



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION V

1450 MARIA LANE  
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596-5368

FEB 26 1992

Docket: NRC 50-361/362

Southern California Edison Company  
Irvine Operations Center  
23 Parker Street  
Irvine, California 92718

Attention: Mr. Harold B. Ray  
Senior Vice President, Nuclear

Subject: NRC Requalification Examinations at San Onofre Nuclear Generating  
Station Units 2 and 3

On January 27 - 30, 1992, the NRC administered requalification examinations to employees of your company holding Reactor Operator and Senior Reactor Operator licenses to operate your San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Units 2 and 3.

As a result of these examinations, two Senior Reactor Operators and six Reactor Operators met the minimum qualification requirements for license renewal. The results of these examinations will be included in the next requalification program evaluation.

The NRC's policy is to evaluate a minimum of twelve previously unevaluated operators to complete a program evaluation. However, the eight previously unevaluated operators and seven previously evaluated operators who were examined in this examination collectively performed at a level for the NRC to continue considering your requalification program to be satisfactory, until the next requalification program evaluation. That evaluation is currently scheduled for January, 1994. This date was selected based on your request, and your staff's statement that all licensed operators who will need an NRC requalification examination in FY 92 - 94 to renew their licenses will be able to receive one using this schedule.

The following findings of particular concern were identified during these examinations:

- During the simulator examinations, the NRC examination team observed significant variations in crew communication practices. The NRC examiners saw only occasional efforts to acknowledge communications between crew members. Further, the crews exhibited no consistent formality of communication. This inconsistency appeared to be a symptom of a lack of clear performance standards set by management.
- The Senior Reactor Operators demonstrated weak command and control skills in their coordination of crew activity. This was apparent in the division of activity between the Shift Superintendent and Control Room Supervisor. The Shift Superintendent would periodically direct the

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board operators to perform a task without informing the Control Room Supervisor. Also, the Shift Superintendent and Control Room Supervisor would on occasion caucus privately, excluding the board operators from providing input during decision making. This appears to be another symptom of a lack of clear performance standards.

The simulator experienced one episode of locking up during an examination scenario. Further, there were episodes where the simulator would not allow the performance of dynamic Job Performance Measure tasks. The simulator also did not accurately model an important cross connection of the Charging and High Pressure Safety Injection systems. The NRC is concerned that maintenance of the simulator may need improvement to maintain the simulator as an evaluation tool for license examinations.

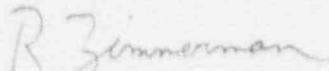
You are requested to provide to us within 30 days of receipt of this letter a response describing the corrective actions you have taken and those you propose to take regarding the concerns identified above.

The responses requested by this letter are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

After the examinations on January 31, 1992, the preliminary findings were discussed with members of your staff as detailed in the enclosed report.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and enclosure (1) and (2) will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Sincerely,



Roy Zimmerman, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety and Projects

Enclosures:

1. Examination Report No. 50-361/362-OL-92-01
2. Simulation Facility Report

FEB 23 1992

cc w/enclosures (1), and (2):  
R. Cross, RV (2 copies)  
J. Reeder, Training Manager SONGS

cc w/enclosure (1) only:  
H. E. Morgan, Vice President and Site Manager, SONGS  
K. L. Krieger Jr., Station Manager, SONGS  
G. Kalman, NRR/PD5  
R. Gallo, NRR/DLPQ/OLB  
K. Perkins, RV  
C. Caldwell, SRI  
P. Johnson, RV  
J. Martin, RV  
R. Zimmerman, RV  
D. Kirsch, RV  
L. Miller, RV  
G. Johnston, RV  
B. Faulkenberry, RV  
S. Richards, RV  
State of CA

cc w/enclosures (1) and (2):  
RSP/Document Control Desk (RIDS)

FEB 24 1992

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*2/28/92*

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ZIMMERMAN *AZ*

2/26/92

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*ETC. at 6:00 PM 3*