



CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

March 6, 1981

Mr. Samuel Chilk
Secretary of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chilk:

As Deputy Director of Emergency Services in San Clemente, I am charged with the responsibility of preparing response plans in accordance with NRC guidelines. For the last six months my department has been extensively involved in upgrading our annex in accordance with NUREG 0654. At this point, I have a problem that I need resolved.

One of the key issues in our community is the question of the NRC requirement for alerting systems. While no one doubts the necessity for an alerting system, there is considerable controversy regarding the specifications being required in our case.

Let me be more specific. Southern California Edison has prepared specifications for the installation of a siren alerting system. These specifications, when presented to our local Planning Commission and City Council, have resulted in significant citizen concern. The reasons for this are:

1. Our community has been attempting to underground all utilities and remove poles from the skyline. Most of these proposed sirens are going into residential areas and are in direct conflict with the community's sense of aesthetics.
2. Both the Planning Commission and the Council have raised questions as to why other alternatives are prohibited, such as public address systems and NOAA type radio systems.

I have attempted to obtain documentation or an interpretation of the specific regulation that requires these sirens from FEMA and NRC personnel. I have been unsuccessful in determining if the city has any right to reject the siren installations in lieu of an alternative technology. I am requesting that someone from your office give me specific documentation that supports the Edison Company statement that the currently engineered system is the only alternative that our community must accept. I am anxiously awaiting your reply.

Sincerely,

R. J. Coleman
Director of Fire Protection

RJC:ec

cc: Planning Commission, City Council &
City Manager

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