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Forwards archaeological rept to convey info re cultural resources
assessment of transmission lines assoc w/subj facil.

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Southern California Edison Company



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October 13, 1978

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
ATTN: V. A. Moore, Assistant Director
for Environmental Projects
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
Units 2 and 3

This letter is being submitted to convey information to the Commission relative to the cultural resources assessment of the transmission lines associated with San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3. In 1974, Edison's consultant Paul E. Langenwalter, conducted an investigation of the transmission line corridors and located eight cultural sites on the segment of the line from Santiago Tap to Santiago Substation.

In the Final Environmental Impact Report issued by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in January 1977 on the San Onofre to Santiago Tap, 220 kV Transmission Line for Southern California Edison Company, the following statement was included:

"Edison's (the applicant's) archaeological consultant is preparing a report intended to aid the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff in determining the potential National Register qualification of the sites. Edison (the applicant) is continuing to work with the consultant to avoid and mitigate if necessary all potential impact to the archaeological

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sites (Page 8, Item No. SO-004, Southern California Edison Company Application No. 55395, San Onofre 220 kV Transmission Line)."

As part of Edison's present operating license proceedings with the NRC staff and the California Office of Historic Preservation, it was noted that no such report evaluating the potential National Register qualification of the sites had been submitted. Accordingly, in August 1978, Edison commissioned a consultant, Mr. William A. Dodge, ARCSEARCH, to conduct a survey of the archaeological sites identified by Langenwaller in 1974. In accordance with the request of Mr. Oliver Lynch, Jr. of your staff, six copies of the assessment conducted by Mr. William A. Dodge are enclosed.

Seven of the eight sites were revisited by Mr. Dodge. The eighth site was not located on Edison's right-of-way and could not be impacted by construction activities associated with transmission line reconductoring.

Of the seven sites revisited by Mr. Dodge, four could not be located. Three of these sites have been destroyed by private property owner activities such as discing and plowing. The fourth site was reported by Langenwaller as essentially destroyed by road construction between 1965 and 1967. The present study confirms Langenwaller's observations and adds that no artifacts were found.

Three of the seven sites within the SCE right-of-way were located and re-recorded. Mr. Dodge concludes that the three sites have been substantially altered through time to such an extent that their scientific integrity has been greatly diminished. Therefore, while their description and recording are of importance, the further research potential of these sites is limited, and as such they do not warrant inclusion on the National Register.

No new transmission line construction is required for the segment of the transmission line where the eight archaeological sites are located. The existing transmission line on this segment has been reconductored and this activity used existing access roads and crane pads. No new archaeological resources were discovered during reconductoring.

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Copies of the eligibility report are being supplied to the Commission and the State Historic Preservation Officer for California in compliance with 36 CFR 800 and Executive Order 11593. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact me at (213) 572-1401, or Dennis Cox at (213) 572-2641.

JLP Bushen

Enclosures