

MAR 10 1976

Docket Nos. 50-275
and 50-323

Distribution
Docket File
NRC PDR
Local PDR
NRR Reading
BCRusche
EGCase
JRMiller
HDenton
RHeineman
VStello

DPAllison
DLTibbitts
EIGoulbourne (w/cy of
incoming).
MGroff (NRR-722)
EHughes (W/cy of incoming)
SHill
ODParr
WHaass

Mr. Harold T. Orr
814 Sierra Madre
Santa Maria, California 93454

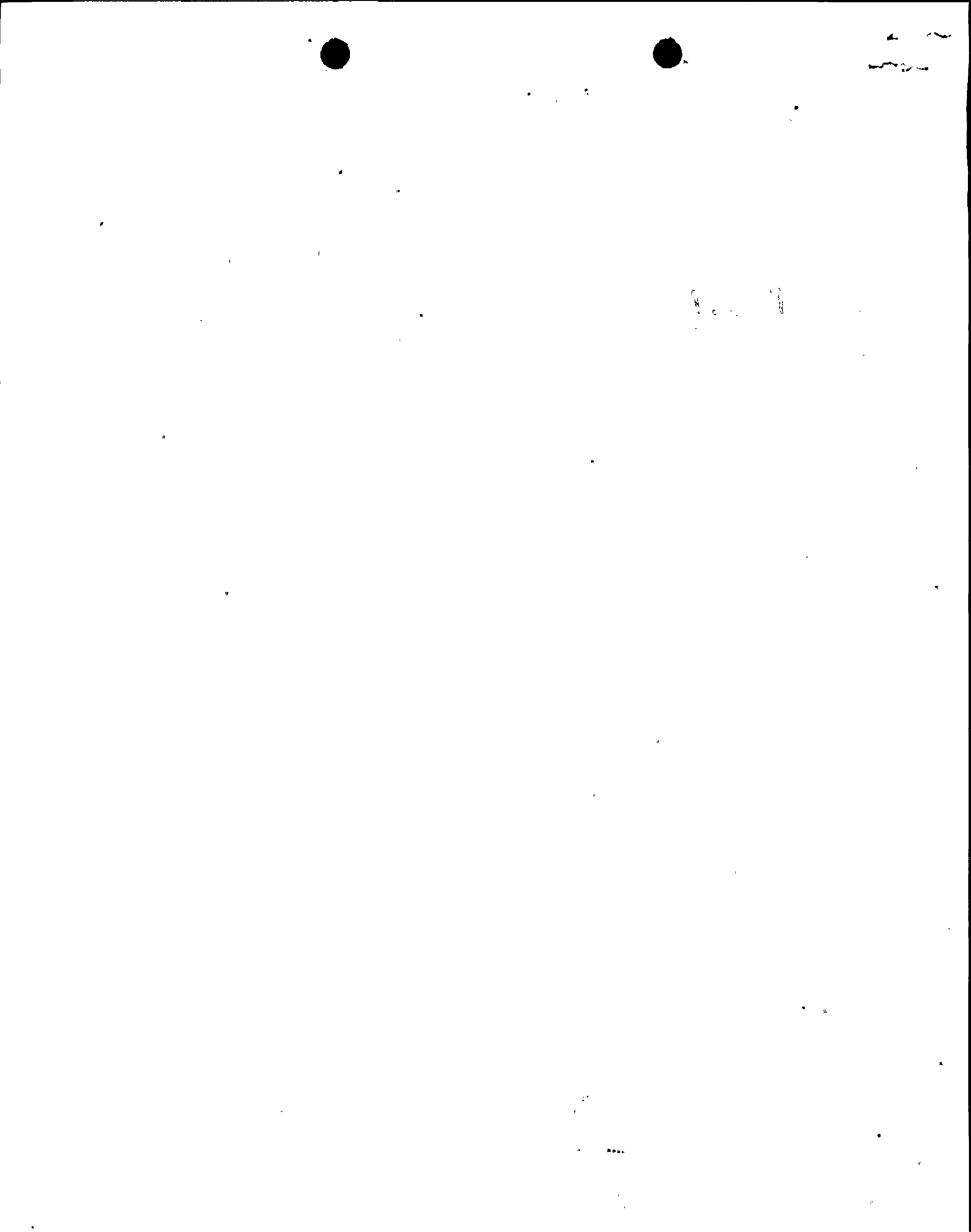
Dear Mr. Orr:

Your letter of February 20, 1976 has been referred to me for reply. Your letter expressed concern about the safety of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, especially since there is a fault close to the plant.

With regard to reactor safety in general, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducts a safety review of every commercial nuclear power plant application. This review is performed to determine if the construction and operation of the plant will be a hazard to the health and safety of the public. In particular, this review investigates the radiological consequences of normal plant operation and also the radiological consequences of several postulated accidents. In both cases, the radiological consequences must be acceptable for all the people living adjacent to the proposed plant or the plant's design must be modified prior to construction or operation. A description of how the NRC conducts safety reviews is provided in Enclosure No. 1.

With regard to the nearby fault, our review of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is not finished. The NRC staff and its consultants are presently evaluating the seismic design of the plant. The status of this evaluation is described in Enclosure No. 2. As with other nuclear power plants, those portions of the plant which contain radioactive material and cool the reactor are required to be designed to safely withstand earthquakes which can occur at the site. I can assure you that all actions necessary to ensure an acceptable level of safety will be required before an operating license is issued.

OFFICE >						
SURNAME >						
DATE >						



Mr. Harold T. Orr

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MAR 10 1976

I trust you will find this information responsive to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Olan Parr

Olan D. Parr, Chief
Light Water Reactors
Branch No. 3
Division of Project Management

Enclosures:

1. Insuring Safety Design of Nuclear Power Plants
2. Diablo Canyon Seismic Design Evaluation

OFFICE	DPM:LWR #3	DPM:LWR #3	DPM:LWR #3			
SURNAME	DTibbitts:mt	DAllison	ODParr			
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(7)
Feb. 20, 1976

Sirs,

I have lived in Santa Maria for 27 years, since my birth. I love this area and sincerely dislike the idea of having a nuclear power plant anywhere near my home.

There is no reason on this earth that residents of this area should have their lives put on the line for this plant. There is, no such thing as a safe nuclear power plant, everyone knows, especially where a fault in the earth is only 2 1/2 miles away. I'm sure many others in the area feel the same way I do about this issue, but as you may know, they are too damn lazy to write anyone about it.

Certainly any person who would condone such a power plant for any so-called benefit or need must certainly be insane. There are too many alternatives to the energy shortage, like, no electricity at all. So insanity must be stopped.

Cordially,
Harold P. Dur

