



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 9, 2017

Mr. Thomas J. Palmisano
Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

**SUBJECT: SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 –
ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF THE LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO
CHANGE THE EMERGENCY PLAN AND EMERGENCY ACTION LEVEL
SCHEME TO REFLECT AN ISFSI-ONLY CONFIGURATION
(CAC NOS. L53160, L53161, AND L53162)**

Dear Mr. Palmisano:

By letter dated December 15, 2016, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16355A015), Southern California Edison (SCE) submitted a license amendment request to revise the Permanently Defueled Emergency Plan (PDEP) into an ISFSI-Only Emergency Plan (IOEP), and revise the Emergency Action Level (EAL) scheme into an ISFSI-Only EAL (IOEAL) scheme, for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (SONGS). The proposed changes would more fully reflect the permanently shutdown status of the facility, as well as the reduced scope of potential radiological accidents once all spent fuel has been moved to dry cask storage within the onsite independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI), an activity which is currently scheduled for completion in 2019.

Accordingly, SCE is proposing a new EAL scheme and corresponding emergency plan changes. The proposed changes are being submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for approval prior to implementation, as required under Paragraph 50.54(q)(4) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), regarding reduction in effectiveness of emergency plans, Section IV.B.2 of Appendix E, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Production and Utilization Facilities," to 10 CFR Part 50, regarding changes to emergency action level schemes, and 10 CFR 72.44(f), regarding the need for Commission-approved emergency plans for ISFSIs.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of the submittal. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the current licensing basis of the plant.

T. Palmisano

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The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of this request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3178 or via e-mail at marlayna.vaalder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager
Reactor Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket Nos. 50-206, 50-361, and 50-362

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager
Reactor Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket Nos. 50-206, 50-361, and 50-362

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