

Supplemental File

DLR:CTE  
Docket No. 50-205

SEP 23 1963

Sonoma County Association for  
the Development of Bodaga Bay  
6950 Commerce Boulevard  
P. O. Box 272  
Bohnert Park, California

Attention: Mr. Paul Golis  
Secretary

Gentlemen:

This is in reply to your letter of July 9, 1963 concerning the proposed construction of a nuclear power plant at Bodaga Bay and requesting copies of the laws and regulations under which the Atomic Energy Commission operates, and information concerning the safety record of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Enclosed are copies of the Commission's regulations, 10 CFR Parts 1, 20, 50 and 100 which relate to the construction and operation of nuclear power reactors, a copy of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and a pamphlet describing the licensing procedures of the AEC. Also enclosed is a copy of a brief submitted by the Commission to the Supreme Court of the United States, United States of America and Atomic Energy Commission v. International Union and Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO, et al. Appendix G thereto is an analysis of alleged reactor accidents. The enclosed copy of TID 6260 and supplements thereto concerning accidents in the atomic energy program covers all types of accidents, including those involving radiation, in AEC and contractor plants, but does not include licensed activities. We will send you a copy of the latest supplement as soon as it is available.

No death or injury has ever resulted from a nuclear incident at a licensed reactor. Three deaths did occur at the SL-1 reactor in Idaho in 1961; however, the SL-1 was not a licensed reactor. It was an experimental reactor designed to permit manipulation and experimentation which, in the case of licensed reactors, is precluded both

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by interlocks and by inherent nuclear characteristics. Since it was an experimental reactor, it was located at the National Reactor Testing Station at Idaho. That site is used by the Atomic Energy Commission for the construction and operation of reactors employing concepts which the Commission feels should be tested in the isolation afforded by the National Reactor Testing Station.

Despite the fact that about 5% of the fission products, i.e., radioactive material generated in the operation of the reactor, was released, the extent of contamination of the surrounding area was quite limited. This was true even though the SL-1, as an experimental reactor and, therefore, located in a remote area, was housed in a building which was not designed to afford more than a very minimum amount of confinement of radioactive material. In contrast, nuclear power reactors which are licensed by the AEC for construction and operation must be provided with containment such that no serious exposure of individuals outside the plant boundaries would occur even in the event of a "maximum credible accident".

There is enclosed a copy of the Annual Report by the Atomic Energy Commission to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, for the year, 1962. You will find, beginning on Page 398, information concerning AEC and contractor safety for the year, 1962, and beginning on Page 436, information concerning radiation incidents reported by licensees and investigated by the AEC. You will note that neither of these listings is confined to reactor incidents but include various other incidents. Similar tabulations are included as a part of previous AEC annual reports. You will find these reports in the AEC Repository Library at the University of California at Berkeley.

Sincerely yours,

Distribution:  
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Public Document Room (2)  
C. T. Edwards

Original Signed by  
Eber R. Price

Eber R. Price  
Assistant Director  
Division of Licensing  
and Regulation

Enclosures:  
As stated above

OFFICE ▶	BLR	OGC	DLP		
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DATE ▶	8-12-63	9-10-63	9-18-63		