



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

April 9, 1984

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

SUBJECT: ACRS REPORT ON DESIGN CONTROL MEASURES AT THE DIABLO CANYON
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

During its 288th meeting, April 5-7, 1984, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards reviewed the technical issues arising from the Diablo Canyon Licensee's design control measures for small and large bore piping, as requested in your letter dated April 4, 1984. During this review we had the benefit of presentations by members of the NRC Staff, including NRC Inspector Isa Yin, by representatives of the Pacific Gas & Electric Company (Licensee) and of the Independent Design Verification Program organizations, and by Mr. Charles Stokes, a member of the public. We also had the benefit of the documents listed.

We were informed that there is no longer disagreement between the NRC Staff and Mr. Yin. They now agree on a series of actions that must be completed by the Licensee and by the NRC Staff to resolve certain questions, and agree that these should be completed before operation at full power. They agree also that operation and low power testing at levels up to five percent of full power can be permitted without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

We agree that it is acceptable to permit low power operation at this time. We believe that such operation will not compromise corrective actions that may be required.

We believe that the several actions proposed by the NRC Staff for completion before operation above five percent power will provide a suitable basis for considering operation at full power.

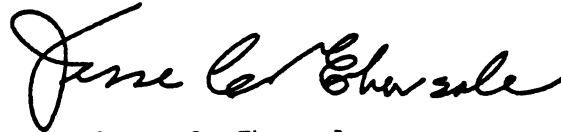
The Licensee has agreed to the actions proposed by the NRC Staff before operation above five percent power with one exception. This exception relates to the need for or desirability of "hot shimming" for closely spaced restraints on large bore piping. We believe that this requirement deserves further technical review and discussion between the NRC Staff and the Licensee.

April 9, 1984

We understand that allegations such as those made by Mr. Stokes will be investigated and appropriately considered by the NRC Staff.

Additional comments by ACRS members Robert Axtmann, Jesse Ebersole, and David Okrent are presented below.

Sincerely,



Jesse C. Ebersole
Chairman

Additional Comments by ACRS members Robert Axtmann, Jesse Ebersole, and David Okrent

We agree with the ACRS conclusion on operation at five percent power.

In view of the limited time available for review of this matter, the bulk of documentation, and the lateness of some documents in reaching us, our review was of necessity limited in its depth.

Prior to an ascent in power above five percent, the NRC Staff should prepare a document discussing in considerable detail how the various relevant issues raised by its inspectors and others have been handled. The NRC Staff should also perform a careful examination of a selected sample of actual construction details to help assure that the appropriate quality has been accomplished.

We believe the ACRS should be given an opportunity to review these results prior to the achievement of full power at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

References:

1. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Transcript of the March 26 and 27, 1984 meeting in the matter of Discussion/Possible Vote on Diablo Canyon Criticality and Low Power Operation, Pages 68-102, 233-256, 263, 279, and 281-287
2. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Transcript of the March 28, 1984 meeting between Staff, Applicant and Intervenor on Diablo Canyon, Pages 1-124
3. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Transcript of the meeting on April 2, 1984 in the matter of Pacific Gas & Electric Company on Diablo Canyon, Pages 1-272
4. I. T. Yin, "Diablo Canyon 1, Summary of Findings Resulting From Follow-up of Allegations and NRC Independent Overview," Draft dated March 29, 1984

5. I. T. Yin, "Diablo Canyon 1, Draft Investigation/Inspection Report," Rev. 3, dated March 29, 1984
6. Memorandum, with enclosure, from Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director, Division of Licensing, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to Chairman Palladino and Commissioners, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Subject: Diablo Canyon - Allegations Concerning Small Bore Piping and Supports (Board Notification No. 83-171), dated October 27, 1983
7. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Operation of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2," USNRC Report NUREG-0675, Supplement No. 22, dated March 1984
8. Exhibit A, "Affidavit of Charles Stokes," dated November 1983 to Motion to Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board, "Joint Interveners' Motion to Augment or, in the Alternative, to Reopen the Record" in the Matter of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2), dated February 14, 1984
9. Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Answer in Opposition to Joint Interveners' Motion to Augment or, in the Alternative, to Reopen the Record in the Matter of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2) without attachments, dated March 6, 1984
10. Letter No. DCL-84-131, from J. O. Schuyler, Pacific Gas and Electric Company to Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Subject: Response to Board Notification 84-071 on Diablo Canyon Unit 1, dated April 4, 1984
11. Summary of Remarks of Charles Stokes Before the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Concerning the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, dated April 6, 1984
12. Letter No. P105-6 from Robert L. Cloud, Robert L. Cloud Associates, Inc., to Mr. G. A. Maneatis, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Mr. H. R. Denton, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Mr. J. B. Martin, Region V, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, regarding allegations at Diablo Canyon, dated February 3, 1984