

November 10, 1971

NOTE TO L. MANNING MUNTZING

PRESS RELATIONS - PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY -  
HUMBOLDT BAY REACTOR

We recently completed an investigation at the Humboldt Bay reactor with respect to some 49 allegations an ex-employee, a Mr. R. J. Rowen, Jr., made concerning the adequacy of the radiation protection program at the Humboldt reactor. We recently sent an enforcement letter to PG&E which cited them for two items of noncompliance found during our investigation and requested their comments concerning four other items we found which involved procedures that did not appear to be entirely adequate. None of these are of immediate safety significance.

Following our usual procedure, upon completion of the investigation, our investigator met with Mr. Rowen, the complainant, and orally informed him of our findings. Mr. Rowen had a Mr. Reid, a newspaper reporter, sit in. The conversation was recorded by Mr. Rowen. We tried to discourage the recording but to no avail. Mr. Rowen has since been given a copy of our enforcement letter.

I am informed that Mr. Reid has since approached PG&E with a request that he be permitted to review plant records. They have refused. Mr. Reid asked our investigator for a copy of the report. Our investigator informed him that such reports are exempt from disclosure under our rules and that any such requests should be addressed to me. I have received no such request.

I now understand that Mr. Reid plans a series of articles which accuse the AEC of "secret" findings pertaining to the investigation which the AEC refuses to discuss or divulge.

Our investigative report is not available to the public unless we make a finding that it should be made available

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in the public interest. In this particular case, it is important that the report not be made public because many PG&E employees were interviewed alone on a confidential basis over the strong protest of top PG&E management with whom I dealt.

John Harris, Director of PI, is working closely with me on this matter.

I will inform you of any significant developments.

Original signed by

L. D. Low

Lawrence D. Low

cc: C. K. Beck, DR  
J. Harris, PI

bcc: R. H. Engelken, CO  
R. W. Smith, CO:V

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