

August 4, 1982

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DIRECTOR OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION ATTENTION JOHN F STOLZ CHIEF OPERATING REACTORS BRANCH 4 U S NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON DC 20555

DOCKET 5G-312
RANCHO SECO NUCLEAR GENERATION STATION
UNIT 1
REACTOR VESSEL MATERIALS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District is participating in the B&W Integrated Reactor Vessel Materials Surveillance Program with the Toledo Edison Company Davis Besse Unit 1 reactor serving as the host reactor for Rancho Seco surveillance capsules. The Technical Specifications for Rancho Seco require the submittal of a report, or an application for a facility operating license amendment, whenever (starting one year after Davis-Besse begins commercial operation at 100% full power) Davis-Besse does not maintain a cumulative reactor utilization factor of 65% or greater.

Davis-Besse reached 100% full power on July 1, 1978 and as of this date has not maintained the required utilization factor. However, the current Rancho Seco Technical Specifications related to reactor vessel material irradiation are valid for an accumulated neutron fluence corresponding to five effective full power years (EFPY) of operation. Rancho Seco will reach approximately 4.4 EFPY at the end of the current fuel cycle which is currently anticipated to occur late in 1982.

A Rancho Seco surveillance capsule was withdrawn from Davis-Besse during the second quarter of 1980. Testing and data evaluation for the material specimens in this capsule have been completed. As a result, revised Technical Specifications for operation beyond five EFPY, to eight EFPY, are being prepared and will be submitted during 1982. Another Rancho Seco surveillance capsule will be withdrawn from Davis-Besse during 1982. Testing and evaluation of the material specimens in this capsule are expected to support operation up to fifteen EFPY.

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JOHN F STOLZ -2-August 4, 1982 Therefore, as the present Technical Specifications related to reactor vessel material irradiation remain valid, and the limits will be modified before expiration to account for ongoing irradiation and to extend the applicability period, continued operation of Rancho Seco is acceptable. Wm. C. Wallinge Wm. C. Walbridge General Manager