

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Oct 17, 2012 14:10

---

**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-12-0515 **LOGGING DATE:** 09/13/2012  
**ACTION OFFICE:** OGC

**AUTHOR:** Bill Brand (Redondo Beach)  
**AFFILIATION:** CA  
**ADDRESSEE:** REP Henry Waxman  
**SUBJECT:** Concerns regarding the potential restart of San Onofre nuclear reactors

**ACTION:** Signature of Chairman  
**DISTRIBUTION:** RF, SECY Acknowledged (dtd 9/17)

**LETTER DATE:** 07/30/2012

**ACKNOWLEDGED** Yes  
**SPECIAL HANDLING:** Commission Correspondence

**NOTES:** cc: Senator Barbara Boxer on response.  
10/17: Reassigned to OGC to respond to once the Comm. acts on SECY-12-0117 as the incoming discusses San Onofre & the need for a license amendment process which is before the Comm. as SECY-12-0117. NOTE: FYI, old OEDO prep.response is a bkgd. tab.

**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS

**DATE DUE:** 11/16/2012 **DATE SIGNED:**  
(or later)



**Bill Brand**  
Council Member, District 2

415 Diamond Street, P.O. Box 270  
Redondo Beach, California 90277-0270  
[www.redondo.org](http://www.redondo.org)

tel 310 372-1171  
ext. 2779  
fax 310 374-2039

July 30, 2012

The Honorable Henry Waxman  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Waxman:

First, my position below in no way reflects the position of the City of Redondo Beach or any of the other elected officials of Redondo Beach. The City has not addressed this issue. The below is only my opinion as one Councilmember in Redondo Beach, California.

I write to express my concerns regarding the potential restart of the San Onofre nuclear reactors without a rigorous, transparent, public process by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that ensures the problems and solutions are adequately understood and addressed.

As you are aware, both reactors at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station have been offline for more than five months, following the failure of a steam generator tube in Unit 3, which released radioactive steam into the environment. Further investigation by federal authorities revealed pervasive and unprecedented wear in the recently replaced steam generators of both Unit 2 and Unit 3. In addition, eight steam generator tubes failed pressure testing, the first time that more than one tube has failed such testing.

At a recent NRC meeting, both Edison and the NRC pointed to design changes and grossly flawed computer models – producing error margins up to 400% -- as the reasons for the unexpected, accelerated deterioration of the new steam generators. The NRC has confirmed that the flawed design of the San Onofre replacement steam generators is a significant safety concern.

The NRC failed to identify these design changes because Edison presented these components as “like-for-like” replacements to the original steam generators, which lasted 28 years. This enabled the utility to side-step the scrutiny and critical safety review of the license amendment process – a process required by the NRC for significant design modifications. Instead, the utility gained permitting through a perfunctory process. The new steam generators are now crippled, within 1-2 years of going online.

The lack of transparency and rigor on the part of Edison and the failure of the NRC to identify these changes has placed citizens in Southern California at an unreasonable and unnecessary risk. I, therefore, respectfully request that you write to the NRC requesting that the regulatory body require Edison to submit to the license amendment process for the replacement steam generators, and that it not allow either reactor to restart before the process is complete, the problems are publicly identified, and all issues with the steam generators are fully resolved.

Regards,



Bill Brand  
Councilmember

Cc: Senator Barbara Boxer  
Senator Dianne Feinstein