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July 18, 2016

Victor M. McCree  
Executive Director, Operations  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
O-16 E15  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. McCree,

It was recently brought to our attention by a member of our Board of Governors that the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering plans to require the decommissioning and dismantling of the Vallecitos Boiling Water Reactor, located in Pleasanton, Calif.

We are writing to encourage you to give consideration to the historic significance of the Vallecitos Reactor in any long-term plan that you may have for this space.

ASME, through its History and Heritage landmarks program, formally recognized the Vallecitos Reactor as the first privately owned and operated nuclear facility to deliver significant quantities of electricity to a public utility grid. The Vallecitos Reactor remains one of only 261 of these artifacts, sites, and systems recognized by the Society as being worthy of recognition. A ceremony was held in 1987 and a commemorative plaque formally installed.

For over 40 years, ASME's History and Heritage program has recognized mechanical engineering systems and artifacts which represent a significant step forward in the practice of mechanical engineering. The aim of our landmarks program is to foster preservation of the physical remains of important engineering work, as well as to promote noteworthy achievements of mechanical engineers to the public.

We recognize that many factors will enter into the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decisions concerning this site. We are hopeful, however, that you will consider the historic importance of the Vallecitos Reactor and find some way to recognize the mechanical engineering accomplishment – perhaps through some permanent site signage where the plaque could be placed. Should you need further information from ASME on our landmark designation, please feel free to contact Thomas Fehring, chair of the ASME History and Heritage Committee at [TFehring@norCEnergy.com](mailto:TFehring@norCEnergy.com).

Sincerely yours,

Thomas G. Loughlin, CAE  
ASME Executive Director

Thomas H. Fehring, P.E.  
ASME History & Heritage Committee

Cc: Glenn M. Tracy, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Scott Moore, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Jerald Head, GE Power  
Bryan A. Erler, ASME Board of Governors