



Telegram

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ICS IPMWGW F WSH

00451 03-26 1033A EST

ICS IPMWGW2

1-002818A086 03/26/84

ICS IPMWGWJ WSH

00060 GOVT BUWASHINGTON DC 265 03-26 927A EST

PMS MR NUNZIO PALLADINO CHAIRMAN, WUX

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

1717 H ST N W

WASHINGTON DC 20555

'84 MAR 27 A9:34

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLADINO:

I APPRECIATE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S PAST EFFORTS TO ACCOMMODATE THE CONCERN OF MY CONSTITUENTS AND MYSELF THAT THE DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTAIN CRITICALITY UNTIL THE SAFETY OF ITS OPERATION COULD BE ASSURED.

BEFORE THE COMMISSION POSSIBLY VOTES TO LIFT DIABLO CANYON'S

W.U. 1201-SF (R5-69)



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SUSPENDED LOW POWER LICENSE, I WOULD LIKE TO RESPECTFULLY REMIND THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSURING THAT THE SAFETY OF THE RESIDENTS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY WILL NOT BE JEOPARDIZED BY THE OPERATION OF DIABLO CANYON AT THIS POINT IN TIME. I EXPRESSED MY CONCERN, AS REPRESENTED BY MY REQUEST OF CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT HEARINGS, THAT THE NRC POSTPONE ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF LOW POWER OPERATION AT DIABLO UNTIL AFTER THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING APPEAL BOARD HAS RELEASED ITS DECISION REGARDING DESIGN QUALITY ASSURANCE.

THE APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION, RELEASED ON MARCH 20, 1984, CONCLUDED THAT "THERE IS REASONABLE ASSURANCE THAT THE FACILITY CAN BE OPERATED WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC." HOWEVER, THE BOARD DID ADD TO THIS CONCLUSION ITS OPINION THAT RECENT EVENTS, SPECIFICALLY THE LARGE NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED BY THE NRC, INCLUDING ALLEGATIONS RELATING TO FACILITY DESIGN AND SMALL BORE PIPING, COULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT OR ALTER THE BOARD'S FINDING AND MAY REQUIRE THE REOPENING OF THE RECORD ON THESE ISSUES.

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PDR ADOCK 05000275
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BECAUSE THE DECISION TO AUTHORIZE LOW POWER OPERATION AT DIABLO CANYON DIRECTLY AFFECTS THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, I EXPECT THAT THE COMMISSION WILL CAREFULLY WEIGH THE CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED IN THE APPEAL BOARD'S CONCLUSIONS, AND FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO ALLOW ONLY A SAFE DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT TO OPERATE.

WILLIAM M. THOMAS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS
20TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

0949 EST

1036 EST