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50-275

The Honorable Robert J. Lagomarsino United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lagomarsino:

This is in response to your letter of July 16, 1987 to Chairman Zech, which enclosed a letter from your constituents, Mr. and Mrs. Weiss of Goleta, California. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss raised questions regarding the storage of spent fuel at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power'Plant. They also asked if NRC had considered public opinion regarding Pacific Gas and Electric Company's proposal to use new spent fuel racks with closer spacing at its Diablo Canyon facility.

The matter of storage of spent fuel in a closer-spaced array has been very extensively reviewed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the licensee for Diablo Canyon) and by the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and its consultants. In addition, NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board conducted public hearings in Avila Beach, California on June 16-18, 1987, which focused on many safety and environmental aspects of the licensee's proposal. The Licensing Board is presently considering these matters and has not yet issued its decision. Other matters not directly related to the issues before the Licensing Board are still under review by the NRC staff. The NRC will not reach a decision relative to authorizing increased storage density at Diablo Canyon until the Licensing Board has resolved the issues before it and the NRC staff completes its review.

As for the question regarding public opinion, the NRC has a long-standing practice (in place well before enactment of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982) of soliciting the views of the public both in writing and orally at its hearings. In fact, on June 15, 1987, seventy-one individuals made oral statements before the Licensing Board regarding the Diablo Canyon spent fuel storage proposal, and the written views of hundreds of other persons were also received. Of course, consistent with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, the NRC must consider other factors in addition to the views of the population surrounding the reactor in proposals to increase the capacity for interim storage of spent fuel at nuclear reactor sites.

I hope this information is helpful to you in responding to Mr. and Mrs. Weiss. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

(Simed) T. A. Rehm 8708170252 870810 ADOCK 05000275 PDR Victor Stello, Jr. PDR **Executive Director** for Operations *See previous concurrence *DRSP/PDV *DRSP/PDV *ADM *DRSP/D:PDV *0GC *AD: DRSP JLee GWKnighton CTrammell:cd GMHo1ahan 7/29/87 7/20/87 7/29/87 7/30/87 7/30/87 8/04/87 NRR/DONRR **HDONRR** 0CA EDO JSniezek #lev VStello 8/ 4/87 5 /87 8/ /87 8/ 187

Sincerely,

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555



EDO PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

FROM:

DUE: 08/07/87

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EDO CONTROL: 003048 DOC DT: 07/16/87 FINAL REPLY:

SECY NO: 87-0883

REP. ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO

T0:

CHAIRMAN ZECH

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DESC:

ENCL LETTER FROM VAL & JACK WEISS CONCERNING STORAGE OF SPENT FUEL ON SITE AT DIABLO CANYON THOMPSON, NMSS MURRAY, OGC/B

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ROUTING:

DATE: 07/23/87 ASSIGNED TO: NRR

CONTACT: MURLEY

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

NRR RECEIVED: JULY 24, 1987 ACTION: DRSP:CRUTCHFIELD

NRR ROUTING: MURLEY/SNIEZEK MIRAGLIA STAROSTECKI BLAHA FUNCHES MOSSBURG

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PAPER NUMBER:	CRC-87-0883	LOGGING DATE: Jul 22 87
ACTION OFFICE:	EDO	
AUTHOR: AFFILIATION:	R.J. LagomarsinoConst Ref U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
LETTER DATE:	Jul 16 87 FILE CODE: M-20	
SUBJECT:	Safe storage of radioactive m	uclear waste
ACTION:	Direct Reply	
DISTRIBUTION:	OCA to Ack	
SPECIAL HANDLING:	None	
NOTES:	Jack Weiss	,
DATE DUE:	Aug 5 87	
SIGNATURE: AFFILIATION:	•	DATE SIGNED:

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