



Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

(cc: Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber, Tam Doduc, Steven Moore, Dorene D'Amamo)

I urge you to bring PG&E's Diablo Canyon fully into line with California's landmark coastal protection policy by eliminating once-through cooling (OTC) and requiring that cooling towers be installed at the power plant, or close it. With the proximity of seismic faults under this nuclear-electricity plant, it should never have been built there. SLO, Morro Bay, Pismo Beach and the Five Cities have a lot of people living in proximity to the highly dangerous plant, we do not need another 3-Mile Island, Chernobyl, or Fukushima type of DISASTER.

Diablo Canyon's outdated OTC system draws an estimated 2.5 billion gallons of water per day and discharges that water back into the ocean 20 degrees hotter, killing more than a billion young fish and other species a year. As Diablo Canyon is responsible for nearly 80% of OTC ocean water withdrawals in California, to exempt Diablo Canyon and allow PG&E to flout the law would effectively gut the state's OTC policy.

Several experts, including California's energy regulators, have concluded that cooling towers can be built at Diablo Canyon and that installing them is the only way to significantly reduce the destruction of the marine environment caused by the power plant's OTC system. With California's OTC policy dating back to May 2010, it is long overdue that PG&E be required to install this modern, readily available solution at the Diablo site.

When solar, tidal, wind, geothermal and conservation are considered, DANGEROUS AND EXPENSIVE nuke plants are obsolete. With the problems of SAFE containment and storage of the waste yet to be solved after 60 years of trying, I wonder just how safe the low-wage workers of the future will keep all of the radioactive waste for the next 50,000 to 100,000 years? [not to mention how much it will cost]

Monte Martin

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