

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street,
Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permitting Division
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Project Title: Class 1* Permit Modification for Southern California Edison; San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS Facility)

Project Location: 5000 Old Pacific Coast Highway, San Clemente, CA 92058-2058

County: San Diego County

Project Applicant: Southern California Edison; San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Permit Modification

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.5

Project Description: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) approves of the Class 1* Permit Modification (Permit Modification) regarding revisions to the closure schedule and the year of final closure for closure of the SONGS Facility located at 5000 Old Pacific Coast Highway, San Clemente, CA 92058-2058. The year of final closure of the Low Specific Activity Waste and High Specific Activity Waste storage units has been revised to Fall 2023, and the remaining South Yard Facility Sections A and B units will complete closure following permit expiration in summer 2026.

Background: The SONGS Facility is a nuclear power generating facility that is undergoing decommissioning and is located in San Diego County, south of the City of San Clemente. SONGS was a nuclear power generating facility, which began operation in 1968. It is operated and primarily owned by Southern California Edison. SONGS consisted of three nuclear reactors (Units 1, 2, and 3) and several standby diesel generating units. In 1992, reactor Unit 1 was retired from service. In 1999, SONGS started the decommissioning and dismantling of Unit 1. Units 2 and 3 ceased power operation in September of 2013 and will also be decommissioned. The decommissioning and decontamination (D&D) of the facility will result in the generation of hazardous waste, some of which will be contaminated with radio nuclides. This waste is referred to as Mixed Waste or Combined Waste. The D&D activities include the dismantling, removal and shipment of plant components. The Mixed Waste and Combined Waste that may be stored under the Permit include, but are not limited to, used oil, chemical solvents, lead solids, and asbestos. All Mixed Wastes and Combined Wastes are to be stored in sealed containers and must be shipped offsite within one year from the date they are placed in a permitted storage unit unless the Facility submits a Storage Extension Request to DTSC in accordance with Special Condition 7 under Part V of the Permit. DTSC adopted a Negative Declaration in December 2004 for a

Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the hazardous waste storage units at the SONGS Facility. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, division-13, § 2100 et. seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 1500 et. seq.), DTSC determined that the Negative Declaration adequately described facility operations, and that the conditions requiring preparation of a subsequent environmental impact report are not present. Therefore, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15162, no additional CEQA documentation is necessary to support this Permit Modification.

Project Activities: The year of final closure of the Low Specific Activity Waste and High Specific Activity Waste storage units has been revised to Fall 2023, and the remaining South Yard Facility, Sections A and B units, will complete closure following permit expiration in summer 2026. The proposed revisions to the closure schedule do not include any operational changes or changes to closure requirements at the Facility. The Class 1* Permit Modification does not propose any new ground disturbing activities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Southern California Edison

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption: [CCR Title 14 Sec. 15308]

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: DTSC has determined none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions apply to this project, as described in Public Resources Code Section 21084(c), (d), and (e), and 14 CCR Section 15300.2. The Closure and Closure Plan revisions are consistent with the actions taken by regulatory agency, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment.

The administrative record for this project is available to the public by appointment at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permitting Division
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Contact Person	Contact Title	Phone Number
Sam Coe	Senior Environmental Scientist	(916) 255-3587

Approver's Signature:



Date:

June 2, 2023

Approver's Name	Approver's Title	Approver's Phone Number
William Heung	Supervising Hazardous Substances Engineer	(916) 823-6298

TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: