

Docket Nos. 50-275
and 50-323

AUG 25 1976

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Dr. W. D. Rowe
Deputy Assistant Administrator
for Radiation Programs (AW-458)
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D. C. 20460

Dear Dr. Rowe:

Thank you for your letter dated July 2, 1976 which commented on the "Addendum to the Final Environmental Statement for the Operation of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant Units No. 1 and 2," which the NRC issued in May 1976. Your comments related to our conclusion 4.b(3) on page ii which states, "The risk of accidental radiation exposure has been addressed in depth in the Commission's Reactor Safety Study (WASH-1440, NUREG-75/014) and found to be acceptably low."

The statement which you reference was included in the Addendum only to indicate the completion of the Reactor Safety Study performed by the Rasmussen study group. Inasmuch as this study did not make judgments on the acceptability of risks of accidental radiation exposure, I can understand how the words "acceptably low" in the referenced statement in the Addendum could be misinterpreted. Either of the two conclusionary sentences which you suggested in your letter would have been an appropriate statement for the Diablo Canyon Addendum.

The referenced sentence in the Addendum was not intended to imply what the Commission's final position is with respect to the Reactor Safety Studies (WASH 1400). The Commission issued an interim policy statement regarding this report soon after it was issued in draft form. Although the Reactor Safety Study report was subsequently issued in final form in October 1975, the Commission's interim statement is still in effect.

I appreciate your calling the inconsistency to my attention so that it could be clarified.

Sincerely,

Original signed by,
Voss A. Moore

For concurrence see previous yellow *D.D. Telenow concurrence 8/25/76* *DB Telenow concurrence 8/25/76*
Voss A. Moore, Assistant Director
for Environmental Projects

OFFICE >	DSE-EP-1 <i>JGill</i>	OELD	AAB Division of Site Safety	DSE:ADEP
SURNAME >	GWKnighton	DDavis	DBunch and Environmental Analysis	VAMoore
DATE >	8/24/76	8/24/76	8/ /76	8/24/76

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The environmental impact of postulated accidents involving radioactive materials was described in the Final Environmental Statement (FES) for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant issued in May 1973. No further assessment of postulated accidents was undertaken for the Addendum. However, the NRC staff is currently reevaluating radioactive risks including those from postulated accidents under the regulation which the Commission adopted in May 1975, 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix I, Numerical Guides for Design Objectives and Limiting Conditions for Operation to Meet the Criterion, "As Low As Practicable" for Radioactive Material in Light-Water-Cooled Nuclear Power Reactor Effluents. Whether the Commission determines that the risk of accidental radiation exposure from Diablo Canyon is still considered acceptably low will depend upon the staff's reanalysis under the Appendix I regulation.

The statement which you reference was included in the Addendum only to indicate the completion of the Reactor Safety Study performed by the Rasmussen study group. Inasmuch as this study did not make judgments on the acceptability of risks of accidental radiation exposure, I can understand how the words "acceptably low" in the referenced statement in the Addendum could be misinterpreted. Either of the two conclusionary sentences which you suggested in your letter would have been an appropriate statement for the Diablo Canyon Addendum.

OFFICE						
SURNAME						
DATE						

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Please contact me if further clarification of this matter is needed.

Sincerely,

Voss A. Moore, Assistant Director
for Environmental Projects
Division of Site Safety
and Environmental Analysis

OFFICE >	DSE:EP-1	DSE:EP-1	DSE:EP	OELD	DSE:SA:AAB
SURNAME >	John Gill:mh	GK Knighton	VAMoore	DDavis	DBunch
DATE >	7/23/76	7/26/76	7/ 1/76	7/ 13/76	7/ 1/76