



**Pacific Gas and  
Electric Company®**

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

PG&E Letter DCL-2009-527

Certified/Return Receipt  
#7007-2680-0000-5565-4162

July 17, 2009

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 a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Marine Mammal Stranding Report for a dead harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) discovered in the Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) intake structure. The harbor seal was discovered by Operations staff on July 2, 2009 floating between the intake curtain wall and the 1-3 bar rack of Unit 1.

As authorized in a letter dated June 3, 1994 from NMFS, DCPP removed the dead harbor seal from the intake structure and transported it offshore. The harbor seal was estimated to be about 2 feet in length, and was semi-decomposed. It is most likely that it died and drifted onto the bar racks before floating to the surface. There were no obvious indications of the cause of death. Decomposition was too advanced. It is very unlikely that the Diablo Canyon intake structure was a factor in this harbor seal's death, as intake flow velocity is low enough that healthy animals can easily swim against it.

Verbal notification of this incident was reported to NOAA Fisheries on July 3, 2009 (within 24 hours of discovery).

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed report, or require additional information, please contact Jim Kelly of my staff at (805) 545-3194.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Peters  
Station Director – Diablo Canyon Power Plant

2009527/jlk

Enclosure

IE23  
ARR

PG&E Letter DCL-2009-527  
Joseph G. Cordaro, NMFS  
July 17, 2009  
Page 2

cc w/enclosure: Alan B. Wang  
NRR Project Manager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
Mail Stop 08B1  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Michael S. Peck  
Senior Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Diablo Canyon Power Plant 104/5

Regional Administrator  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region IV  
612 E. Lamar Blvd., Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-4125

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

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

# MARINE MAMMAL STRANDING REPORT - LEVEL A DATA

FIELD #: \_\_\_\_\_ NMFS REGIONAL #: \_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL DATABASE#: \_\_\_\_\_  
(NMFS USE) (NMFS USE)

COMMON NAME: California Harbor Seal GENUS: Phoca SPECIES: Vitulina

EXAMINER Name: JAMES KELLY Affiliation: PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

Address: P. O. BOX 56 AVILA BEACH, CA 93424 Phone: 805) 545-3194

Stranding Agreement or Authority: Letter from NMFS dated June 3, 1994

<p><b>LOCATION OF INITIAL OBSERVATION</b></p> <p>State: <u>CA</u> County: <u>SAN LUIS OBISPO</u></p> <p>City: <u>AVILA BEACH</u></p> <p>Body of Water: <u>PACIFIC OCEAN</u></p> <p>Locality Details: <u>9 miles NW of Avila Beach</u>  <u>Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP)</u></p> <p>Lat (DD): <u>35</u> <u>212222</u> N          Long (DD): <u>120</u> <u>853611</u> W</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated</p> <p>How Determined: (check ONE)  <input type="checkbox"/> GPS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/Software</p>	<p><b>OCURRENCE DETAILS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Restrand <span style="float: right;">GE# _____</span></p> <p>Group Event: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <span style="float: right;">(NMFS Use)</span></p> <p>If Yes, Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Cow/Calf Pair <input type="checkbox"/> Mass Stranding # Animals: <u>One (1)</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated</p> <p><b>Findings of Human Interaction:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Could Not Be Determined (CBD)</p> <p>If Yes, Choose one or more: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Boat Collision <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Shot <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Fishery Interaction  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other Human Interaction: _____</p> <p>How Determined (Check one or more): <input type="checkbox"/> External Exam <input type="checkbox"/> Internal Exam <input type="checkbox"/> Necropsy  <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>Gear Collected? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Gear Disposition: _____</p> <p><b>Other Findings Upon Level A:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Could Not Be Determined (CBD)</p> <p>If Yes, Choose one or more: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Illness <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Pregnant <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other: _____</p> <p>How Determined (Check one or more): <input type="checkbox"/> External Exam <input type="checkbox"/> Internal Exam <input type="checkbox"/> Necropsy  <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**INITIAL OBSERVATION**

Date: Year: 2009 Month: July Day: 2

First Observed:  Beach or Land  Floating  Swimming

**CONDITION AT INITIAL OBSERVATION (Check ONE)**

1. Alive  4. Advanced Decomposition  
 2. Fresh dead  5. Mummified/Skeletal  
 3. Moderate decomposition  6. Condition Unknown

**LEVEL A EXAMINATION**  Not Able to Examine

Date: Year: 2009 Month: July Day: 3

**CONDITION AT EXAMINATION (Check ONE)**

1. Alive  4. Advanced Decomposition  
 2. Fresh dead  5. Mummified/Skeletal  
 3. Moderate decomposition  6. Unknown

**INITIAL LIVE ANIMAL DISPOSITION (Check one or more)**

1. Left at Site  6. Euthanized at Site  
 2. Immediate Release at Site  7. Transferred to Rehabilitation:  
 3. Relocated Date: Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Disentangled  8. Died during Transport  
 5. Died at Site  9. Euthanized during Transport  
 10. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONDITION/DETERMINATION (Check one or more)**

1. Sick  7. Location Hazardous  
 2. Injured  a. To animal  
 3. Out of Habitat  b. To public  
 4. Deemed Releasable  8. Unknown/CBD  
 5. Abandoned/Orphaned  9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. Inaccessible

**MORPHOLOGICAL DATA**

**SEX (Check ONE)** **AGE CLASS (Check ONE)**

1. Male  1. Adult  4. Pup/Calf  
 2. Female  2. Subadult  5. Unknown  
 3. Unknown  3. Yearling

Whole Carcass  Partial Carcass

Straight length: 24  cm  in  actual  estimated  
 Weight: \_\_\_\_\_  kg  lb  actual  estimated

**PHOTOS/VIDEOS TAKEN:**  YES  NO  
 Photo/Video Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_

**TAG DATA** Tags Were:

Present at Time of Stranding (Pre-existing):  YES  NO  
 Applied during Stranding Response:  YES  NO

ID#	Color	Type	Placement* (Circle ONE)	Applied	Present
_____	_____	_____	D DF L LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	D DF L LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	D DF L LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* D= Dorsal; DF= Dorsal Fin; L= Lateral Body  
 LF= Left Front; LR= Left Rear; RF= Right Front; RR= Right Rear

**CARCASS STATUS (Check one or more)**

1. Left at Site  4. Towed: Lat 35.212 Long 120.853  7. Landfill  
 2. Buried  5. Sunk: Lat \_\_\_\_\_ Long \_\_\_\_\_  8. Unknown  
 3. Rendered  6. Frozen for Later Examination  9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIMEN DISPOSITION (Check one or more)**

1. Scientific collection  2. Educational collection  
 3. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**NECROPSIED**  NO  YES  Limited  Complete  
 Carcass Fresh  Carcass Frozen/Thawed

**NECROPSIED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_

