SMUD
SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT ☐ 6201 S Street, Box 15830, Sacramento, California 95813; (916) 452-3211

January 28, 1980

Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors, Branch No. 4
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Docket No. 50-312
Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating
Station, Unit No. 1

Dear Mr. Reid:

Your letter of March 19, 1979 requested additional information on our proposed modification for storing the reactor cavity annular seal plate during reactor operation. We indicated in letters dated April 26, and July 31, 1979 that we would have this information available in time for you to determine the acceptability of this modification prior to the end of our present refueling outage at which time we would first use this structure.

Since the Three Mile Island accident the District's efforts and those of Gilbert Associates, who are designing this modification, have been redirected to areas of more imminent concern. At this time neither the design nor the fabrication of the structure is complete. At the end of the present fuel cycle we intend to remove the seal plate and store it in a location where it can not be exposed to a pressure differential from pressures generated within the reactor cavity following a LOCA. The structure for storing the seal plate during reactor operation will be completed after we resume operation and we will provide the design details requested at that time.

We do not feel storing the seal plate temporarily in another location within the containment presents any safety question. It is simply for convenience that we desire to provide a permanent structure for storing the seal plate above its sealing position.

Sincerely yours,

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John J. Mattimoe

John J. Mattimoe
Assistant General Manager
and Chief Engineer

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