



**Pacific Gas and  
Electric Company**

50-275/323

**David H. Oatley**  
Vice President-Diablo Canyon  
Operations and Plant Manager

Diablo Canyon Power Plant  
P.O. Box 56  
Avila Beach, CA 93424

805.545.6000

PG&E Letter DCL-2001-520

March 14, 2001

Joseph G. Cordaro  
Wildlife Biologist  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200  
Long Beach, California 90802-4213

Dear Mr. Cordaro:

Enclosed is the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Marine Mammal and Marine Turtle Stranding Report for a sea turtle discovered in the Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) intake structure.

A live sea turtle was discovered at about 3:15 pm on February 27, 2001 in the 1-6 forebay by the Plant Biologist. The turtle was identified as a green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*).

As authorized in a letter dated June 3, 1994 from NMFS, DCPD removed the turtle from the intake structure for release offshore of DCPD. The turtle was gently lifted in a net to the intake deck by hand. Biologists took appropriate measurements and three photographs. The turtle was estimated to weigh about 6 kilograms and had a shell length of 47 centimeters. The turtle appeared to be in good health. There were abrasions on the side and front of the head and minor abrasions on the ends of the front flippers. Biologists transported the turtle by boat about one half mile southwest of DCPD. In the water, the turtle swam strongly away from the boat in a westerly direction.

The turtle release was reported to NMFS on February 28, 2001 within the required 24-hour reporting period.

In addition, a four-hour non-emergency report was made to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) within four hours of the NMFS notification on February 28, 2001 in accordance with Nureg 1022, Revision 1, Event Reporting Guidelines, 10CFR50.72 and 10CFR50.73.

Live green sea turtles were found at DCPD's intake area on six previous occasions: April 16, 2000, August 24, 1999, May 29, 1999, June 12, 1997,

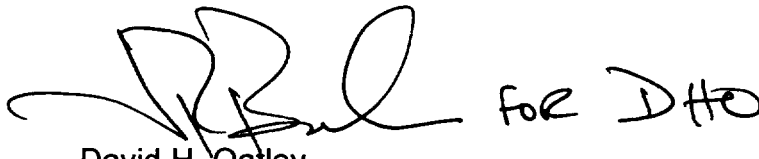
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Mr. Cordaro  
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January 10, 1997, and April 27, 1994. Green sea turtles are infrequently observed in our area.

If you would like additional information please contact Jim Kelly of my staff at (805) 545-3194

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. H. Oatley", followed by the handwritten text "for DHO".

David H. Oatley

2001520/JLK/kmo

Enclosure

Cc w/ encl: Steven D. Bloom  
U.S. NRC, Project Manager  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Ellis W. Merschoff  
U.S. NRC, Regional Administrator  
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David L. Proulx  
U.S. NRC Resident Inspector  
Diablo Canyon Power Plant  
Mail Code 104/5/544

Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Kathy Hill  
California Department of Fish and Game  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 1341  
Sacramento, California 95814

## MARINE MAMMAL AND MARINE TURTLE STRANDING REPORT

SID# \_\_\_\_\_ (NMFS USE)

FIELD NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ NMFS REGISTRATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

COMMON NAME: Green Sea Turtle GENUS: Chelonia SPECIES: mydas

EXAMINER

Name: Jim Kelly Agency: Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Phone: (805) 545-3194Address: P.O. Box 56; Avila Beach, Ca. 93420

<b>LOCATION</b> State: <u>Ca.</u> County: <u>San Luis Obispo</u> City: <u>Dinablo Canyon Power Plant</u> Locality Details: <u>8 1/2 miles NW of Avila Beach - found in 1-6 forebay</u> *Latitude: <u>35° 12' 44"</u> N *Longitude: <u>120° 51' 13"</u> W	<b>TYPE OF OCCURRENCE</b> Mass Stranding: (Yes) / <u>(No)</u> # Animals _____ Human Interaction: <u>(Yes)</u> / (No) / (?) Check one: <u>1</u> . Boat collision <u>2</u> . Shot <u>4</u> . Fishery interaction <u>X5</u> . Other <u>found inside intake curtain wall.</u> How determined: _____ Other Causes (if known): _____
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<b>DATE OF INITIAL OBSERVATION:</b> Yr <u>2001</u> Mo <u>February</u> Day <u>27</u> CONDITION: Check one: <u>X1</u> . Alive <u>2</u> . Fresh dead <u>3</u> . Moderate decomp. <u>4</u> . Advanced decomp. <u>5</u> . Mummified <u>?</u> Unknown	<b>DATE OF EXAMINATION:</b> Yr <u>2001</u> Mo <u>February</u> Day <u>27</u> CONDITION: Check one: <u>X1</u> . Alive <u>2</u> . Fresh dead <u>3</u> . Moderate decomp. <u>4</u> . Advanced decomp. <u>5</u> . Mummified <u>?</u> Unknown
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<b>LIVE ANIMAL - Condition and Disposition:</b> Check one <u>X1</u> . Released at site or more: <u>2</u> . Sick <u>3</u> . Injured <u>4</u> . Died <u>5</u> . Euthanized <u>6</u> . Rehabilitated and released <u>?</u> Unknown Transported to: <u>1/2 mile offshore</u> (Died) / <u>(Released)</u> Date: <u>2/27/01</u>	<b>TAGS APPLIED?:</b> (Yes) / <u>(No)</u> <b>TAGS PRESENT?:</b> (Yes) / <u>(No)</u> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Dorsal</td> <td>Left</td> <td>Right</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tag No.(s):</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Color(s):</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Type:</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Placement</td> <td>_____</td> <td>Front/Rear</td> <td>Front/Rear</td> </tr> </table>		Dorsal	Left	Right	Tag No.(s):	_____	_____	_____	Color(s):	_____	_____	_____	Type:	_____	_____	_____	Placement	_____	Front/Rear	Front/Rear
	Dorsal	Left	Right																		
Tag No.(s):	_____	_____	_____																		
Color(s):	_____	_____	_____																		
Type:	_____	_____	_____																		
Placement	_____	Front/Rear	Front/Rear																		

<b>CARCASS - Disposition, check one:</b> Check one: <u>1</u> . Left at site <u>2</u> . Buried <u>3</u> . Towed <u>4</u> . Sci. collection (see below) <u>5</u> . Edu. collection (see below) <u>6</u> . Other _____ <u>?</u> Unknown NECROPSIED? (Yes) / (No)	<b>MORPHOLOGICAL DATA:</b> Sex - Check one: <u>1</u> . Male <u>2</u> . Female <u>X?</u> Unknown - see note Straight Length: <u>18 1/2</u> (cm) / <u>(in)</u> / (est) *Weight: <u>15</u> (kg) / <u>(lb)</u> / <u>(est?)</u> PHOTOS TAKEN? <u>(Yes)</u> / (No) <u>3 photos</u>
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REMARKS: Note: I believe it was a male, but this was not confirmed.  
This turtle had minor abrasions on the end of the front flippers and more extensive abrasions on the side and front of the head. - Swam strongly when released 1/2 mile offshore.

DISPOSITION OF TISSUE/SKELETAL MATERIAL: \_\_\_\_\_