

# **NRC Special Inspection following August 3 Canister Downloading Incident**

**SONGS Community Engagement Panel**  
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**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**  
**Region IV**

# NRC Inspection Activities

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- August 6: NRC informally notified of incident and initiates daily oversight communications
- August 7: Southern California Edison commits to NRC review before resuming operations
- August 17: NRC decides to conduct Special Inspection
- September 10-14: NRC Special Inspection Team onsite
- November 1: NRC Special Inspection Complete
- November 28: NRC Special Inspection Report issued

**NRC to perform inspection prior to resumption of fuel loading**

# Special Inspection - Findings

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- 2 Escalated Findings (Apparent Violations)
  - Failure to provide redundant drop protection
  - Failure to report
- 3 Severity Level IV Violations
  - Procedures
  - Corrective actions
  - Training
- Management Oversight Weaknesses

# Root Causes

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- San Onofre management failed to provide
  - Adequate procedures
  - Adequate training to support procedure
  - Adequate oversight

# Corrective Actions

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- Training Requirements
- Procedure Enhancements
- Equipment Enhancements
- Oversight Improvements

# Safety Significance

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- No Actual Drop of Canister
- No Damaged Spent Fuel
- No Radiological Release
  
- Load Drop Analysis (if canister fell)

# Next Steps

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- NRC Inspection of Causal Analyses
- NRC Inspection of Corrective Actions
  
- Predecisional Enforcement Conference or Alternative Dispute Resolution
  - SCE Decision required by December 8