

Docket

Docket Nos. 50-361✓
and 50-362.

JUN 22 1973

ENVIRON, FILE (NEPA)

Daniel R. Muller, Assistant Director for Environmental Projects, L
THRU: B. J. Youngblood, Chief, Environmental Projects Branch 3, L

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR COMMENTS ON SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING
STATION UNITS 2 AND 3 FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (FES)

In accordance with ADEP Project Instruction #44, the following
information is provided:

We have received a letter from the Department of Interior (DOI), dated
May 18, 1973, which comments on the San Onofre Units 2 and 3 FES. (The
first paragraph of this letter mistakenly identifies it as the DES.)
The principal reason for the letter was to note that we had published
the FES prior to receiving their comments; and since their comments did
not get "the normal public review", they wished to reiterate them and
to provide some further comments.

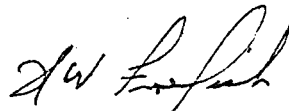
We did prepare responses to their comments on the DES, and these
comments and our responses were made a part of the public record
during the environmental hearings of May 1973, held in San Diego,
California (Transcript, 2843, 2844, May 21, 1973). A copy of their
original comments and our responses, as presented to the ASLB, is
enclosed.

It does not appear that their letter commenting on the FES presents any
new comments. Briefly, they are as follows:

1. Operation of Units 2 and 3 will cause damage to aquatic
resources - the magnitude of these damages is uncertain. This
is stated in the FES, but we have concluded that the uncertainty
does not represent a threat to the environment.
2. The FES does not provide the data that permits concluding that
the environmental impacts are acceptable. We consider that
the FES provides substantive data to conclude that the impacts
are acceptable: Without specific instances, we can make no
further response.
3. DOI has not been "kept advised concerning the direction, progress,
and results of ongoing studies involving interests of this
Department". No response required.

4. DOI recommends establishment of a working relationship by the applicant with appropriate bureaus of DOI. No response required.
5. DOIs recommended "stipulations" contained in their comments on the DES were reiterated. No response required, nor did we respond to this comment on the DES. Their "stipulations" relate to post-operational studies, hence, are not appropriate for a construction permit.

The DOI comments were received on March 13, 1973, some 112 days after the DES was published. On this same date, the FES final corrections had been submitted for typing; the FES was sent to the printing office on March 16, 1973. Considering the pressure that was being exerted to publish the FES on an accelerated schedule, there was no justification for holding up publication to prepare responses to DOI comments.



R. W. Froelich, Project Manager
Environmental Projects Branch 3
Directorate of Licensing

Enclosure:
Response to DOI Comments,
San Onofre 2 & 3 DES

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