

Southern California Edison Company

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July 27, 1981

J. G. HAYNES

MANAGER OF NUCLEAR OPERATIONS



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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region V  
1990 North California Boulevard  
Suite 202, Walnut Creek Plaza  
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Attention: Mr. R. H. Engelken, Director

DOCKET No. 50-206  
SAN ONOFRE - UNIT 1

Dear Sir:

This letter describes an occurrence involving one of the pressurizer Power Operated Relief Valves (PORV's). This occurrence is not reportable in accordance with the requirements of the Provisional Operating License DPR-13 but is considered significant and is therefore being provided for your information.

To meet the requirements of NUREG 0737, Section II.K.3.9 San Onofre Unit 1 followed the recommendation from the NSSS supplier (Westinghouse) and turned the derivative time constant of the PID controller for the pressurizer sprays, pressurizer proportional heaters and one of the pressurizer PORV's (PORV 545) to "Off". The other PORV (PORV 546) is not equipped with a PID controller and functions only as an on/off bistable control.

During power ascension after a refueling and repair outage, a reactor trip occurred due to steam flow/feed flow mismatch on June 18, 1981. During the subsequent normal pressure transient the PID controller caused the heaters and spray valves to cycle. In conjunction with this cycling PORV 545 was momentarily opened twice. The amount of discharge was small and no perceptible change in pressurizer relief tank pressure, temperature or level was noted.

Subsequent discussions with the controller manufacturer indicated that turning the time constant to off would not remove the derivative function but instead would have the effect of accelerating the controller's response. This confirmed that the controller was not malfunctioning but was operating according to design.

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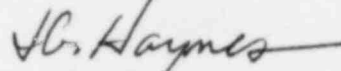
Mr. R. H. Engelken

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To temporarily resolve the above problem and meet the intent of NUREG 0737, PORV 545 was placed in MANUAL control. As a permanent solution SCE intends to remove PORV 545 from the controller output and provide it with a bistable control using a fixed pressure set-point. Westinghouse concurs with this solution. This modification will be accomplished during the steam generator inspection outage which is scheduled after 6 effective full power months of operation. The controller will remain in MANUAL until the modification is made.

If you should require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



J. G. Haynes  
Manager of Nuclear Operations

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Enclosure: Licensee Event Report 81-013

cc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Mangement Information & Program Control

Nuclear Safety Analysis Center

L. F. Miller (USNRC Resident Inspector)