

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

June , 1981

Joseph Hendrie, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Chairman Hendrie:

We are writing to request that the Commission provide us with up-to-date, comprehensive information regarding the status of the Commission's actions relating to the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo, California.

As the Representatives of the congressional districts most affected by the Diablo Canyon facility, we are interested in the specific procedures which will be followed with respect to the licensing decision; the impact on Diablo of the recently adopted change in Appendix B Part 2 of the Commission's regulations which eliminates licensing review by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board; and the projected timetable for low and full power decisions on this plant.

As you know, legislation is under consideration in the House which would allow the Commission to authorize full power operation of nuclear plants before safety hearings have been completed. The Senate has been considering a version which would allow low power operation before the completion of safety hearings. As the impending licensing decision on Diablo Canyon is a matter of great concern in both our districts, we would appreciate your views on the impact each of these proposals, if enacted, would have on the time frame for decisions on the Diablo facility.

As you can appreciate, there is some confusion as to the specific impact on Diablo of recent administrative actions, as well as the regulatory impact of legislative proposals to allow low and full power permits independent of the safety hearing process.

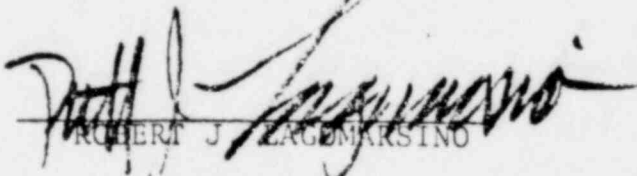
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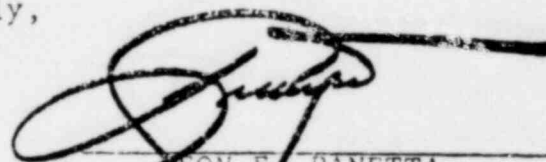


Thus, we request that you provide us with the above information in a manner which makes clear the remaining procedural steps to be followed with respect to Diablo, the time frame for completion of those steps, and any alterations in either procedures or time-tables which may result from the immediate effectiveness rule or the modifications which may result from the low and full power proposals currently before the Congress.

We appreciate your responsiveness to this request, and we will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


ROBERT J. LENCZARSKI


LEON E. PANETTA