

OCT 7 1980

Ms. Suzanne Pipp  
1063 Cortez Drive  
Santa Maria, California 93454

Dear Ms. Pipp:

Your March 30, 1980 letter to President Carter regarding the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant has been referred to me for reply.

You expressed concern over the licensing of Diablo Canyon citing a Kemeny Commission Report statement on the potential for future accidents at nuclear plants. Let me assure you that the NRC has reacted positively to improve the safety of all nuclear power plants in operation and under construction based on the lessons learned from the Three Mile Island accident.

Based on the findings of the President's Commission on the accident (The Kemeny Commission), the recommendations of the Special Inquiry Group directed by Mitchell Rogovin, recommendations developed by internal NRC special task forces, and recommendations from other sources including the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, a comprehensive NRC Action Plan (NUREG-0660) developed as a result of the TMI-2 accident, was prepared and published in May 1980.

Consistent with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission guidance, the NRC staff is requiring all applicants for new operating licenses to modify the design and operation of their nuclear plants to conform to TMI-related requirements. NUREG-0694, published in June 1980, identified requirements applicable to Diablo Canyon and other plants and provided a schedule by which they must be implemented. Additional requirements and clarifications are being considered.

We have re-examined the Diablo Canyon facility for conformance to the NUREG-0694 requirements as they apply to fuel loading and low power testing and on August 6, 1980 issued our safety evaluation on these matters. Before the NRC staff can issue a license to load fuel and conduct low power (below 5 percent) tests, all of these requirements must be met, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board for Diablo Canyon must rule favorably, and the Commission itself will review the record.

In addition, your letter expressed a concern over the release of low-level radiation normal with the operation of a nuclear plant. I am pleased to provide the enclosed response to this concern.

Furthermore, you state that possibly there is no need for this plant because of conservation. The National Environmental Policy Act requires us to consider whether there are environmentally preferable alternatives to a nuclear power plant proposed for licensing. We did this. Hearings were held on this environmental issue before construction permits were issued to construct this facility. Moreover, a favorable partial initial decision regarding environmental matters has been issued by the present Atomic Safety and Licensing Board considering all

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Ms. Suzanne Pipp

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Issues that have been properly brought before it for operating licenses for the Diablo Canyon facility. A copy of the Final Environmental Statement as well as other licensing documents and correspondence can be found in the Local Public Document Room (LPDR) maintained for Diablo Canyon. This LPDR is located at the California Polytechnic State University Library, Documents and Maps Department, San Luis Obispo, California 93407.

I trust that this information is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

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Frank J. Miraglia, Acting Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 3  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:  
As stated

