

July 21, 1981

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen

I find it necessary to write to you concerning the nuclear power plant at San Onofre in California. Unit 1 has been operating now for a number of years and you are considering licensing Units 2 and 3 for operation.

I am a resident of a community near San Onofre. I am an engineer thoroughly familiar with the engineering, design and construction of refineries, chemical plants, ore processing mills, and power plants. Some 38 years experience in engineering.

The operation of Unit 1 has resulted in problems with cooling water systems causing down time for repairs, leaks which have contaminated sand in the vicinity of the unit with radioactive material, the accidental venting of radioactive gases to the atmosphere, and the like. From the health-physics point of view, all of the incidents that have occurred have been passed off as being well within allowable levels. No one, however, really knows what "allowable levels" are. As far as I am concerned these, and any further incidents, are unacceptable.

It is apparent that there have been design deficiencies and operating errors over the years at Unit 1. The potential hazard to the health and safety of all the residents in southern Orange County is sufficient for your commission to have considerable concern about the existence of this facility.

I, therefore, request that you not license Units 2 and 3 and that you revoke the license for Unit 1. Since nuclear power is a relatively small percentage of the power generated in California, the plant should be shut down permanently. I await your early reply.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Allen Hubbard

Robert Allen Hubbard, BS, MS, PE

RAH DR

8108050287 810721
PDR ADDCK 05000361
H PDR

25096 Nueva Vista Drive
Laguna Niguel, California 92677

R. A. Hubbard
25096 Nueva Vista Dr.
Laguna Niguel, California 92677



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