

JAN 31 1989

Docket Nos. 50-206, 50-361, 50-362

Southern California Edison Company
P. O. Box 800
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, California 92770

Attention: Mr. David J. Fogarty
Executive Vice President

Gentlemen:

This refers to the NRC's Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Board Report dated November 25, 1988 for your San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS); our management meeting of December 13, 1988, during which we discussed the contents of this report; and the written comments provided in your January 13, 1989 letter in response to the SALP Board's report.

During the December 13, 1988 meeting, we discussed your planned corrective actions in response to this assessment of your activities authorized by NRC License Nos. DPR-13, NPF-10, and NPF-15. Subjects discussed during the meeting are summarized in the enclosed meeting report.

Although four functional areas were considered by the SALP Board to be Category 1, your performance in the Engineering/Technical Support and Safety Assessment/Quality Verification areas was assessed to be Category 3. We recognize the significant corrective actions your staff has undertaken in these areas, as discussed with you during the December 13 meeting. However, aggressive management attention is still needed to ensure that the defined corrective actions are fully and effectively implemented.

As discussed with you during our November 2, 1988 management meeting, effective actions by your safety oversight groups will also be important to ensure that all engineering weaknesses are identified and included within the scope of your corrective actions. Your January 13, 1989 response described an independent review of oversight organization effectiveness which you are initiating with the assistance of a consultant.

During the management meeting we also discussed NRC concerns regarding the following:

- * Additional effort is needed by SCE management and by your Licensing and engineering staffs to improve the quality of licensing submittals. We will monitor the effectiveness of improvements you are initiating in this area, as described in your January 13, 1989 letter.

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- * Recent NRC initiatives have determined that, on an industry-wide basis, as much as half the risk of core melt is associated with periods of mid-loop operation. Your management should ensure that special diligence is maintained by all plant personnel during such periods.
- * More effective measures are needed to address continuing discoveries of illegal drugs inside the protected area of your facility.

We have reviewed your January 13, 1989, response to the SONGS SALP Report and conclude that the corrective actions you described to effect improvement in identified areas of weakness are responsive and substantial. We will discuss the progress of your corrective actions during future inspections and management meetings.

Based on the formal exchange of information between our respective staffs, and in the absence of verbal identification of discrepancies within the report or written comments from you which require resolution, no changes to the November 25, 1988 SALP Board Report are deemed necessary. Related NRC conclusions are presented in Appendix I to this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or Appendix I hereto, the issues discussed in the enclosed meeting report, or the SALP Board's report, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,
Original Signed by
John Martin
J. B. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Appendix I, NRC Conclusions
2. SALP Meeting Report Nos. 50-206/88-32, 50-361/88-33 and 50-362/88-35
3. Licensee response to SALP Report, dated January 13, 1989
4. Final SALP Report Nos. 50-206/88-25, 50-361/88-26 and 50-362/88-28

cc w/enclosures 1, 2, and 4:

Dr. L. T. Papay, Senior Vice President
C. B. McCarthy, Vice President (San Clemente)
K. P. Baskin, Vice President
H. E. Morgan, Station Manager (San Clemente)
State of California

bcc w/enclosures 1, 2, 3, and 4:

Commissioners
T. Murley, NRR
J. Lieberman, OE
G. Knighton, NRR
C. Trammell, NRR
D. Hickman, NRR
J. Martin docket file
A. Chaffee B. Zimmerman
R. Scarano G. Cook
SALP Board Members
T. Foley, NRR

bcc w/o enclosures:
M. Smith
J. Zollicoffer

REGION V
P Johnson
1/31/89

RPZ
R Zimmerman
1/31/89

RPZ *for*
A Chaffee
1/31/89

6P4
R Scario
1/31/89
for

Cover ltr
J Martin *Signed*
1/31/89

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SEND TO PDR
YES / NO

APPENDIX I

NRC CONCLUSIONS

A. Comments Received From Licensee

Southern California Edison's January 13, 1989 response to the San Onofre SALP Board Report presented no comments addressing the specific content of the report. Because there were no comments, no changes were made to the SALP Report.

B. NRC Conclusions Regarding Acceptability Of Licensee's Planned Corrective Actions

We feel that your actions to deal with areas needing improvement appear to be responsive and substantial. We will review your progress during our ongoing inspection program and as part of future management meetings.

C. Regional Administrator's Conclusions Based On Consideration Of Licensee's Response

I have concluded that the overall ratings in the affected areas have not changed.