

From: Diane Jackson , *NKA*
To: Robert Palla *NKA*
Date: 8/23/00 4:16PM
Subject: EP and seismic

Bob -

Here's the e-mail we discussed that Falk had sent to us just after the Commission meeting in March 1999 that started the TWG.

Diane

8/22/00

From: Falk Kantor
To: Brian Sheron, Frank Miraglia, James O'Brien, Jo...
Date: Thu, Mar 18, 1999 2:49 PM
Subject: EARTHQUAKES and EP

Regarding the Chairman's question yesterday concerning earthquakes and emergency planning, as Larry indicated the Commission reached a decision in the Diablo Canyon (and San Onofre) proceedings that no specific emergency preparedness measures need to be established to account for earthquakes.

As summarized in SECY-86-268 (Withdrawal of Proposed Rule Regarding Consideration of Earthquakes and Emergency Planning), the Commission's decision in Diablo was based on the view that for earthquakes up to and including the SSE, the seismic design of the plant rendered extremely small the probability that such an earthquake would result in a radiological release. While a radiological release might result from an earthquake greater than the SSE, the probability was extremely low and emergency response would have marginal benefit because of its impairment by offsite damage. The likelihood of a contemporaneous occurrence of both a radiological release from the plant caused by an event other than an earthquake, and an earthquake that would complicate an emergency response was believed to be extremely low. The Commission bolstered its view by observing that existing emergency plans have considerable flexibility to handle the disruptions caused by various natural phenomena which occur with far greater frequency than do damaging earthquakes and this implicitly includes some flexibility to handle disruptions from earthquakes as well.

CC: Bruce Boger, Daniel Barss, David Matthews, Edwi...