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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001
June 5, 1998

DOCKETED
USNRC

'98 JUN -5 P5:09

Ms. Patricia Borchmann
176 Walker Way
Vista, CA 92083

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKING AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Dear Ms. Borchmann:

This letter responds to the Petition you filed pursuant to Section 2.206 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 2.206) on June 23, 1997, and supplemented by your letters dated June 28, July 11, and October 21, 1997. In your Petition, you specified a number of concerns related to the operation of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), and requested that the Unit 2 and Unit 3 outages be extended until all the outstanding public health and safety concerns that you identified were fully resolved.

On September 22, 1997, and February 17, 1998, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission or NRC) staff acknowledged receipt of your Petition and stated that pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations, your Petition was being referred to me for action and that it would be acted upon within a reasonable time. You were also informed in the September 22 letter that there was insufficient evidence to conclude that a substantial public health and safety hazard existed that warranted the immediate action you requested.

In our responses to you, we informed you that our review would be limited to two issues. We also informed you that the remaining concerns did not meet the criteria for review under 10 CFR 2.206 and would not, therefore, be considered in our final evaluation. The staff's review of the concerns is provided in the enclosed Director's Decision (DD-98-05). The first issue evaluated in the Director's Decision involves whether our responses to previous SONGS concerns, when considered as a whole, reveal trends or systemic problems associated with the safe operation of the units. The second issue involves the validity of the SONGS evacuation time analysis. For the reasons stated in the Director's Decision, your request related to the SONGS units is denied.

A copy of this Decision will be filed with the Secretary of the Commission for the Commission to review in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206(c). As provided by this regulation, the Decision will constitute the final action of the Commission 25 days after the date of issuance of the Decision unless the Commission, on its own motion, institutes a review of the Decision within that time. The documents cited in the enclosed Decision that are not commercially available are available for review at the Local Public Document Room for SONGS located at the Main Library, University of California, Irvine, California, 92713.

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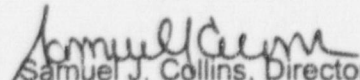
Ms. Patricia Borchmann

- 2 -

June 5, 1998

I have also enclosed a copy of the notice "Issuance of Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206," which contains the complete text of DD-98- 05 that is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,


Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-361
and 50-362
(10 CFR § 2.206)

Enclosures: 1. Director's Decision
2. Notice

cc w/encls: See next page

cc w/encs:

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