

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGION V

Report No. 50-312/79-08
Docket No. 50-312 License No. DPR-54 Safeguards Group _____
Licensee: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
P. O. Box 15830
Sacramento, California 95813
Facility Name: Rancho Seco
Inspection at: Clay Station, California
Inspection conducted: May 16-18, 31, 1979
Inspectors: *R. D. Thomas* *7/16/79*
R. D. Thomas, Radiation Specialist Date Signed
J. B. Baird *7/16/79*
J. B. Baird, Radiation Specialist Date Signed

Date Signed
Approved By: *F. A. Mersha* *7/17/79*
f H. E. Book, Chief, Fuel Facility and Materials Date Signed
Safety Branch

Summary:

Inspection on May 16-18, 31, 1979 (Report No. 50-312/79-08)

Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of emergency planning, including: licensee coordination with offsite support agencies; emergency facilities, equipment and instrumentation; emergency plan and implementing procedures; licensee records relating to emergency drills; training of licensee and offsite personnel in emergency response; and management controls for emergency planning activities. The inspection involved 27 inspector hours by two NRC inspectors.

Results: Of the seven areas inspected, no apparent items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

RV Form 719 (2)

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DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

- *R. Rodriguez, Manager of Nuclear Operations
- *R. Columbo, Technical Assistant
- H. Schumacher, Safety Technician
- S. Coats, Plant Health Physicist
- J. Price, Engineering Technician
- *R. Miller, Chemical and Radiation Protection Supervisor
- R. Low, Associate Electrical Engineer, I & C
- P. Baldwin, Document Coordinator
- *H. Heckert, Engineering Technician
- D. Gardiner, Senior Chemical and Radiation Assistant
- W. Wilson, Senior Chemical and Radiation Assistant
- J. Mau, Training Supervisor

Others

- L. Anderson, Chief, Gault Fire District
- F. Harbert, Assistant Chief, Gault Fire District
- T. Brannon, Physicist Nuclear Medicine, Sutter General Hospital
- G. Hendricson, Herald Fire District
- F. Wilcher, Station Captain, Ione Forestry Academy, State of California
- D. Mastretti, Office of Emergency Services, State of California

*Denotes those attending the exit interview May 18, 1979.

2. Coordination With Offsite Agencies

An inspector reviewed records, procedures and written agreements relating to coordination of the licensee's emergency planning with agencies denoted in the Emergency Plan. An inspector discussed this area with licensee representatives and visited and discussed emergency support agreements with personnel of the following offsite agencies:

- a. Sutter General Hospital
- b. Gault Fire District
- c. Herald Fire District
- d. Ione Forestry Academy, California Department of Forestry

e. State of California Office of Emergency Services

These discussions and records reviews verified that agreements between these agencies and SMUD remain in effect, and that communication and coordination are adequate to maintain an effective emergency response capability. In addition, it was noted that SMUD has emergency support contracts with the two local physicians who could provide onsite emergency medical care, and with the Sacramento Army Depot for emergency analytical services.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

3. Facilities and Equipment

An inspector examined facilities, equipment, and instrumentation to verify that these items specified in the Emergency Plan were available for use and maintained in operational condition. The inspection included examination of emergency lockers and kits located at the Administration Building, Warehouse, Xerox Room across from the Control Room, and Sutter General Hospital. The emergency equipment and supplies were found to be as listed in the Emergency Plan and all instrumentation was observed to be operable. Medical treatment and decontamination facilities and supplies were examined at the onsite first-aid station, in the SMUD emergency vehicle, and at Sutter General Hospital. The inventory of supplies and equipment was as specified in the Emergency Plan.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

4. Calibration, Inventory, and Operational Checks of Emergency Equipment

An inspector examined the procedures and documentation of calibration, inventory, and operational checks for radiation monitoring and emergency response equipment. All radiation survey and monitoring instruments listed in the Emergency Plan were checked and observed to be in current calibration. Records of quarterly calibration of liquid and gaseous effluent monitoring systems, together with site perimeter radiation monitors were reviewed for the period January 1978 to May 18, 1979. Records of monthly emergency equipment inventories, checks and emergency alarm tests were also reviewed. These reviews indicated that the licensee had maintained and checked emergency related instrumentation and equipment as required in plant procedures.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

5. Meteorological Monitoring System

An inspector examined the meteorological station surveillance and calibration procedure and reviewed selected records to determine adherence to the testing and calibration schedules. The meteorological system

output is checked daily and a monthly overall system calibration check is performed. A semi-annual electronics calibration is also performed but the individual sensors for windspeed, direction, and temperature are not routinely calibrated at this time. The records review indicated that checks and calibrations are being performed as required.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

6. Training

An inspector discussed SMUD's training program with licensee representatives and reviewed training related procedures and documentation to verify that training required by the Emergency Plan had been conducted. All SMUD personnel at the site are given eight hours of basic first-aid training within one year of their employment. Refresher courses are given on a three year basis. Plant operating and other personnel who form emergency teams receive training in advanced first-aid, radiation protection and fire fighting. Quarterly drills are conducted and an annual real fire drill is conducted onsite with participation by the Herald Fire District fire fighting personnel.

