

## **RESPONSE OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY CHAPTER OF GRANDMOTHERS FOR PEACE, INT'L TO THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION RE: PG&E'S HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE EXPANSION PROJECT D10152D**

The San Luis Obispo County Grandmothers for Peace (GFP) strongly oppose the storage or transportation of high-level radioactive waste (HLRW) as proposed by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) at the Diablo Canyon site in the Local Coastal Zone. GFP has thoroughly researched the licensee's application and does hereby contend that much more information is needed before approval of this project could possibly be considered.

We request that the County of San Luis Obispo become an intervener in the NRC license application process in order to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all people living in the county.

The waste being generated on a daily basis by Diablo Canyon, while producing electricity for that day only, will threaten the health and safety of not only this generation but up to 12,000 generations in the future. The health and safety of our families and of the thousands of generations to come is our right - it supercedes state and tribal borders, politics and corporate profits - and it is NOT negotiable. We therefore request that the halting of production of high-level radioactive waste be included as part or independent of the "no project alternative."

We request the county demand that alternative methods of storing high-level waste on-site at Diablo Canyon be developed by PG&E that will completely isolate this deadly waste from the environment and be impervious to any and all natural and man-made assaults.

PG&E's plan to construct the storage pads directly beneath the high-voltage power lines is irresponsible and dangerous. In a private conversation with Arjun Makhijani of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research on April 13, 2002, he stated that if those power lines were to come down and it were raining, there would be a danger of overheating of the highly radioactive contents of the casks, which could possibly cause a catastrophic event. There are also many other unanswered questions regarding this issue. We request an independent study be done that uses many variations of circumstances on the consequences of downed power lines among the stored casks.

We request the county contact the United States Geological Survey to do an independent study of all seismic issues surrounding Diablo Canyon with special study and attention paid to the Hosgri Fault, which lies only 2½ miles from Diablo Canyon. A thorough study is needed to determine whether this fault is a slip/strike or thrust fault and an accurate estimation as possible be found as to the possible magnitude of earthquake this fault could create. The importance of such a study has been made evident by the findings published in GEOLOGY magazine (Oct-Nov 2000), which show the seismic dangers at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to be much worse than anticipated in the original design basis.

We request the county take into consideration the distinct possibility that there will not be a national repository for HLRW at Yucca Mtn. in Nevada or a temporary storage site on the Skull Valley Goshute Reservation in Utah, thereby leaving San Luis Obispo County with a HLRW dump permanently on it's coastline.

The terms "spent" and "used" are misleading when talking about high-level radioactive waste. The inference to the public is that this highly irradiated fuel is somehow less dangerous than "fresh" fuel. This is simply not the case. In fact, the irradiated rods are about one million times more radioactive that when first loaded and are the most intensely radioactive material on the planet. We request the county to discontinue the use of these misleading terms.

We agree with and endorse the comments and requests submitted by Mothers for Peace, The San Luis Obispo Green Party and ECO-SLO and request that those detailed comments and suggestions be given very serious consideration. We also suggest diligent study of the many documents made available to the county by Klaus Shumann of the San Luis Obispo Green Party.

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