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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

September 30, 2013

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Chairman Allison M. Macfarlane U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Macfarlane:

I am writing to request a transcription and/or videotape of the upcoming Southwestern U.S. Ground Motion Characterization SSHAC Level 3 Workshop taking place in Berkeley, Calif. on Oct. 22-24 be made available for the public.

At the last SSHAC workshop held at Oakland in March, 2013, the public was prohibited from attending and observing the proceedings. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) request for information developed from the Near-Term Task Force's evaluation of the Fukushima Daiiichi accident is of great interest to my constituents, and they should be allowed to observe such proceedings pursuant to the SSHAC NRC Guidelines, NUREG 2117.

I request a transcription and/or videotape of the upcoming workshop be made available because simply publishing the paper presented at the workshop would not allow those unable to attend the ability to review the interactions and debate between the participating experts that are a key element of the proceedings.

As you know, my constituents are deeply concerned about the possible impacts of the Hosgri and Shoreline faults on the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (DCNPP). The SSHAC proceedings are an integral part of gathering seismic information about the impacts of those faults. However, a lack of transparency and documentation of the workshops will only intensify these concerns by raising questions about the legitimacy of seismic safety decisions at DCNPP.

I understand Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison and Arizona Public Service are co-sponsoring the SSHAC Level 3 study, but since these workshops are at the request of the NRC, I encourage the Commission to recommend the proceedings are documented for the public. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LOIS CAPPS

Member of Congress

CC: Dr. Norman A. Abrahamson (PG&E)

Mr. Tom Jones (PG&E)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0523

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