

Southern California Edison Company

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J. T. HEAD, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT

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October 13, 1978

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region V
Suite 202, Walnut Creek Plaza
1990 North California Boulevard
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Attention: Mr. R. H. Engelken, Director

Docket No. 50-206
San Onofre Unit 1

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

Dear Sir:

An occurrence defined in the Environmental Technical Specifications [Section 5.6.3.b (3) (a)] as reportable was determined to have occurred in relation to the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Unit 1 on September 19, 1978. The purpose of this letter is to report the details of that occurrence.

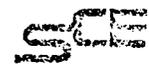
Specification 3.1.1.a (5) of Appendix B to the San Onofre Unit 1 Provisional Operating License establishes, in part, that continuous temperature recording systems will measure near sea surface, midwater, and near bottom temperatures at two offshore stations. It has been determined that data from Station C2S bottom temperature sensor for the period of April 8 to May 2, 1978, and data from Station C2S midwater temperature sensor for the period of May 2 to June 30, 1978, are irretrievable due to instrument malfunctions. The instrument malfunctions did not become apparent until after data reduction was attempted since the data are recorded on film cartridges. An attempt was made to salvage the sporadic data from the malfunctioning instruments, but this data finally had to be removed from the data base. For the first six months of 1978 this represents a drop in the continuous offshore temperature system data return to 92% and, as the Specifications have been established, any data return of less than 99.1% from this offshore monitoring system is considered reportable (three weeks of lost data per year total and there are six temperature sensors in the offshore system).

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Corrective action measures have included replacement of the malfunctioning instruments, as well as re-emphasizing to field personnel, data management personnel, and the equipment vendor (Environmental Devices Corporation, which has the same NRC-program proven reliable equipment throughout the country) the importance of achieving better than 99% data return in this program. Also, a new system to monitor water temperatures, developed by Scripps Institution of Oceanography, is being funded and assessed by Southern California Edison Company for possible inclusion in the San Onofre Unit 1 ETS program to further insure the necessary data return.

It has been determined that this loss of offshore temperature data does not constitute an environmental impact of any kind.

Should you require additional information on this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. H. ...". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

cc: Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement (20)
Director, Office of Management Information and Program Control (2)