



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.

Diablo Canyon's outdated OTC system draws an estimated 2.5 billion gallons of water per day and discharges that water back into the ocean 20 degrees hotter, killing more than a billion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.

The only way to honor the intent of California's OTC policy and protect the interests of the public and the environment is to require PG&E to build cooling towers at the Diablo Canyon power plant as soon as possible. I urge the Board to take this action before the end of the year.

Rick Luttmann

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