SCE Submits Response to San Diego Water Board in Connection with Waste Water Release

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Captain Mel Vernon; Daniel T. Stetson; David G. Victor; Donna Boston; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Jim Leach; John Taylor; Kathy Ward; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Paul Wyatt; Rich Haydon; Sam Jammal; Supervisor Lisa Bartlett; Ted Quinn; Val Macedo
Cc: Chris Thompson; Doug Bauder; Doug Woodyard; Gabaldon, Joseph M; Gene James; John Dobken; Julie Holt; Kelli Gallion-Sholler; Kristal Jabara; Larry Rannals; Liese Mosher; Lindsey Stigall; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Marisol Eaton; Mike Sappingfield; 'Scanlan, Katelin; Steve Carlson; Tanya Flink; Jerry L Stephenson; Ronald Pontes; Ian Michael Forrest; Vincent J Bilovsky; BRIAN METZ; LOU BOSCH
Subject: For awareness - SCE submits response to San Diego Water Board in connection with wastewater release

Dear CEP Members,

As you may recall, during the March 26 and May 28 CEP meetings we at SCE briefed the CEP regarding the inadvertent wastewater release that occurred at SONGS in March. Today, I write to make you aware that SCE has responded to the San Diego Water Board's investigative order.

SCE's response answers questions from the Water Board and provides supporting environmental data. After the inadvertent release, we promptly launched an evaluation using internal resources and third party experts and implemented steps to prevent reoccurrence before re-starting the plant. The non-radiological release, while only partially treated, was diluted to more than 20 times the regulatory requirement prior to discharge to the ocean at a point more than a mile offshore. At the time of the release, the San Diego Department of Environmental Health determined the release was of low impact and did not require beach closures. We have confirmed that ecological impacts from the release are low, there is no evidence of human health impacts, and no evidence of physical impacts from this release.

More information including the full response to the Water Board has been posted to the SONGS website and is available here.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Water Board to satisfactorily resolve this matter, as well as ensuring the safe operation of the SONGS sewage treatment plant.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Best regards,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
SONGS Decommissioning

Southern California Edison
www.SONGScommunity.com

No attachment
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SONGS COVID-19 Update

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2020 7:54 AM
To: Captain Mel Vernon; Daniel T. Stetson; David G. Victor; Donna Boston; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Jim Leach; John Taylor; Kathy Ward; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Paul Wyatt; Rich Haydon; Sam Jammal; Supervisor Lisa Bartlett; Ted Quinn; Val Macedo
Cc: Liese Mosher; John Dobken; Doug Bauder; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; ALBERT BATES; Kelli Gallion-Sholler; James Peterson
Subject: FYI: SONGS COVID-19 Update

Good morning CEP Members,

For your awareness, on Friday, June 26, a team member informed SCE of a positive test result for COVID-19. The employee was last on-site June 23. The nature of the employee's duties limits potential contact with others, however contact tracing was done, and appropriate follow-up actions have been taken per our pandemic protocol. The employee was not involved in fuel transfer operations or decommissioning work.

Our thoughts are with our colleague, whom we wish a speedy and full recovery. We recognize that our employees and communities continue to deal with significant challenges during this pandemic and safety remains our top priority.

There are currently no additional reports of positive COVID-19 test results by employees or contractors at San Onofre. We at SCE continuously assess requirements to ensure the health and safety of our workforce. You will recall in March, SCE instituted a stringent pandemic protocol at SONGS, and we have been working under that protocol ever since as we continue the plant's decommissioning. Employees who can telework continue to do so.

I wish you all safety and wellness.

Sincerely,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
SONGS Decommissioning
Southern California Edison
www.SONGScommunity.com
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NRC Report on Community Advisory Board Best Practices

On the July 1, the Commission approved the Letter to the Honorable John A. Barrasso and Frank Pallone, Jr., submitting the report on Best Practices for Establishment and Operation of Local Community Advisory Boards During Decommissioning Activities.

The report became publically available on July 9, and is posted on the NRC public website, www.nrc.gov under Commission Documents – 2020 Correspondence.

