



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

July 16, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: File

FROM: Eric Ruesch **/RA/**
Technical Support Branch, RIV

SUBJECT: NOTE TO FILE

Attached is a letter to Mr. Leopoldo L. Lopez, from Elmo Collins, dated March 20, 2012, in response to his letter regarding safety of California's nuclear power plants. The letter was entered into ADAMS as non-publicly available. This Note-to-File is changing the properties of the letter to "publicly available." The concurrence block has been updated to document this change.



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March 20, 2012

Leopoldo L. Lopez
7414 Arizona Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Dear Mr. Lopez:

Thank you for your inquiry about the safety of California's nuclear power plants. The NRC is committed to ensuring that they, along with the rest of the nation's 104 operating reactors, continue to operate safely. In our recently completed annual assessment of Diablo Canyon and San Onofre, we concluded that the two stations continue to operate in a manner that preserves public health and safety.

Our Reactor Oversight Process uses a variety of tools to monitor and evaluate the performance of all operating commercial nuclear power reactors. This rigorous process focuses on the plant activities that are most important to safety. It includes a series of periodic inspection activities and regular reviews of operational performance. In addition to regular inspections conducted by teams from our regional office, we have permanently assigned resident inspectors at both San Onofre and Diablo Canyon to provide ongoing regulatory oversight. You can find the results of our inspections of these plants—and our most current assessments of their safety performance—on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/oversight.html>.

Also as a part of our commitment to safe operation, we continue to evaluate and act on lessons learned from the March 2011 nuclear accident in Japan. We will ensure that any appropriate safety enhancements are implemented at the nuclear power plants here in the United States. If you would like more detailed information about our response to the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident, you can find it on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/japan/japan-info.html>.

Regarding your concern about aging reactors, we wrote a detailed response to the series of articles published last summer by the Associated Press. You can read it on the NRC Web site at: <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1117/ML11174A232.pdf>.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Elmo E. Collins
Regional Administrator

RIV Response to GT 20120094 ADAMS Accession No.: ML12199A071

ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: EAR
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive
Category A.	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive
KEYWORD:		

DRS/TSB	C:TSB	D:DRP	RA:RIV	OEDO	RA:RIV
EARuesch	RDAlexander	KMKennedy	EECollins	LWChang	EECollins
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