October 30, 1987

Docket No.: 50-275
and 50-323

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Mr. J. D. Shiffer, Vice President
Nuclear Power Generation
c/o Nuclear Power Generation, Licensing
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Room 1451
San Francisco, California 94106

Dear Mr. Shiffer:

SUBJECT: 10 CFR 50 APPENDIX H - EXTENSION OF DATE FOR SURVEILLANCE CAPSULE SUMMARY REPORT (TAC NO. 66383)

By letter dated September 28, 1987, you requested that we extend the submittal date for the summary technical report for the first reactor vessel surveillance capsule for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Unit NO. 1. As provided in 10 CFR 50, Appendix H, Section III.A, licensees must submit such summary technical reports within one year after capsule withdrawal, unless an extension is granted.

You indicate that the first surveillance capsule was withdrawn from the reactor vessel of Diablo Canyon Unit 1 on October 10, 1986, and shipped to Westinghouse Electric Corporation for analysis in early January 1987. Due to problems with remote handling equipment and Charpy specimens, you have requested a four-month extension of the submittal date for the summary technical report (until January 31, 1988).

The purpose of the reactor vessel material surveillance program is to monitor the effects of neutron irradiation damage and the thermal environment on the reactor vessel beltline material integrity. The analysis of the surveillance capsules serves to determine the safety margin of the beltline material associated with the pressure-temperature limits as required by Appendix G of 10 CFR Part 50.

As shown in License Amendment Request (LAR) 85-11 dated October 24, 1985, the reactor coolant system pressure-temperature limits apply to both units and are applicable for the first five effective full-power years (EFPY) of operation. The NRC staff has reviewed this aspect of LAR 85-11 and agrees that the limits are appropriate as proposed. You indicate in your extension request of September 28, 1987, that the expected exposure for the Unit 1 reactor vessel at the end of December 1987 is 2.1 EFPY. Since Unit 1 has

operated longer than Unit 2, Unit 1 has the greater exposure. The expected exposure as of January 31, 1988 (the proposed report submittal date) for Unit 1 would therefore be 2.2 EFPY or less. This exposure is well below the allowable limit of 5 EFPY discussed above and the summary report of the capsule would still be submitted well in advance of reaching the limit. Hence, there is an adequate margin (2.8 EFPY) between the actual amount of neutron irradiation exposure and the exposure on which the heatup and cooldown curves are based. As a result of this margin, a delay of about four months in the submittal of the summary report is not safety-significant. On this basis, we conclude that the requested extension is acceptable. Accordingly, the date for submittal of the summary technical report is extended until not later than January 31, 1988, as requested.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Thomas E. Murley

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc:
See next page

*See previous concurrence

OFC	*DRSP/PDV	*EMTB	*DRSP/D:PDV	*AD/DRSP	DRP/DRSP	ADRP	DONRR
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DATE	10/21/87	10/22/87	10/22/87	10/27/87	10/28/87	10/28/87	10/30/87

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Sincerely,

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc:
See next page

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