



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 17, 2020

Dr. David G. Victor, Chair
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Community Engagement Panel
UC San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive #0519
La Jolla, CA 92093-0519

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO E-MAIL REGARDING SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR
GENERATING STATION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PANEL**

Dear Dr. Victor:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I want to thank you for your August 18, 2020, e-mail to the NRC Chairman and our Region IV Administrator Scott Morris highlighting your and your colleagues' role on the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Community Engagement Panel. In your e-mail, you specifically requested information on two topics: terrorism-related threats and the status of a specific security-related rulemaking.

The NRC's security requirements for independent spent fuel storage installations (ISFSI) continue to provide adequate protection of public health and safety. The NRC maintains an intelligence unit that continuously monitors the threat environment directed toward nuclear facilities regulated by the agency and performs threat assessments and related intelligence analyses (e.g., adversary tactics, techniques, intent, use). The NRC uses this data to inform its security requirements, which licensees implement to provide adequate protection against terrorist threats.

Regarding rulemaking on ISFSI security requirements, in 2018, the NRC proceeded with a rulemaking with the exclusive scope of codifying the requirements of the ISFSI-related security orders issued shortly after the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001. During the development of the associated regulatory basis, the staff identified questions related to whether a rulemaking focused on codifying the orders would be cost-justified. On July 10, 2019, the NRC conducted a public meeting to seek stakeholder input to inform the path forward. A summary of this public meeting can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) via Accession No. ML19198A014. The NRC is evaluating this issue, as well as a related petition for rulemaking (PRM-72-6, ADAMS Accession No. ML083470148). Furthermore, licensees are continuing to maintain the ISFSI-related security orders, which provide adequate protection of public health and safety and the common defense and security.

D. Victor

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I appreciate your continued interest in these matters. If you have any questions, need additional information, or would like to further discuss, please contact John McKirgan of my staff at 301-415-5722 or john.mckirgan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

John W. Lubinski

Digitally signed by John W.

Lubinski

Date: 2020.09.17 15:48:22 -04'00'

John W. Lubinski, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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