A direct link is provided here https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML2011/ML20113E857.pdf
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SONGS Inspection & Maintenance Program Approved by Coastal Commission

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Captain Mel Vernon; Daniel T. Stetson; David G. Victor; Donna Boston; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Jim Leach; John Taylor; Kathy Ward; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Paul Wyatt; Rich Haydon; Sam Jammal; Supervisor Lisa Bartlett; Ted Quinn; Val Macedo
Cc: Chris Thompson; Doug Bauder; Doug Woodyard; Gabaldon, Joseph M; Gene James; John Dobken; Julie Holt; Kelli Gallion-Sholler; Kristal Jabara; Larry Rannals; Liese Mosher; Lindsey Stigall; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Manuel Camargo; Marisol Eaton; Mike Sappingfield; Scanlan, Katelin; Steve Carlson; 'Tanya Flink'; James Peterson; Ronald Pontes
Subject: SONGS Inspection & Maintenance Program Approved by Coastal Commission

Hello CEP,

Good news. I write to make you aware the CCC unanimously approved the inspection and maintenance program for the Holtec UMAX dry storage facility at SONGS during a virtual public meeting today. The IMP is designed to ensure that the dry storage canisters at SONGS remain in a condition to support transportation once an off-site facility is available. Please see the attached news release for more background.

Feel free to share the news with people in your networks.

Best regards,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning

Attachment #1 – Coastal Commission Approves Spent Fuel Inspection and Maintenance Program, July 16, 2020
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Good News! Martha McNicholas is New CEP Secretary and Spent Fuel Transfers are Complete

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2020 2:20 PM
To: Captain Mel Vernon; Daniel T. Stetson; David G. Victor; Donna Boston; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Jim Desmond; Jim Leach; John Taylor; Kathy Ward; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Paul Wyatt; Rich Haydon; Sam Jammal; Supervisor Lisa Bartlett; Ted Quinn; Val Macedo
Cc: Chris Thompson; Doug Bauder; Doug Woodyard; Gabaldon, Joseph M; Gene James; John Dobken; Julie Holt; Kelli Gallion-Sholler; Kristal Jabara; Larry Rannals; Liese Mosher; Lindsey Stigall; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Marisol Eaton; Mike Sappingfield; Scanlan, Katelin; Steve Carlson; Tanya Flink; ALBERT BATES; Laura Parra
Subject: Good news! Martha is our new Secretary and fuel transfers are complete

Hello CEP,

I write to share good news on two fronts.

1. **New CEP Secretary**

   Martha McNicholas has agreed to serve as our new Secretary, joining the CEP leadership team. We thank Martha for her willingness to take on this important role, and for her continuing work to ensure the interests of local schools are considered as part of decommissioning.

2. **Fuel transfer operations**

   The transfer of SONGS spent nuclear fuel from cooling pools to the passive dry cask storage facility was safely completed today. This is a significant milestone in the decommissioning of SONGS, and it also marks the beginning of a new chapter. Please reference the attached news release.

   Due to the significance of this news, we urge you to share it with people in your networks.

   As we move forward, we will continue to ensure the spent fuel remains safely stored on site. We also will focus attention on dual priorities: (a) safely and promptly deconstructing the plant structures and (b) continuing our work on a strategic plan to explore opportunities for getting the spent fuel off site. We'll share more on these initiatives during our CEP meeting on Aug. 20.

Best regards,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
SONGS Decommissioning
Southern California Edison
www.SONGScommunity.com

Attachment 2 - San Onofre Begins New Chapter as Fuel Transfer Operations End, August 7, 2020
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In the News: SONGS Batch Releases and New Mexico Governor Lobbies Against Interim Storage Plan

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 2:12 PM
To: Captain Mel Vernon; Daniel T. Stetson; David G. Victor; Donna Boston; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Jim Desmond; Jim Leach; John Taylor; Kathy Ward; Marni Magda; Martha McNicholas; Paul Wyatt; Rich Haydon; Sam Jammal; Supervisor Lisa Bartlett; Ted Quinn; Val Macedo
Cc: Chris Thompson; Doug Bauder; Doug Woodyard; Gabaldon, Joseph M; Gene James; John Dobken; Julie Holt; Kelli Gallion-Sholler; Kristal Jabara; Larry Rannals; Liese Mosher; Lindsey Stigall; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Manuel Camargo; Marisol Eaton; Mike Sappingfield; Scanlan, Katelin; Steve Carlson; Tanya Flink; Amy F Pressler
Subject: In the news - SONGS batch releases and NM interim storage

Hello CEP,

I write to share two recent news reports: one in the *Orange County Register* on the safety of wastewater batch releases from SONGS and another in *Greenwire* on the latest in New Mexico and the private consolidated interim storage facility that is planned there.

