

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

March 25, 1980

Elizabeth S. Bowers, Esq., Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555 Dr. Richard F. Cole Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

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

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

Dear Members of the Board:

The Board requested that the Staff keep it and the parties abreast of the analyses being conducted of the implications of the February 26, 1980 Incident at Crystal River. To that end, we are enclosing the following documents:

- 1. Summary of March 4, 1980 Meeting Regarding Crystal River Unit 3 Incident of February 26, 1980, dated March 13, 1980.
- SMUD Response to Request for Information dated March 6, 1980. /The Staff's letter of March 6, 1980 to the B&W licensees merely memorialized the questions listed in Enclosure 3 to the summary of the March 4, 1980 meeting.
- 3. Transient Assessment Report, Reactor Trip at Crystal River 3 Nuclear Station on February 26, 1980, prepared by B&W and sent to the Staff under covering letter of March 11, 1980.

We are reproducing and will send under separate cover an "Analysis and Evaluation of Crystal River - Unit 3 Incident" prepared by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations and the Nuclear Safety Analysis Center.

A Task Force of the Staff has under development a report on the apparent sensitivity of B&W - design plants to transients of the type which occurred at Crystal River and the consequences of malfunctions and failures of the integrated control system and non-nuclear instrumentation. This report, which will be issued as NUREG-0667, will be transmitted to the Board and parties as soon as it is final.

At the present time, the Staff does not intend to file any supplemental testimony as a result of the Crystal River incident. The Staff panel which is scheduled to resume the stand on April 8, 1980 will attempt to respond to any questions regarding the implications of the incident.

Sincerely,

Stepher H. Lewis

Counsel for NRC Staff

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/enclosures: David S. Kaplan, Esq. Thomas A. Baxter, Esq. Christopher Ellison, Esq. Herbert H. Brown, Esq.

cc w/o enclosures: Mr. Michael R. Eaton Senator Allen R. Carter Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board Panel Docketing and Service Section