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Comments of the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace
On the NRC Draft GEIS on Decommissioning
Nuclear Power Plants

The San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace (SLOMFP) is aware that the comment period ended on January 30, 2002. Regardless, it is compelled to submit the following comments on the draft GEIS and observations from transcripts of NRC meetings.

Comments:

1. The SLOMFP echos the statement of Sara Barczak representing Georgians for Clean Energy at the Georgia meeting regarding the following:

- a. SLOMFP is troubled by the inability of the public to have adequate access to the NRC website. Prior to the censorship, the existence of the website had been viewed as a giant step forward in communication between the public and the Commission.
- b. A reduced security force at a decommissioned nuclear plant increases the threat of terrorism. A thorough amended review of necessary security measures during decommissioning of nuclear facilities [due to 9/11] must be compiled by the NRC and added to the supplement.
- c. Existing nuclear power plants are not generically designed and, therefore, a generic program for decommissioning is completely inadequate to protect public health and safety. New and site specific Environmental Impact Statements must be required to address how different power plants should be decommissioned (from the standpoint of historical operations, age-related degradation, salt water intrusion) in the safest manner possible for each location. In the case of Diablo Canyon, new seismic information should be sought to assure the public that the process would not increase the dangers of an already dangerously sited nuclear plant.
- d. When California's nuclear plants received licenses for construction and operation, promises were made that high-level radioactive waste would be removed within a few years. Every deadline to open a safe and permanent repository for high-level radioactive waste has been missed. Therefore, the issue has grown; we are not accessing only the decommissioning of a power

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plant but dealing also with storage and transportation of lethal substances unforeseen when licenses were granted.

Observations:

SLOMFP reviewed the four transcripts from the four meetings held by the NRC on the draft GEIS and was appalled by the waste of taxpayer dollars. The NRC gave 10 individuals representing 10 different environmental groups only 5 minutes each to express their concerns. Furthermore, it is outrageous that the NRC located these proceedings hundreds of miles from the affected communities - and those who are most concerned about the decommissioning of nuclear plants. There is no doubt that the lack of public participation was due to the location of the meetings, not to lack of public concern. Mr. Cameron has heard this concern expressed in the past.

Both the NRC and taxpayers would have been better served by sending the draft GEIS to all individuals and groups that have demonstrated interest in safety issues at nuclear plants over the last two decades, with a questionnaire, a comment section, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Becker February 2, 2002
San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace

Cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
 Senator Barbara Boxer