

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION V

Report No. 50-312/85-26

Docket No. 50-312

License No. DPR-54

Licensee: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
P. O. Box 15830
Sacramento, California 95813

Facility Name: Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station

Inspection at: Clay Station, California

Inspection conducted December 5 and 6, 1985

Inspectors: K. M. Prendergast
K. Prendergast, Emergency Preparedness Analyst

12/19/85
Date Signed

Approved By: R. F. Fish
R. F. Fish, Chief
Emergency Preparedness Section

12/19/85
Date Signed

Summary:

Inspection on December 5 and 6, 1985 (Report No. 50-312/85-35)

Areas Inspected: Announced inspection of a training drill for Public Information Officers (PIOs) and followup inspection of the meteorology program. The inspection involved about 14 hours onsite by one NRC inspector. Inspection procedures 92701 and 82206 were covered.

Results: No significant deficiencies or violations of NRC requirements were identified.

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DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

R. Myers, Supervising Emergency Planner
R. Le Neave, Emergency Planner
M. Hardin, Engineering Specialist
K. Shearer, Public Information Officer

Contractor

M. Borter, Emergency Planner, Impell
D. Nizolek, Emergency Planner, Impell

2. Public Information Officer/Unified Dose Assessment Center Drill

The licensee held a drill on December 5, 1985, to demonstrate the adequacy of the telecopy system and to provide training for SMUD and county Public Information Officers (PIOs).

Drill participants included representatives and PIOs from SMUD, the State of California, and the counties of Amador, San Joaquin, and Sacramento. The portions of the drill that involved participation by the offsite agencies is under the purview of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and these portions were not evaluated by this agency.

The following observations were made by the NRC inspector in the EOF during the drill.

- a) News releases transferred to the Emergency News Center (ENC) were accurate and timely.
- b) There were adequate facilities available for the transfer of informational releases to the ENC and for communication between local and state officials.
- c) News releases for the licensee were properly authorized prior to their distribution.
- d) Periodic news updates were released to keep individuals in the ENC informed of plant status.

No violations or deficiencies were identified in the review of this program area.

3. Followup on Previously Identified Items

(Open) 50-312/85-05-02, Review Improvements to the Meteorology Program

10 CFR 50 requires adequate provisions for determining the magnitude of and for continually accessing the impact of a release of radioactive

materials. An adequate meteorological program is necessary to satisfy this requirement.

NRC inspection report 50-312/85-05 describes a historical review of problems with the meteorological program and corrective actions to resolve them. The inspection report also documented that some areas of the licensee's meteorological measurements program (MMP) still required further effort. Subsequent to that report the licensee met with the NRC (August 12, 1985) to discuss their plans for resolving problems in the MMP and introduced a meteorological consultant hired to evaluate the MMP and to make recommendations for its improvement.

The MMP was again reviewed during this inspection. From this review it appears that the licensee has expended considerable effort to eliminate discrepancies in meteorological data. Actions taken to improve the MMP included the installation of a redesigned temperature and delta temperature module, insulating the meteorological equipment enclosure and providing temperature stabilization, moving wind indication and temperature sensors, upgrading and implementing new procedures, installing precipitation instrumentation and replacing all four temperature sensors.

The licensee has also included the MMP into the Management Safety Review Committee audit list and performed its first audit on the system with the help of the newly acquired consulting meteorologist. Audit No. 0-745 was performed on October 11, 1985, and documented improvements, in the licensee's MMP. However, according to the audit, discrepancies still exist between the primary and backup channel temperature instrumentation at the 60 meter level.

In summary the licensee has made considerable improvements in the meteorological measurements program. Apparently, the only areas requiring additional improvement and further investigation are the delta temperature instrumentation and the inconsistency between the two sets of temperature instrumentation (primary and backup). The licensee is trying to acquire four matched temperature sensors to replace the present sensors. Once the new sensors have been acquired and installed, this area will be reevaluated by the NRC. This item is still considered open.

4. Exit Interview

An exit interview was held on December 6, 1985. During this meeting the licensee was informed of the preliminary findings of this inspection. There were no violations of NRC requirements identified within the scope of this inspection. The following items were specifically discussed.

- a) The results of the PIO drill indicated that the SMUD PIO was capable of performing his duties during an emergency and that facilities available were adequate.
- b) Although the licensee has put considerable effort towards improvements in the MMP, inconsistencies between the primary and backup temperature sensors still exist. The licensee is still investigating improvements to resolve this problem.