SMUD

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

May 20, 1980

Mr. R. H. Engelken, Director
Region V Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1990 North California Boulevard
Walnut Creek Plaza, Suite 202
Walnut Creek, California 94396

Re: Operating License DPR-54
Docket No. 50-312
Reportable Occurrence 80-27

Dear Mr. Engelken:

In accordance with Technical Specifications for Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station, Section 6.9.4.2b and Regulatory Guide 1.16, Revision 4, Section C.2.b.2, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District is hereby submitting a thirty-day report of Reportable Occurrence 80-27.

In compliance with Technical Specifications, Section 4.14.1, the visual inspection of "accessible" safety system hydraulic snubbers was being performed on May 8, 1980. During that inspection, one of the fifty-eight snubbers in the "accessible" category was found to be low on fluid. As a result, the unit was determined as being inoperable.

A close inspection revealed no evidence of leakage or damage to the seals. The unit had been rebuilt during the recent refueling outage. This was done as part of the preventative maintenance schedule rather than due to the unit failing the lockup test. Either the unit was not completely filled following the rebuild or some air may have been trapped in the accumulator. The latter may have indicated a proper fluid level at the time; but, after the unit was reinstalled, the air may have been displaced resulting in the low level during the inspection.

Fluid was added to the unit to bring it to the proper level and the unit was declared operable. Since the actual cause of the low level was not determined, the particular unit will be reinspected within thirty days. If any discrepancy is noted at that time, the unit will be removed and rebuilt. If no discrepancy with respect to the unit's fluid level is found, the unit will be inspected along with the remaining fifty-seven units in the "accessible" category during the next scheduled inspection.

The unit, Snubber No. 4SW-25023-5A, is a Model HSSA-3-6 manufactured

by Bergen Paterson.

Since the plant was shut down for refueling, there were no transients nor power reductions associated with this event.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. Mattimoe

Assistant General Manager and Chief Engineer

HH:jr

cs: Director, MPIC (3) Director, ISE (30)