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SECRETARY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## State Water Resources Control Board

July 17, 2013

Dr. Michael M. Hertel  
Director, Corporate Environmental Policy  
Southern California Edison  
P.O. Box 800  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, CA 91770

Re: STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY ON THE USE OF COASTAL AND ESTUARINE WATERS FOR POWER PLANT COOLING: REQUIREMENTS FOR SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Dear Dr. Hertel:

This letter is in response to your email regarding the implications for ocean water intake at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Facility (SONGS) in the wake of Southern California Edison's (SCE's) decision to permanently retire Units 2 and 3. You have noted that the facility is no longer engaged in power generation and has dramatically reduced its ocean water intake. Further, as discussed in the June 19, 2013 meeting with SCE representatives, SCE is exploring the complete elimination of ocean water intake at SONGS.

SCE has previously been directed to work toward compliance with Section 2.C of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) *Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling* (Policy). Section 2.C requires installation of a large organism exclusion device (LOED) for any power plant with an existing offshore intake. In light of current reductions in intake and use of ocean water, as well as efforts underway to further reduce the need for ocean water-cooling at the facility, the State Water Board concurs, as further conditioned below, in SCE's decision to suspend work on compliance with the LOED requirement.

Suspending work on the LOED will allow SCE to focus resources on the elimination of cooling water intake and the permanent retirement of SONGS Units 2 and 3. The State Water Board's concurrence is conditioned on SCE continuing to explore methods of eliminating the intake and use of ocean water for cooling during the shutdown process for SONGS.

Pursuant to Water Code section 13383, please provide a report detailing SCE's plans for elimination of ocean cooling water at SONGS. This report must include an analysis of alternatives, schedule for future actions and any projected dates for discontinuing use of ocean water intake structures. Please submit this information no later than November 30, 2013.

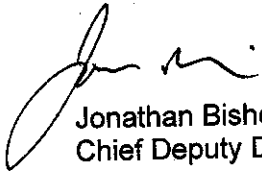
FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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July 17, 2013

Should you have any questions on this matter please feel free to contact me at 916-341-5820  
([jsbishop@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jsbishop@waterboards.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,



Jonathan Bishop  
Chief Deputy Director

cc:

Marleigh Wood, Sr. Staff Counsel  
Shuka Rastegarpour, Environmental Scientist  
David Asti, Southern California Edison