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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 9, 1997

NRC SCHEDULES DESIGN INSPECTION MEETING
FOR DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a public exit meeting with officials of the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. to discuss the results of a special NRC design inspection at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant near Avila Beach, California. The meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 3 p.m. at the Embassy Suites, 333 Madonna Road in San Luis Obispo.

The inspection, which began Aug. 4 and lasted about a month, was led by Morris Branch of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, and supported by inspectors from the engineering firm Sargent & Lundy.

Similar inspections have been and will be conducted at other nuclear plants in the nation. The NRC initiated these inspections last year after finding that the Millstone plant in Connecticut and other facilities performed full-core offloads during refueling outages without performing necessary safety evaluations. It was also discovered that the configuration and operation of some facilities were inconsistent with the documented basis upon which they were designed.

A written report on the inspection is expected in the fall.