The *OC Register* story is available HERE. This is a well-balanced story and Q&A that would be good for you to share with people in your networks.

The *Greenwire* story is pasted below.

Best regards,

Manuel

GREENWIRE
AN E&E NEWS PUBLICATION

NUCLEAR WASTE

N.M. governor lobbies Trump against interim storage plan

Jeremy Dillon and Hannah Northey, E&E News reporters

Published: Monday, August 10, 2020



New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) wrote the president expressing opposition to interim nuclear waste storage plans in her state. Lujan Grisham/Facebook

A top contender for the Democratic vice presidential nomination lobbied President Trump last month to scuttle federal review for a proposed nuclear waste storage facility in southeastern New Mexico.

In a July 28 **letter**, New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham wrote the White House to express her opposition to the proposed interim storage facility from Holtec International.

The facility, which is under Nuclear Regulatory Commission scrutiny, would be the country's first interim storage facility since the federal government abandoned the controversial Yucca Mountain long-term repository in Nevada.

Lujan Grisham, who previously raised concerns about the Holtec plan along with other New Mexico Democrats, cited the impact such a nuclear waste facility could have on the state's agriculture and oil and gas production as reasons to stop it from moving forward.

"Establishing an interim storage facility in this region would be economic malpractice," Lujan Grisham said.

"Any disruption of agricultural or oil and gas activities as a result of a perceived or actual nuclear incident would be catastrophic to New Mexico, and any steps toward siting such a project could cause a decrease in investment in two of our state's biggest industries," she added.

Lujan Grisham has emerged as a top contender to run alongside presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden. Biden is expected to make an announcement on his selection in the near future.

New Mexico's political leaders worry about the site turning into a de facto long-term repository, given the limited number of other disposal strategies to have emerged from Washington since the shuttering of Yucca Mountain over a decade ago.

The New Mexico governor first made her opposition to the Holtec project known in the summer of 2019. The NRC's review of the site is in an extended public comment period because of the coronavirus pandemic. That extra comment time has likely pushed back a final decision into 2021.

Trump in a February tweet called for "innovative solutions" to the nation's nuclear waste backlog in addition to announcing his administration would no longer be looking to build Yucca Mountain.

The Holtec plan would call for an initial 500 canisters in storage that would hold about 8,680 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel on a concrete slab near Eddy and Lea counties in southeastern New Mexico. Following expansions, that number could jump to 10,000 canisters.

Anti-nuclear and environmental groups have contended the license application breaks federal law because it would rely on Department of Energy contracts, which are precluded from going anywhere except for the completion of Yucca Mountain.

Critics also contend the environmental review failed to consider transportation corridors for the waste.

The NRC staff largely found in its draft environmental impact statement that the site would meet the environmental requirements for a storage facility.

Holtec has defended its proposal against attacks from Lujan Grisham and others who say it will harm New Mexico.

Company spokesman Joe Delmar pointed to other nuclear facilities in the same region, like DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and Urenco Group's enrichment facility, that do not interfere with the state's economic activities.

"The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF) proposed for southeast New Mexico is very clear in stating that the project will not interfere with the petroleum or agriculture industry," Delmar said in a statement.

"Holtec International and our partner [the Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance] continue to seek opportunities to discuss with the Governor and her administration and remain hopeful that a solution can be achieved as previous administrations found similar agreements with WIPP and URENCO," he added.

"The project is vital for national security and welcomed by the local governments in Lea and Eddy Counties for the jobs and economic impact it will bring."

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Direct link to *OC Register* story within document text.

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