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SUBJECT: Supports licensing of facilities.

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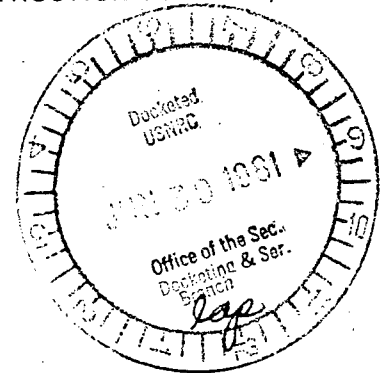


CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.

June 26, 1981

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: NRC Docket #50-361-OL
#50-362-OL
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Units II & III



Dear Commissioners:

This month you will be deciding whether or not to license SONGS II and III. What I want to know is why aren't we going full scale with nuclear power in this country? It's ridiculous to burn oil for electricity. We already know there is only a limited supply. We need to use oil for chemical feed stocks, to make plastics, synthetics, agricultural uses, not to mention cars and trucks.

Yet, according to the San Diego Union, every month SDG&E is burning \$13 million worth of high grade oil that could be saved by generating nuclear electricity through SONGS II and III. Now you have some self-styled, self-taught geologist--who is supposed to be "pure" because he never studied geology in college and he never worked for the utility industry--and he's making claims that the geological formations around San Onofre make the operation of SONGS II and III unsafe. Who are we trying to kid?

Well, I never studied geology in college and I say it's safe. And I also think if you're going to accept his testimony as "expert" then you should accept mine as "expert" too! Look, if there ever is an earthquake of 8 points on the Richter scale people are going to die from a lot more than radiation. Take the freeways for example; where were the Friends of the Earth and this self-styled geologist when the freeways were being built over major fault systems in California? Are we going to tear down all the freeways and construct them in safer areas? No. Why? Because it's too expensive. Are we going to tear down all the houses that have been built near faults that haven't had any activity in 125,000 years? No. Why? Because people would rather live where they want to live and take the risk.

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We live with risks every day. Nobody wants to see anyone die, but everyone who drives on the freeways know they take a chance that some drunk-driver will prevent them from ever getting to their destination. Why do they do it? Because the rewards far outweigh the risks.

To my way of thinking, these "Friends" of the Earth are the drunk-drivers of the energy crisis. They meander through the regulatory freeways presenting half-truths and undocumented suppositions, and they are preventing the rest of us from getting to our original destination: Energy Independence!

They want to live in a zero-risk world, but I have news for them. As soon as you're born, your life is at risk. One day you're going to die, hopefully it will be from old age, but it ain't necessarily so. There is no such thing as a zero-risk anything. Even mother's milk is harmful to some babies.

SONGS II and III have been constructed using state-of-the-art techniques. The contractors have bent over backwards to make those plants safe. They have been conscientious in every step of the way. They have done everything possible to limit the potential risks. And now, some self-taught geologist has invented a sketchy theory complaining about one more "potential" risk which he hopes will scare people into more delays, more studies and eventually abandonment of the \$3.3 billion project. Balderdash!

We need SONGS II and III right now. We need to gain energy independence right now. We need you to approve the licensing of those two units right now so we can at least make a start on the road of economic recovery. That's my vote. I hope you vote the same.

Yours truly,

CONTRERAS BROS. CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.



GILBERT R. CONTRERAS
Chairman of The Board

GRC:jjw