

AEC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL  
(TEMPORARY FORM)

CONTROL NO: 178

FILE

FROM: Pacific Gas & Elec. Co. San Francisco, Calif. 94106 F.T. Searls	DATE OF DOC: 1-3-73	DATE REC'D 1-8-73	LTR X	MEMO	RPT	OTHER
TO:	ORIG 1 signed	CC 59	OTHER	SENT AEC PDR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SENT LOCAL PDR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
CLASS: <u>U</u> /PROP INFO	INPUT	NO CYS REC'D 60	DOCKET NO: 50-275 <u>50-323</u>			

DESCRIPTION: Ltr re our 11-20-72 ltr...  
furnishing addl info re fuel densification & req  
that info re our 11-20-72 ltr be deferred beyond the  
45 day period.....

ENCLOSURES:

DO NOT REMOVE

PLANT NAMES: Diablo Canyon Site

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION DL 1-8-73

BUTLER(L) W/ Copies	SCHWENCER(L) W/ Copies	SCHEMEL(L) W/ Copies	KNIGHTON(E) W/ Copies
CLARK(L) W/ Copies	STOLZ(L) W/ Copies	ZIEMANN(L) W/ Copies	YOUNGBLOOD(E) W/ Copies
GOLLER(L) W/ Copies	VASSALLO(L) W/ Copies	CHITWOOD(FM) W/ Copies	REGAN(E) W/ Copies
KNIEL(L) W/4 Copies	H. DENTON W/ Copies	DICKER(E) W/ Copies	W/ Copies

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

<u>REG FILE (2)</u>	TECH REVIEW	VOLLMER	HARLESS	WADE	E
<u>AEC-PDR (2)</u>	<u>HENDRIE</u>	DENTON		SHAFFER	F & M
OGC, ROOM P-506A	SCHROEDER	GRIMES	F & M	BROWN	E
MUNTZING/STAFF	MACCARY	GAMMILL	<u>SMILEY</u>	G. WILLIAMS	E
CASE	LANGE(2)	KASTNER	NUSSBAUMER	E. GOULBOURNE	L
GIAMBUSSO	PAWLICKI	BALLARD		A/T IND	
BOYD-L(BWR)	SHAO	SPANGLER	LIC ASST.	<u>BRATTMAN</u>	
<u>WEYOUNG-L(PWR)</u>	<u>KNUTH</u>		<u>SERVICE</u>	SALTZMAN	
SKOVHOLT-L	<u>STELLO</u>	ENVIRO	MASON	L	
P. COLLINS	MOORE	<u>MULLER</u>	WILSON	L	
REG OPR	HOUSTON	DICKER	MAIGRET	L	
<u>FILE &amp; REGION (2)</u>	TEDESCO	KNIGHTON	SMITH	L	
MORRIS	LONG	YOUNGBLOOD	GEARIN	L	
STELLE	LAINAS	PROJ LEADER	DIGGS	L	
	BENAROYA		TEETS	L	
		REGAN	LEE	L	

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

<u>1-LOCAL PDR</u> San Luis Obispo, Calif.		
<u>1-DTIE</u> (ABERNATHY)	(1)(5)(9)-NATIONAL LAB'S	<u>1-PDR-SAN</u>
<u>1-NSIC</u> (BUCHANAN)	1-R. CARROLL-OC, GT-B227	1-GERALD LELLOUCHE
1-ASLB-YORE/SAYRE	1-R. CATLIN, E-256-GT	BROOKHAVEN NAT. LAB
WOODWARD/H. ST.	1-CONSULANT'S	1-AGMED(WALTER KOESTER,
<u>16-CYS</u> ACRS <del>XXXXXX</del>	NEWARK/BLUME/AGABIAN	Rm C-427, GT)
SENT TO LIC. ASST.		1-RD...MULLER...F-309GT
M. SERVICE ON 1-8-73		



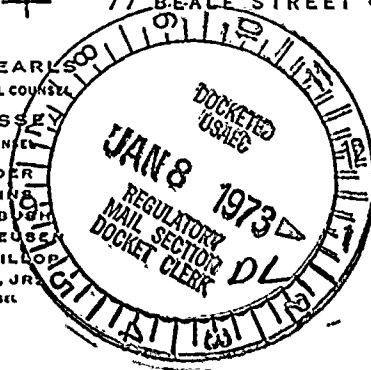
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## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

PG&amp;E + 77 BEALE STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94106 • (415) 781-4211

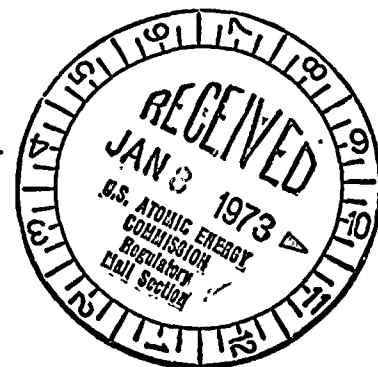
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January 3, 1973

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ATTORNEYS

U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545  
Attention: Mr. A. Giambusso  
Deputy Director for Reactor Projects  
Directorate of Licensing

Re: Dockets 50-275, 50-323  
Diablo Canyon Site  
Units 1 and 2



Gentlemen:

In response to your letter of November 20, 1972 relative to fuel densification, we would like to inform you that we have been investigating the potential effect of this phenomenon on our design for Units 1 and 2 at our Diablo Canyon Site (the Plant).

We have contracted with Westinghouse Electric Corporation for the design and fabrication of the initial cores for the Plant. They have informed us that they are continuing to investigate the cause of inpile fuel densification and to develop material characteristics and manufacturing processes which will lead to stable fuel. They believe that the results of this program will provide us with fabricated fuel in which the effects of densification will be reduced so that performance of the core will be comparable to that described in our Final Safety Analysis Report, which we have nearly completed.

Westinghouse has informed us that they have had detailed discussions with you, on a generic basis, of the fuel densification experience. They have developed the analytical techniques required to perform the analysis specified in your technical report on densification of light water reactor fuels and have discussed these methods with the AEC Staff. In general, these methods are consistent



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with your requirements and we understand that remaining questions on some details are currently being resolved. These methods will be applied, as appropriate in evaluating any residual fuel densification which exists in the final design of the reactor cores for the Plant.

In view of the fact that improvement in fuel behavior is expected to be demonstrated before the final design and fabrication of our cores, we request that the analyses specified in your November 20, 1972 letter be deferred beyond the 45-day period. The analyses, however, will be completed within a time compatible with the licensing review schedule for the Plant. Currently, this time appears to be in the third quarter of 1973.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "F. T. Searls". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

F. T. SEARLS

Enclosures (59)

