

QUESTION 14      Why hasn't the NRC required Edison to complete the facility that is necessary to effectively implement emergency planning and evacuation procedures (the Emergency Operations Center)?

ANSWER

The Emergency Operations Facility (EOF) for the San Onofre site is complete in all respects.

JIM BATES

SEN. DISTRICT CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE  
ADMINISTRATION

CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

May 11, 1989

Lando W. Zech, Jr.  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Zech:

Thank you for responding to my questions at the hearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power. I would appreciate your written response to the following questions:

1. Why was the Connecticut Yankee (Northeast Utilities) reactor (Haddam Neck, CN) required by the NRC to make repairs to its thermal heat shield in late 1987 (which had similar broken bolts and cracked supports), but now the NRC is close to allowing So. Calif. Edison to restart San Onofre 1 without requiring the repairs to be made?
2. NRC staff has raised a number of other issues and problems related to San Onofre 1 that they want settled before allowing Edison to restart the reactor. Specifically, what are those concerns; and will NRC make the list available.
3. When exactly is NRC proposing to allow Edison to restart the San Onofre, 1?
4. How much will repairs to the thermal heat shield cost, and how long will the repairs take. Will ratepayers pay the bill or will the shareholders pay part of the cost?
5. If NRC allows San Onofre 1 to restart without repairing the thermal heat shield, how specifically and how frequently will Edison perform monitoring of the problem during the time the plant is allowed to operate?
6. Edison has said there is no safety problem even if the heat shield came lose and fell, because a "shelf" would catch it, and it would fall only 11 inches. Isn't there a danger that if a 24-ton steel cylinder fell 11 inches that other bolts, supports or other material might cause blockage of coolant and possible cause uneven or inhibited cooling?
7. When was the most recent NRC "Systems Assessment of Licensee Performance" (SALPS) evaluation procedure conducted for San Onofre 1?
8. What was the NRC's opinion of the assessment?

5/12..To OCA to Prepare Response for Signature of  
Chairman ...Date due Comm: May 26...Cpys to: OCA  
to Ack, Cmis, OGC, EDO...89-0471

(RESPONSE SHOULD BE COORD WITH EDO)

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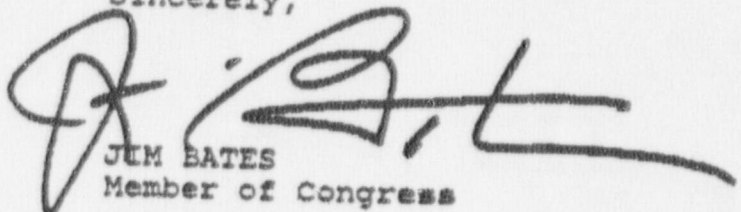
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San Onofre Units 1, 2 & 3

9. Why has not the NRC demanded that the modifications be made and the deadline be met regarding the modifications required by the NRC as an urgency measure 10 years ago as a result of the Three Mile Island accident?
  10. Why hasn't Edison been required (under the TMI Action Plan) to complete the control room design review or the Safety Parameter Display System for San Onofre 1?
  11. San Onofre 1 has also not been required to install proper instrumentation to detect inadequate reactor core cooling, nor has NRC demanded that Edison complete testing and analysis for several safety-related valves and pipes associated with cooling. Why?
  12. How can it be assumed that this reactor can operate safely with a damaged thermal heat shield since Edison has not yet installed the proper equipment to facilitate monitoring of adequate reactor core cooling?
  13. NRC has allowed Edison to escape deadlines for San Onofre's revisions in its accident prevention and response procedures plan. Why?
  14. Why hasn't the NRC required Edison to complete the facility that is necessary to effectively implement emergency planning and evacuation procedures (the Emergency Operations Center)?
- I look forward to receiving your answers to each of the questions.

Sincerely,



JIM BATES  
Member of Congress

cc: Mayor Maureen O'Connor  
San Diego City Council