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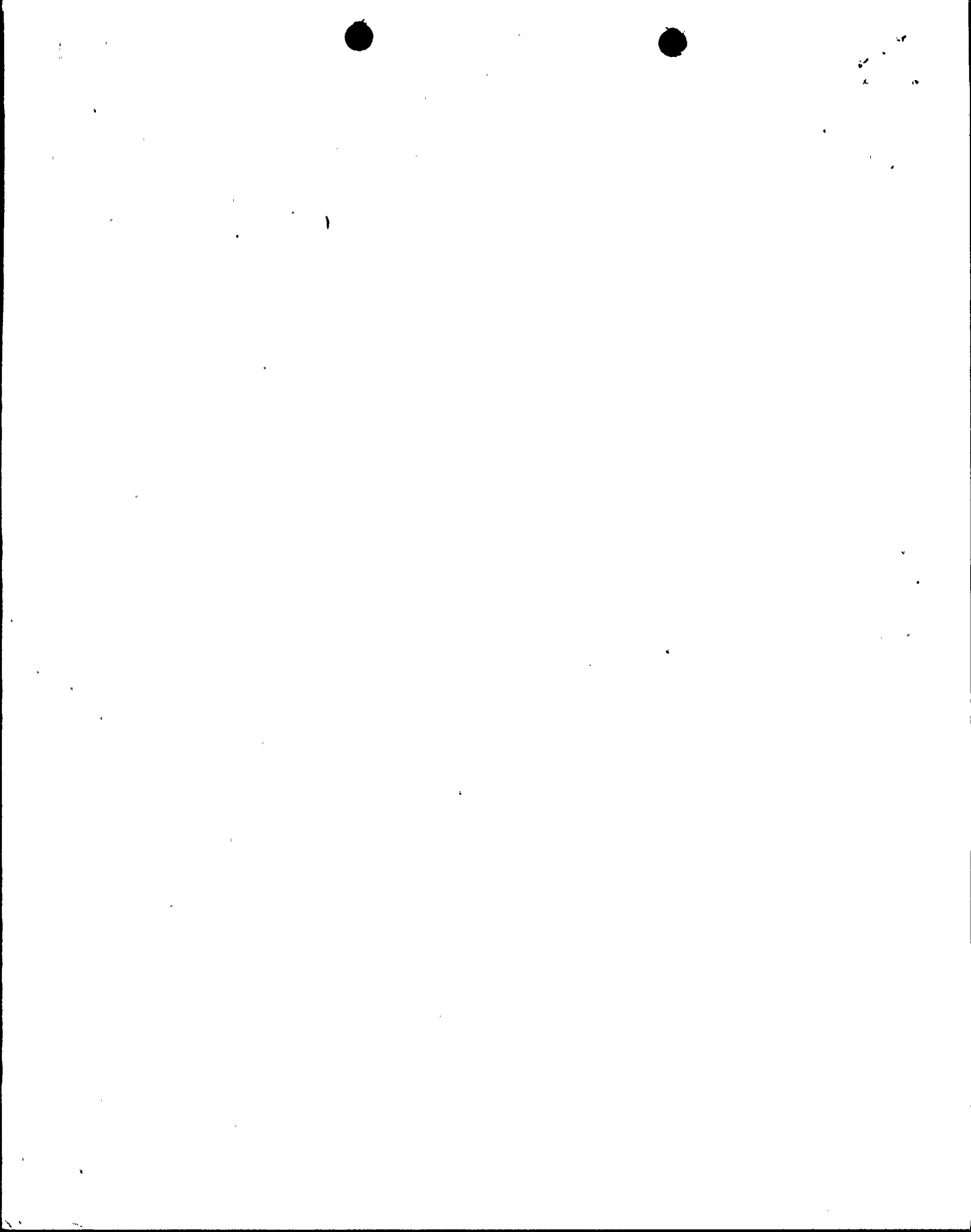
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FROM: Suzanne Pipp Santa Maria, Ca 93454		DATE OF DOCUMENT 3/30/80	DATE RECEIVED 5/5/80	NO.: NRR-4018
TO: President Carter		LTR: X	MEMO:	REPORT: OTHER:
CLASSIF.:		ORIG.:	CC:	OTHER:
POST OFFICE REG. NO.		ACTION NECESSARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO ACTION NECESSARY <input type="checkbox"/>		CONCURRENCE <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> DATE ANSWERED: BY: 5/22/80
DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified) RE: RELEASE OF LOW LEVEL RADIATION AT DIABLO CANYON		FILE CODE:	REFERRED TO D. Eisenhower	DATE 5/8
ENCLOSURES:		RECEIVED BY <i>Fedeseo</i>		
REMARKS: Please place MMGroff on distribution for any reply. Also return original yellow control ticket to MMGroff when action completed.		DATE <i>5/9</i>		
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March 30, 1980

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President Carter,

I live in Santa Maria California approximately 25 miles from Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant. I have lived in this area all my life but now fear I will have to move if this plant is allowed to operate.

The Kemeny report says that we must expect a serious nuclear accident at least every 10 years. Besides the threat of a serious accident I am very concerned with the release of low-level radiation normal with the operation of a nuclear plant. How can you, President Carter, submit my family and loved ones to these dangers?

People are willing to sacrifice some conveniences to insure Diablo will not open. My husband and I only use the least amount of energy we can. If you could do something to make people conserve then we won't need nuclear plants.

President Carter, please help

us. The risks of nuclear power  
far outweigh the advantages.  
Change your views on  
nuclear power. Face it,  
you've got enough problems  
already without having this.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Lipp  
1063 Cortez Dr.  
Santa Maria, Ca 93454