



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office

2493 Portola Road, Suite B107
Ventura, California 93003

IN REPLY REFER TO:
81440-2010-SL-02400

May 13, 2010

David J. Wrona, Chief
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Species List Request for the Proposed Diablo Canyon Power Plant License
Renewal, San Luis Obispo County, California

Dear Mr. Wrona,

We are responding to your request, dated March 10, 2010, and received in our office on March 29, 2010, for a species list for the proposed Pacific Gas and Electric Company Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (Diablo Power Plant) license renewal for Units 1 and 2 in San Luis Obispo County, California. Diablo Power Plant is located approximately 12 miles west-southwest of the City of San Luis Obispo.

The enclosed list of species fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as the lead Federal agency for the project, has the responsibility to review its proposed activities and determine whether any listed species may be affected. If the project is a construction project which may require an environmental impact statement^{1/}, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has the responsibility to prepare a biological assessment to make a determination of the effects of the action on listed species or critical habitat. If the Nuclear Regulatory Commission determines that a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be adversely affected, it should request, in writing through our office, formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. Informal consultation may be used to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat prior to a written request for formal consultation. During this review process, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission may engage in planning efforts but may not make any irreversible commitment of resources. Such a commitment could constitute a violation of section 7(d) of the Act.

^{1/} "Construction project" means any major Federal action which significantly affects the quality of the human environment designed primarily to result in the building of structures such as dams, buildings, roads, pipelines, and channels. This includes Federal actions such as permits, grants, licenses, or other forms of Federal authorizations or approval which may result in construction.

David J. Wrona

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Only federally listed species receive protection under the Act. However, sensitive species should be considered in the planning process in the event they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. We recommend that you review information in the California Department of Fish and Game's Natural Diversity Data Base. You can contact the California Department of Fish and Game at (916) 324-3812 for information on other sensitive species that may occur in this area.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Heather Abbey of our staff at (805) 644-1766, extension 290.

Sincerely,



Chris Dellith
Senior Biologist

cc:

Matt McGoogan, National Marine Fisheries Service
Bob Stafford, California Department of Fish and Game

Enclosure

**ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES THAT MAY
OCCUR IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT
LOS OSOS, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Mammals

Morro Bay kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys heermanni morroensis</i>	E
Southern sea otter	<i>Enhydra lutris nereis</i>	T

Birds

California clapper rail	<i>Rallus longirostris obsoletus</i>	E
California least tern	<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>	E
Least Bell's vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	E
Western snowy plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	T

Amphibians

California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	T
California tiger salamander	<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	T

Fish

Tidewater goby	<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	E
Steelhead trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	*

Invertebrates

Morro shoulderband snail (=banded dune snail)	<i>Helminthoglypta walkeriana</i>	E
Vernal pool fairy shrimp	<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	T

Plants

Morro manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos morroensis</i>	T
Salt marsh bird's-beak	<i>Cordylanthus maritimus ssp. maritimus</i>	E
Indian Knob mountainbalm	<i>Eriodictyon altissimum</i>	E
California sea-blite	<i>Suaeda californica</i>	E

Key:

E	Endangered
T	Threatened
CH	Critical Habitat

* The National Marine Fisheries Service is the responsible agency for the steelhead.