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SUBJECT: Discusses plan to obtain baseline readings of core exit thermocouples (CEIT) loop resistances to detect degrading or failed CEIT. Inadequate core cooling (ICC) sys detectable & interim ICC should be acceptable until final sys in place.

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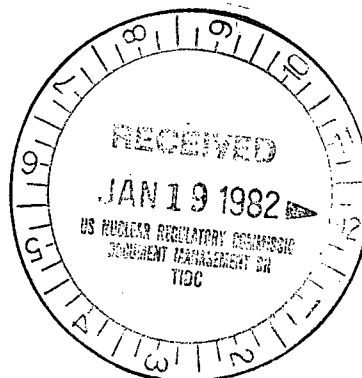
January 18, 1982

TELEPHONE
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Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. Frank Miraglia, Branch Chief
Licensing Branch No. 3
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



SCE's letters of December 16, 1981 and January 13, 1982 addressed concerns raised by NRC management during the November 18, 1981 and December 3, 1981 meetings relative to the subject of instrumentation for detection of inadequate core cooling (ICC). The two letters included discussion which indicated that even though there was no information regarding specific failure modes for the Core Exit Thermocouples (CETs), numerous multiple and diverse indicators were available for the detection of ICC.

Subsequent to the December 16, 1981 letter, SCE (Mr. F. R. Nandy) has had numerous discussions with the NRC (Mr. J. Rosenthal) relative to the identification of possible CET degradation. Consistent with these discussions, SCE will obtain baseline readings of CET loop resistances for each of the 56 CETs as part of the startup testing performed during post core hot functional testing. Readings will be obtained at the plant computer input termination cabinet for the Chromium-to-ground and the Alumel-to-ground loops. Since the CETs are a grounded system, the readings will be somewhat dependent on specific cable lengths. By using these as-measured loop resistances for baseline data, a significant increase or decrease in loop resistance would be indicative of a degrading or failed CET. These baseline readings will be kept on file at San Onofre Units 2 and 3 and will be available for NRC inspection.

SCE considers that the commitment to obtain and have available the measurements described above for use in evaluating CET performance resolves all remaining NRC concerns and results in NRC acceptance of the interim ICC system until the final ICC system can be implemented. The final ICC system which meets the requirements of NUREG 0737, Item II.F.2 will be implemented

Boo/s
1/0

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PDR ADOCK 05000361
PDR

Mr. Frank Miraglia

-2-

January 18, 1982

during the first refueling outage for San Onofre Unit 2, or the first unscheduled outage of sufficient duration following delivery of all necessary material/equipment.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this information please contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. P. Bush".