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BABCOCK & WILCOX

Power Generation Group
P. O. Box 1260
Lynchburg, VA 24505

March 23, 1978

RANCHO SECO
MARCH 20, 1978

Mr. R. J. Rodriguez
Manager, Nuclear Operations
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street
Sacramento, California 95813

POOR ORIGINAL

Subject: Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station - Unit No. 1
Evaluation of NSS Cooldown Transient

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

B&W has reviewed the data provided by SMUD regarding the March 20, 1978 reactor trip and resulting cooldown transient, and have performed the following evaluations:

1. Evaluation of RCP seal performance data prior, during and subsequent to the transient.
2. Evaluation of transient conditions with respect to RCP's and CRDM's.
3. Evaluation of transient conditions with respect to fuel assemblies.
4. Evaluation of transient conditions with respect to RV, RC piping, pressurizer, and OTSG's.

As a result of these evaluations, B&W concurs with SMUD's intent to return Rancho Seco to power operation at a power level at or below 75% full power with the following recommendations:

1. The following maneuvering limits be applied for this plant start-up:
 - a. The maximum rate of power increase below 20% full power shall be 10% per hour.
 - b. The maximum rate of power increase between 20% and 40% full power shall be 30% per hour.
 - c. Above 40% full power, escalation shall be limited to 3% per hour.
2. Increase surveillance of the loose parts monitoring system for at least a one week period.

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3. Performance of an operability check of on-line and redundant NNI instrumentation.
4. Establishment of a procedure for restoring NNI power in the event of a power loss and a commitment to establish by April 7, 1978 operator instructions for immediate action to limit NSS transient if NNI power cannot be immediately restored.
5. Surveillance of primary and secondary radiochemistry on a minimum of a daily basis for at least one week following start-up.

B&W HPGD's concurrence with operation of Rancho Seco above 75% full power is contingent upon our QA evaluation of data input provided by SRD and analyses performed by B&W Engineering, and you will be informed of completion of those activities and our concurrence in a timely manner.

In addition, B&W is performing an evaluation to determine the effects of the transient conditions on the Reactor Coolant System accumulative usage factor and will advise you of those results. As a further measure of verification of OTSG tube integrity, B&W requests additional inspection of the OTSG tubes during your next refueling outage. Those inspection recommendations will be forwarded to SMUD along with B&W's proposed refueling inspection plan prior to the outage.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please advise.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Joel T. Janis

Joel T. Janis
Service Manager

JTJ/hh

cc: J. J. Mattimoe
D. G. Raasch
R. P. Oubre
J. H. Johnston

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