



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 1, 1998

Mr. Harold B. Ray
Executive Vice President
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P. O. Box 128
San Clemente, California 92674-0128

SUBJECT: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY REQUEST TO USE AN
ALTERNATIVE TO ASME CODE SECTION XI RE USE OF CODE CASE N-546
FOR THE SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3
(TAC NO. MA0242 AND MA0243)

Dear Mr. Ray:

By letters dated November 13, 1996, and June 9, 1998, Southern California Edison Company (SCE or the licensee), requested approval to use an alternative to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Section XI pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Units 2 and 3. Specifically, you requested approval to use the provisions of Code Case N-546, "Alternative Requirements for Qualification of VT-2 Examination Personnel, Section XI, Division 1."

The staff has reviewed your submittal and has determined that the request to implement the alternative contained in Code Case N-546 is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), in that the alternative provides an acceptable level of quality and safety relating to the qualification of VT-2 examination personnel.

Use of Code Case N-546 is authorized for the current interval at SONGS Units 2 and 3 until such time as the Code Case is approved by reference in Regulatory Guide 1.147. At that time, if you intend to continue to implement this Code Case, you will need to follow all provisions in Code Case N-546 with limitations issued in Regulatory Guide 1.147, if any. Use of the Code Case for subsequent intervals should be included in the submittal of the 10-year program plan for that interval.

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PDR ADOCK 05000361
F PDR

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The staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

William H. Bateman, Project Director
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-361
and 50-362

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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*For previous concurrences see attached ORC

DOCUMENT NAME: SOA0242.SE

OFC	PDIV-2/PM	PDIV-2/LA	NRR/ECGB*	OGC*	PDIV-2
NAME	CPostlusny	EPeyton	GBagchi	MYoung	WBateman
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cc w/encl:

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