



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

February 11, 2011

Jane Swanson
San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace
PO Box 3608
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-3608

Ms. Swanson:

Thank you for your participation in the meeting conducted in San Luis Obispo on January 19, 2011, to present the results of the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Shoreline Fault Zone report. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) committed to having this meeting at the seismic workshop held in September 2010, as a way to get the results of this important study in the public domain as quickly and efficiently as possible. We do recognize that the report release date was delayed by approximately one week which reduced the amount of time that you and other interested people had to study the report ahead of the public meeting on January 19 but you obviously utilized that time very effectively.

During the meeting, you had submitted several questions in writing and the NRC committed to providing a response to question number 1 as stated below:

How is the seismic information in this report applied to the assessment of the ability of specific plant components to withstand ground shaking? Are structural engineers interfacing with PG&E as it does these studies? Are NRC engineering experts involved? I am thinking of such things as delicate instrumentation, especially that installed on vertical structures which would get the most shaking during an earthquake. At least one weather-reading instrument on the primary met tower recently failed, and that seems to have been caused by a mere gust of wind, not an earthquake.

The NRC understands that PG&E has concluded in its "Report on the Analysis of the Shoreline Fault Zone, Central Coastal California" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML110140431) that the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, remains within its current licensing basis and PG&E does not plan seismic reassessments of its plant components resulting from this report.

The NRC staff is planning to perform a confirmatory analysis of the above report and expects to issue an update of its analysis later this year as an update to Research Information Letter (RIL)-09-001, "Preliminary Deterministic Analysis of Seismic Hazard at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power

Plant from Newly Identified 'Shoreline Fault' (ADAMS No. ML090330188). The NRC confirmatory analysis will assess the data PG&E has provided, verify PG&E's analytical conclusions, and validate that the site's current design and licensing basis remains valid. It is expected that the licensee will continue to evaluate changes that may be needed to update its safety analysis and procedures for the plant-specific capabilities of its structures, systems, and components. As mentioned at the January 19, 2011 meeting in San Luis Obispo, this confirmatory analysis will be a cooperative effort between scientific, engineering, and licensing NRC staff members. Should any immediate safety issues be raised by the NRC staff during its review of the report, the NRC staff will not wait until issuance of the RIL update, but will engage Region IV and PG&E immediately to ensure public health and safety is maintained and the environment is protected. The NRC will continue to interface with PG&E regarding this report in a manner that is open and encourages public participation.

Regarding the particular instrument you mentioned, the primary met tower is not a seismically qualified structure, system, or component, and is, therefore, not a safety-related structure, in that it is not required to safely shutdown the plant or to mitigate the consequences of an accident.

In addition to the above, the NRC has held two pre-licensing meetings with PG&E regarding the seismic design basis of the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. One of the discussion points was to further clarify in its operating license how new seismic information may be incorporated and reviewed, and if this process should be codified as a license condition or amendment similar to the Long Term Seismic Program (LTSP) license condition.

Thank you for your interest in this issue. If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact Tom Farnholtz at (817) 860-8243 or myself.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tony Vogel, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

R:\REPORTS\DC\Jane Swanson Ltr 1-19-11

ADAMS ML

ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: TRF
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive
DRS\EB1:C	PAO		Director
T. Farnholtz	V. Dricks		T. Vogel
<i>/RA/</i>	<i>/RA/</i>		<i>/RA/</i>
2/10/11	2/11/11		2/11/11

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

T=Telephone

E=E-mail

F=Fax