



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 14, 1984

The Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

SUBJECT: ACRS REPORT ON DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

During its 286th meeting, February 9-11, 1984, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) met with representatives of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and the NRC Staff to discuss selected issues relating to the operation of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. A Subcommittee meeting was held in Los Angeles, California on January 19, 1984 to consider the safety significance of the deficiencies found and corrected by the Independent Design Verification Program and the PG&E internal design review effort. Members of the Subcommittee visited the plant on January 18, 1984.

During the Committee meeting, we explored the provisions made to ensure that the plant would not be severely damaged by a turbine missile generated by turbine overspeed resulting from failures of seismically nonqualified turbine control equipment during an earthquake. This question is not unique to the Diablo Canyon units, but may be of somewhat greater concern here because of the higher frequency of seismic events at this site. We believe that the question of whether the probability of such an event is acceptably low should be resolved in a manner and on a schedule satisfactory to the NRC Staff. We wish to be kept informed.

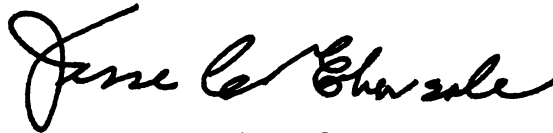
We have noted the lack of significant Navy or commercial PWR operating experience in the shift foreman and senior control operator positions. However, the operating staff is otherwise well qualified with respect to size, years of work experience on the job site, hours of simulator operation, classroom and on-the-job (prenuclear heat) training, licensing and relicensing performance, and experience in fossil steam operations. PG&E has also provided additional start-up personnel and training.

We also noted the existence of a significant number of allegations regarding this plant. These are being investigated, and we believe are being appropriately considered by the NRC Staff.

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Based on the information developed in these meetings, and considering the above comments, we find no reason to alter the conclusions stated in the Committee's report dated July 14, 1978 regarding operation of this nuclear plant.

Sincerely,



Jesse C. Ebersole
Chairman

References:

1. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Supplements 18-21 to "Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Operation of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2," USNRC Report NUREG-0675
2. Teledyne Engineering Services, "Independent Design Verification Program," Final Report dated 1983
3. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, "Phase I Final Report, Design Verification," Submitted in sections from August 20, 1982 through October 19, 1983
4. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, "Phase II Final Report, Design Verification," dated June 1983