



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

April 3, 1980

Elizabeth S. Bowers, Esq., Chairman  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Mr. Frederick J. Shon  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

In the Matter of  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
(Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station)  
Docket No. 50-312 (SP)

Dear Board Members:

Enclosed is a draft copy of "Transient Response of Babcock and Wilcox - Designed Reactors" (Draft NUREG-0667) dated April 1980. This report provides another assessment of the B&W sensitivities and is the initial work product of a special task force that was established as a result of the Crystal River Unit No. 3 incident on February 26, 1980. This assessment includes consideration of the apparent sensitivity of the B&W plants to transients involving overcooling and undercooling conditions, small break loss-of-coolant accidents (LOCAs), and the consequences of malfunctions and failures of the integrated control system (ICS) and non-nuclear instrumentation (NNI). This study is made in conjunction with all of the actions or studies already taken or proposed in response to the TMI-2 accident.

To the extent practicable and reasonable, the panel of NRC Staff witnesses scheduled to resume their testimony and examination on April 8, 1980, will be able to respond to questions concerning this draft report. Although we recognize that the report has not been made available to the Board and

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the parties until this late date, we would hope and encourage that the parties be able to examine the witnesses on the contents since it is largely duplicative of the B&W sensitivities that have been discussed in detail previously in this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Black  
Counsel for NRC Staff

\*Enclosure: As stated

cc w/o encl: ASLBP  
ASLAP  
Docketing and Service Section  
Mr. Michael R. Eaton

cc w/encl: Rest of Service

\*copy to Ellison sent by Federal Express under separate cover