

November 19, 2015

Mr. Edward D. Halpern
Senior Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 56
Mail Code 104/6
Avila Beach, CA 93424

Dear Mr. Halpern:

This letter is to express our gratitude and thanks to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PGE) for hosting the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Research Reactor Decommissioning Demonstration (R2D2) Project Workshop on “Release of Building and Sites/Final Survey” at the Humboldt Bay Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning Project September 28–October 2, 2015. As co-sponsor with IAEA, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff began working with PGE in early 2015. The R2D2 Project was initiated in 2006 to educate developing country regulatory agency professionals and shutdown facility owners on the safe decommissioning of research reactors. Based on feedback, the workshop conducted at Humboldt Bay was successful due to PGE’s support planning the workshop, active participation, and providing access to the reactor facility to allow participants to observe and perform radiological surveys.

We would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Loren Sharp, Director and Nuclear Plant Manager, and Mrs. Donna Irwin, Executive Assistant, for their excellent leadership in the planning that enabled the workshop to occur and then directly by contributing to the success of the workshop with their presentations and interactions with the international participants. They were ably supported by the Humboldt Bay staff, Mr. John Albers and Mr. Bill Barley.

We are appreciative of PGE hosting the IAEA meeting and your support for international education. The workshop provided an outstanding opportunity for the 18 international regulators and operators from 11 countries to participate in discussions that integrated the role of the regulator, licensee, and decommissioning workers. While the workshop was focused on the performance of radiological surveys, participants were extremely impressed with the work planning, safety briefings, and observation of safe decommissioning and survey activities. It was apparent to all that Humboldt Bay Management had instilled safety as an important routine practice that was integrated into activities.

E. Halpern

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Again, PGE's hosting of the workshop at Humboldt Bay provided an invaluable learning experience that can be applied at research reactors in the developing countries. Thanks for your contributions in this important international endeavor.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Scott W. Moore, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: Mr. Loren Sharp, PE
Director and Plant Manager
Humboldt Bay Nuclear
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
1000 King Salmon Avenue
Eureka, CA 95503

Mr. John Rowat
International Atomic Energy Agency
Decommissioning and Remediation Unit
Division of Radiation, Transport
and Waste Safety
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 100
1400 Vienna, Austria

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