



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001**

July 1, 2015

Mr. Vincent Armenta, Tribal Chairman
Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians
P.O. Box 517
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO REINITIATE THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING
PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF THE DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT,
UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION**

Dear Chairman Armenta:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is conducting an environmental review of the effects of renewing the operating license for Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (DCPP). DCPP is located in Avila Beach on the western side of San Luis Obispo County, California and is operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The application for renewal was submitted by PG&E in a letter dated November 23, 2009, pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54). Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years, and the license may be renewed for up to 20 years.

As part of the NRC's review, a site-specific supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," NUREG-1437, will be prepared under 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC's regulation that implements the National Environment Policy Act of 1969. The SEIS will include an analysis of environmental issues and will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and archaeological resources, terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, and socioeconomic issues (among others) and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action.

In accordance with the requirements at 10 CFR 51.29, a public scoping process is conducted to determine the scope of the environmental review and aid in the identification of issues to be considered in the SEIS. The scoping process was completed on April 12, 2010. By letter dated May 31, 2011, prior to issuance of the draft SEIS, the NRC delayed all further milestones associated with the environmental review of the DCPP license renewal application to allow PG&E time for the completion of certain seismic studies to address concerns raised during the State of California's Coastal Zone Management Act consistency review. On December 22, 2014, and February 25, 2015, PG&E amended its environmental report to incorporate additional information necessary for the environmental review.

On April 29, 2015, the NRC issued a revised schedule for the completion of the DCPP license renewal environmental review. Because of the length of time since the previous scoping period, a Notice of Intent is being issued advising the public that the NRC intends to reopen the scoping process to aid in the determination of the scope of the environmental review and identification of issues that may have emerged since the last scoping period.

In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8, the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

As your Tribe has cultural and historic ties to the DCPD site, the NRC invites you to provide input to the scoping process relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. Please submit any comments that you may have on the scope of the environmental review by August 30, 2015. Written comments should be submitted by mail to:

Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mailstop OWFN-12-H08
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by accessing www.regulations.gov and searching for Docket ID NRC-2009-0552.

The DCPD license renewal application is available at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/diablo-canyon.html>.

The NRC plans to hold two public environmental scoping meetings on August 5, 2015, at Courtyard by Marriott San Luis Obispo, 1605 Calle Joaquin Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405. The first meeting will convene at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., as necessary; the second meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary.

The NRC expects to publish the draft SEIS in August 2016. A copy of the document will be sent to you for your review and comment. After consideration of public comments received, the NRC will prepare a final SEIS, which is scheduled to be issued in May 2017.

V. Armenta

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If you have any questions concerning the NRC's review of this license renewal application, please contact Russell Chazell, Environmental Scientist, at 301-415-5003 or by e-mail at Russell.Chazell@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA Kevin Folk for/

David J. Wrona, Chief
Environmental Review and
Guidance Update Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-275 and 50-323

Enclosures:

1. Area Map, 50-mile radius
2. Area Map, 6-mile radius
3. DCPP Site Area Map

cc w/encls: Listserv

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DISTRIBUTION: See next page

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*concurring via email

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NAME	IBetts	MWentzel	RChazell	DWrona (KFolk for)
DATE	6/9/15	6/11/15	6/11/15	7/1/15

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to V. Armenta from D. Wrona date June 1, 2015

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