

LEON E. PANETTA
18TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 26, 1991

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Mr. Ivan Selin
Chairman
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Washington, D.C. 20555

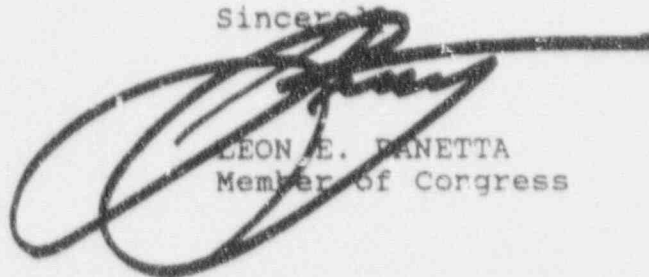
Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to request your assistance in addressing the questions raised by my constituent, Mr. Michael Orians, regarding the long-term seismic safety of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

Please find a list of Mr. Orians' questions enclosed. I would appreciate your providing me with a response to Mr. Orians' questions as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,



LEON E. PANETTA
Member of Congress

LEP/jmp
enclosure

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CONSTITUENT REQUEST

DATE: 10/24/91

STAFF MEMBER: Kristie

CONSTITUENT NAME: Mr. Michael Orians
P. O. Box 1104
ADDRESS: Morro Bay, Ca. 93443

PHONE: (805) 772-8722

Position/A ___ Information/B BBB Bill Status/C ___ Document/D ___

VIEWPOINT OR REQUEST

Issue/Subject: Age basis for evaluation of structural integrity of Diablo Nuclear Power Plant

Recently the NRC concluded that Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant would be safe in an earthquake. This conclusion was drawn after 6 years of study.

Mr. Orians would like to know if the various studies done on the structural integrity of the plant to withstand earthquake damage was based upon tests designed for a new plant or one that is 10 years old, as is Diablo. He wants to know if the studies were made on the basis of a plant having operated for 10 years and the subsequent stress this would place on such things as the steel structure. On which basis were the tests done - testing a new building or one that has been in operation for 10 years?