A six hour training course in Emergency Plan procedures is given on an annual basis. A review of training records showed that the last course was presented during the period January 13 - March 7, 1978. Approximately 150 individuals attended the training. The Training Supervisor stated that the training course for 1979 will be scheduled for June or July. All new hires at Rancho Seco receive a one-half hour orientation on the emergency plan when they report to work.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

7. Emergency Drills

An inspector discussed emergency drills with the Drill Coordinator and reviewed records of drills conducted since the previous emergency planning inspection, which was conducted January 1978. It was noted that quarterly plant evacuation drills had been conducted involving either first-aid or fire fighting response by emergency teams. It was also noted that drills involving offsite support from the Sacramento County Emergency Operations Center and medical treatment of injured personnel at Sutter General Hospital are conducted on an annual basis.

The last emergency drill involving offsite support agencies was conducted on March 22, 1979. An NRC inspector attended this drill as an observer. The drill consisted of a fire in the oil storage area, and the release of radioactive gases from the Refueling Building due to the crash of

a section of SKYLAB into the refueling pool which damaged some spent fuel bundles. All in-house emergency teams responded in a timely manner to the emergency situation. The Herald Fire Department (HFD) was the only offsite group participating onsite in the drill. The HFD responded in a very timely manner with fire fighting equipment.

A critique was held immediately after the drill by management and the participating groups. General opinion of the group was that the results of the drill were acceptable. Some problem areas were noted, (1) SMUD was unable to establish radio communications with the County Emergency Communications Center, (2) the Herald Fire Department did not use foam on the fire, (3) the Herald Fire Department did not use respiratory protection while fighting the fire, (4) the assignment of dosimeters to the firemen was quite confusing, and (5) inadequate instructions to the radiological teams in the field by the control room. It was observed by the inspector that the drill was conducted in accordance with the emergency plan, with the exception that a notification was not given immediately on the P.A. system that the exercise was a drill. The lack of proper notification caused some confusion at the assembly point.

A followup was made on July 9, 1979, in regards to the drill critique. The licensee stated that the following corrective actions have been taken. (1) The problem with radio communications has been resolved since all radio traffic handled by the SMUD dispatcher would be switched off, and only emergency radio communications would be handled on a high priority basis in the case of an incident or emergency situation. (2) The use of foam by the Herald Fire Department for fire fighting is still being evaluated by HFD and SMUD. (3) Personnel from the HFD are being scheduled for respiratory protection classes at Rancho Seco. (4) In the future, the assignment of dosimeters to HFD individuals will be by the health physics representative dispatched to the main gate to escort the fire trucks inside the plant area. (5) Additional training for the onsite radiological teams has been scheduled regarding proper emergency communications related to control room operations. The results of the emergency training, referenced in items (3) and (5), will be examined during the next inspection. (79-08-01)

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

8. Management Controls - Emergency Planning

An inspector reviewed Emergency Plan procedures, plant technical specifications and documentation of reviews and updates of the Emergency Plan to verify that a program of management controls related to emergency planning activities had been established. The Emergency Plan and technical specifications delineated emergency planning responsibilities and provide for periodic reviews and updates of the Emergency Plan and implementing procedures. Management control audits for Quality Assurance (QA) are also conducted.

A review of plant records showed that changes in the Emergency Plan (AP-500) designated as Revision No. 8 were subjected to Plant Review Committee review and approval September 19 and 27, 1978; and a 50.59 safety analysis was initiated June 16, 1978, and reviewed by the Management Safety Review Committee on November 22, 1978.

Review of QA audits No. 0-176, March 10 and 13, 1978 and No. 0-232, March 9, 1979, indicated that a system for identifying emergency planning activities requiring corrective actions has been established and that followups to assure completion of corrective action requests are conducted.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

9. Exit Interview

An inspector met with licensee representatives denoted in Paragraph 1, and W. Ford, Supervisor of Operations, Nuclear Division; L. Schwieger, QA Director; and J. McColligan, Engineering and QC Supervisor at the Rancho Seco facility on May 18, 1979. The inspector summarized the purpose and scope of the inspection. The licensee was informed that no items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

Additional inspection in the areas of coordination with offsite agencies and training related to emergency response was conducted on May 31, 1979.

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified and no exit interview was conducted.