



**Pacific Gas and  
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April 26, 2007

PG&E Letter DCL-07-049

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Docket No. 50-275, OL-DPR-80  
Docket No. 50-323, OL-DPR-82  
Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2  
2006 Annual Nonradiological Environmental Operating Report

Dear Commissioners and Staff:

Enclosed is the 2006 Annual Nonradiological Environmental Operating Report for Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, submitted in accordance with Subsection 5.4.1 of the Environmental Protection Plan, Appendix B, of the Facility Operating Licenses DPR-80 and DPR-82.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company makes no new regulatory commitments in this letter.

If there are any questions regarding this update, please contact Mr. Bryan Cunningham at (805) 545-4439.

Sincerely,



James R. Becker

ddm/R0287636

Enclosure

cc/enc: Roger W. Briggs, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Terry W. Jackson, NRC Senior Resident  
Bruce S. Mallett, NRC Region IV  
Alan B. Wang, NRR Program Manager  
Diablo Distribution



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bcc: A. Glenn Caruso  
Bryan Cunningham  
Antonio Fernandez  
Kathleen Jones

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**2006 ANNUAL NONRADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL  
OPERATING REPORT  
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
April 2007

## **1. Introduction**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has prepared the 2006 Annual Nonradiological Environmental Operating Report in accordance with the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP), Appendix B, of Facility Operating Licenses DPR-80 and DPR-82 for Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP), Units 1 and 2. The report describes implementation of the EPP per the routine reporting requirements of EPP Subsection 5.4.1. PG&E remains committed to minimizing the environmental impact of operating DCPP.

## **2. Environmental Monitoring**

### **2.1. Aquatic Issues**

Aquatic issues are addressed by the effluent limitations and receiving water monitoring/reporting requirements contained in the DCPP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The NPDES permit includes applicable requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's Ocean Plan and Thermal Plan.

#### **2.1.1. Routine Influent and Effluent Monitoring**

During 2006, DCPP submitted quarterly NPDES reports containing routine influent and effluent monitoring data and permit compliance summaries to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB) during the month following the end of each quarter. DCPP also submitted an annual NPDES report to the CCRWQCB in February 2007. The annual report contained monitoring data summaries in tabular and graphical form, and a summary of permit compliance and corrective actions for 2006. Copies of the quarterly and annual reports were submitted concurrently to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

#### **2.1.2. Receiving Water Monitoring Program**

The NPDES Receiving Water Monitoring Program, required by the CCRWQCB, included the ecological monitoring, temperature measurements, and State Mussel Watch activities.

Environmental monitoring programs have recorded biological changes in the discharge area since plant startup. These programs monitor intertidal and subtidal communities of invertebrates, algae, and fish in the discharge cove, and at stations north and south of DCPP. During 2006, environmental monitoring continued under the revised Receiving Water Monitoring Program (RWMP). The revised RWMP continued historical monitoring tasks, including temperature

monitoring, State Mussel Watch activities, and intertidal and subtidal surveys (with additional stations and increased sampling frequencies).

The NPDES permit remains under administrative extension. In 2000, DCPD reached a tentative agreement with CCRWQCB staff, which addresses current and future impacts on receiving waters from power plant effluent discharge. This agreement, and the revised NPDES permit renewal application, did not receive the expected approvals from the CCRWQCB in July 2003, and discussions are continuing with CCRWQCB staff and their consultants. Based on the tentative agreement, future receiving water monitoring requirements will be significantly reduced or eliminated upon approval of the revised NPDES permit. Effluent monitoring will continue under the revised NPDES Permit.

DCPD submitted PG&E Letter No. DCL-2006-522, "Receiving Water Monitoring Program – 2005 Annual Report," to the CCRWQCB and the NRC on April 28, 2006. The 2006 Receiving Water Monitoring Annual Report will be submitted in late April 2007.

#### 2.1.3. Thermal Effects Study

DCPD submitted the final thermal effects comprehensive assessment report to the CCRWQCB and the NRC in 1998.

#### 2.1.4. 316(b) Studies

DCPD submitted PG&E Letter DCL-2000-514, entitled "316(b) Demonstration Report," to the CCRWQCB and the NRC on March 1, 2000.

### 2.2. Terrestrial Issues

#### 2.2.1. Herbicide Application and Erosion Control

Herbicides are used as one component of an overall land management program that includes transmission line corridors and rights-of-way. The company continues to use only EPA and/or state-approved herbicides and applies them in accordance with all applicable regulations.

PG&E continues to implement erosion control activities at the plant site and in the transmission line corridors as part of an overall land management program. These erosion control activities consist of routine maintenance and prevention efforts performed periodically

on an as-needed basis, including seasonal storm damage repair, and wildfire damage repair. In addition, storm water control ditches and culverts have been installed around the new independent spent fuel storage installation east of the power plant.

### 2.2.2. Preservation of Archaeological Resources

#### A. CA-SLO-2 Site Management

All work performed within the boundaries of CA-SLO-2 is tracked and approved per DCPD Procedure EV1.ID2, "CA-SLO-2 Site Management."

In October, PG&E's cultural resources specialist reviewed the 23 SLO-2 photo-monitoring stations. The photo monitoring was conducted in accordance with the Building and Land Service Department's (now Corporate Real Estate), "Cultural Resources Management Procedures for Archaeological Site CA-SLO-2," which implements policies of the Archaeological Resource Management Plan. No new areas of erosion or impacts to SLO-2 were noted.

#### B. Chumash Indian Correspondence

There was no communication between PG&E and the Chumash Indians during 2006 concerning CA-SLO-2.

### 3. Unusual or Important Environmental Events

One report, PG&E Letter DCL-06-108, "Licensee Event Report 1-2006-001-00, Excessive Dead Birds Found at the Pacific Ocean Cooling Water Intake," was submitted describing an unusual event in 2006. On August 15, 2006, 94 cormorants (a diving sea bird) were found dead on the plant seawater intake bar racks. Severe bacterial infections were found in dead birds that were sent to the California Fish and Game contract laboratory. Apparently, a significant portion of the cormorant population contracted a serious infection and died in DCPD's intake cove. This occurred in conjunction with an unusually large presence of cormorants in the immediate vicinity of DCPD. There is no indication that station operations contributed to the mass cormorant mortalities. No other unusual or important events that would indicate, or could result in, a significant environmental impact causally related to station operations occurred in 2006.

#### **4. Plant Reporting Requirements**

##### **4.1. EPP Noncompliance**

There were no EPP noncompliances during 2006.

##### **4.2. Changes In Station Design**

There were no changes in plant design, operation, tests, or experiments that involved an unreviewed environmental question or a change to the EPP.

##### **4.3. Nonroutine Reports**

There were no nonroutine events during 2006 per the EPP other than the single unusual event report on the cormorant mortalities described above in Section 3.