



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20410

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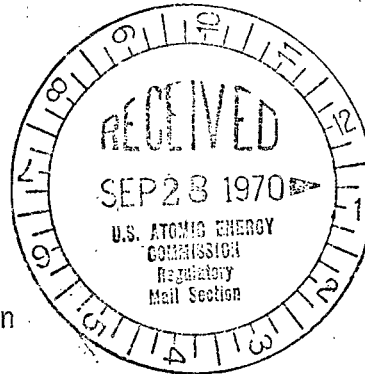
Regulatory

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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

IN REPLY REFER TO:



SEP 25 1970

Mr. Harold L. Price
Director of Regulations
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

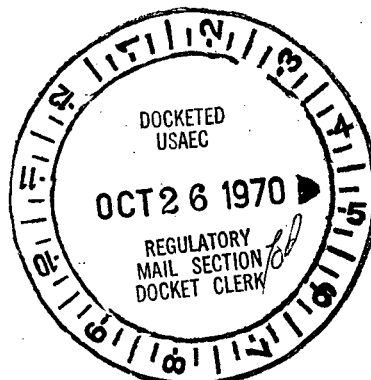
Dear Mr. Price:

This is in reply to your letter of August 18, 1970, requesting HUD comments on the preliminary environmental statement prepared by the Southern California Edison Company and the San Diego Gas and Electric Company for the proposed San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Units 2 and 3.

The Site for the station is located in San Diego County, approximately 62 miles southeast of Los Angeles, 51 miles northwest of San Diego and 2 miles southeast of the town of San Clemente on the Pacific Ocean shore. It is entirely within the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base near the northwest end of its 18-mile shoreline. The new units will be located immediately to the south and the already existing Unit 1. The total station site is about 84 acres, and sits on a coastal terrace ranging from 60 to 90 feet above sea level. The units are expected to be fully operational by June 1, 1977 and will each have a net electrical capacity of 1140 MWe. The general vicinity includes a popular beach area, particularly for surfing. The San Onofre Surfing Club is located north of the plant site near the San Onofre Marine Corps Recreation Center. Also, a state park for surfing has been proposed for the area immediately south of the plant site.

HUD Comment

We believe, with the reservations noted below, that the submitted statement indicates reasonable treatment of environmental consequences. We defer to other agencies on standards for air and water quality, safety, and radiation and thermal pollution standards.



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We concur with the companies' reasoning that an attempt to fulfill future electrical needs by using only fossil fuel plants is unwise, particularly with respect to the area's already poor quality of air. We, however, are concerned with minimizing the adverse environmental impact of expanding the San Onofre nuclear facility. This Department's primary concern is with the potential impact of this station on the urban environment of the area.

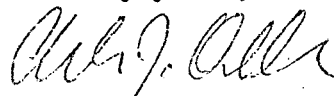
HUD Reservations

1. The statement includes no discussion of population located in nearby communities, nor of any expected changes in population.

2. A startling omission from the statement is any discussion on the seismic nature of the land. The well-known susceptibility of the Southern California coast to earthquakes makes this absence remarkable. Seven years of monitoring experience with Unit 1 seems to be short as a basis for disregarding this possibility.

3. A listing is made of all agencies consulted in the preparations for Units 1 and 2. We would suggest the addition of a regional or state planning agency. Comments from an agency such as that designated by Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95 should be included in the final statement. This agency is the San Diego County Comprehensive Planning Organization, 207 County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101. When the final environmental impact statement is publicly distributed, we would appreciate having a copy sent to our Regional Administrator, Mr. Robert Baida, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, P. O. Box 36003, San Francisco, California 94102.

Sincerely yours,



Charles J. Orlebeke
Deputy Under Secretary