

"Sulfate Discharge"

Date:

6/5/79

Amended Form Date:

FACILITY AMENDMENT CLASSIFICATION - DOCKET NO(S).

50-206

Licensee:

Southern Calif. Ed.

Plant Name and Unit(s):

San Onofre 1

License No(s):

DPR-13

Mail Control No:

--- 387

Request Dated:

5/4/79

Fee Remitted: Yes

✓

No

Assigned TAC No:

11671

Licensee's Fee Classification:

Class I

II

III

IV

V

VI

None

Final

Amendment No.

41

Date of Issuance

6/18/79

☒ 1. This request has been reviewed by DOR/DPM in accordance with Section 170.22 of Part 170 and is properly categorized.

☒ 2. This request is incorrectly classified and should be properly categorized as Class \_\_\_\_\_. Justification for classification or reclassification: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ 3. Additional information is required to properly categorize the request:

our preliminary fee determination is hereby affirmed *Burger 6/5/79 DB*  
*Burger Dziemann*

☐ 4. This request is a Class \_\_\_\_\_ type of action and is exempt from fees because it:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ was filed by a nonprofit educational institution,

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ was filed by a Government agency and is not for a power reactor,

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ is for a Class \_\_\_\_\_ (can only be a I, II, or III) amendment which results from a written Commission request dated \_\_\_\_\_ for the application and the amendment is to simplify or clarify license or technical specifications, has only minor safety significance, and is being issued for the convenience of the Commission, or

(d) \_\_\_\_\_ other (state reason therefor): \_\_\_\_\_

6-18-79  
DATE

*Dennis L Dziemann*

Division of Operating Reactors/Project Management

☐ The above request has been reviewed and is exempt from fees.

Attached:

LFMB 6/78 incoming

William O. Miller, Chief  
License Fee Management Branch

Date

Mr. James H. Drake

- 4 -

June 18, 1979

cc

Charles R. Kocher, Assistant  
General Counsel  
Southern California Edison Company  
Post Office Box 800  
Rosemead, California 91770

David R. Pigott  
Samuel B. Casey  
Chickering & Gregory  
Three Embarcadero Center  
Twenty-Third Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111

Jack E. Thomas  
Harry B. Stoehr  
San Diego Gas & Electric Company  
P. O. Box 1831  
San Diego, California 92112

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Robert J. Pate  
P. O. Box 4167  
San Clemente, California 92672

Mission Viejo Branch Library  
24851 Chrisanta Drive  
Mission Viejo, California 92676

Mayor  
City of San Clemente  
San Clemente, California 92672

Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego  
San Diego, California 92101

\*\* California Department of Health  
ATTN: Chief, Environmental  
Radiation Control Unit  
Radiological Health Section  
714 P Street, Room 498  
Sacramento, California 95814

Director, Technical Assessment  
Division  
Office of Radiation Programs  
(AW-459)  
U. S. Environmental Protection  
Agency

Crystal Mall #2  
Arlington, Virginia 20460

U. S. Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Region IX Office  
ATTN: EIS COORDINATOR  
215 Freemont Street  
San Francisco, California 94111

\*\* (w/copy of incoming dtd 5/4/79)