

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING ON DIABLO CANYON INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has announced an opportunity to request a hearing on an application for a proposed independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

The NRC staff has completed a preliminary review of an application for a specific license from Pacific Gas and Electric Company to store spent fuel from its Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in an ISFSI at the plant site in San Luis Obispo County, California. The staff has determined that PG&E has submitted sufficient information for the NRC to formally "docket," or file, the December 21 application and conduct a detailed review.

A license will not be approved until the NRC has thoroughly reviewed the application and determined that issuing a license will not constitute an unreasonable risk to public health and safety nor pose a threat to the common defense and security. If a license is granted, it would authorize the spent fuel, which is presently stored in a special storage pool at the site, to be placed in dry casks on concrete storage pads for a term of up to 20 years.

The deadline for hearing requests is May 22, 30 days after publication of a Federal Register Notice on this subject, on April 22. By that time, requests must be filed by anyone whose interest might be affected by the license and who wishes to participate as a party to the proceeding.

Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff. They may also be delivered to the NRC Public Document Room at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Because of continuing disruptions in mail delivery service to U.S. Government offices, petitions for leave to intervene and requests for hearing should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission either by fax to 301-415-1101 or by email to hearingdocket@nrc.gov. A copy of the request should also be sent by mail to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and by email to OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov or fax to 301-415-3725. Additionally, a copy should be sent to Lawrence F. Womack, Vice President, Nuclear

Services, Diablo Canyon Power Plant, P.O. Box 56, Avila Beach, California 93424. Additional information about the opportunity for hearing may be found in the Federal Register notice.

A copy of the December 21 ISFSI application is available through the NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). Help in using ADAMS is available by contacting the NRC Public Document Room staff at 301-415-4737 or 1-800-397-4209, or by sending an email message to pdf@nrc.gov. The application is also available for public inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room in Rockville, MD.

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