7-3-75
(PAC)

50-275/323

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, will hold a public hearing on July 11, 1975 at 10:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, Madison and Pacific Streets, Monterey, California. Pursuant to Section 13350 of the California Water Code, the Board will consider whether the discharger has:

1. Negligently or intentionally discharged waste in violation of waste discharge requirements issued by the Central Coast Regional Board; or

2. Caused or permitted waste to be discharged into waters of the State and created a condition of pollution or nuisance.

If the Board finds that such acts have occurred, it may request the Attorney General to petition the Superior Court to impose civil monetary remedies.

The Board's staff, the discharger and other interested persons will be given the opportunity to present evidence which tends to prove that the acts set forth above did or did not occur. The discharger and all other interested persons may, but need not, be represented by counsel.

If possible, written copies of testimony to be presented at the hearing should be furnished to the Board in advance of the hearing.

The Regional Board file on the discharge of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is open to public inspection at the Regional Board office, 1122-A Laurel Lane, San Luis Obispo, California from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays.

Kenneth Jones

KENNETH R. JONES
Executive Officer

CC: Board Members
All Parties

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY	Docket Nos. 50-275-OL 50-323-OL
Units 1 and 2	
Diablo Canyon Site	

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

On June 19, 1975 the San Luis Obispo Mothers For Peace filed a set of 37 interrogatories. Under NRC regulations PGandE's time to respond expires July 7, 1975. Because the interrogatories are so extensive PGandE needs additional time within which to respond. To obviate the need for further requests PGandE would like its deadline extended to July 21, 1975, although it is hopeful it can have its responses in the mail prior to that date.

PGandE has not contacted any other party regarding this extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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PHILIP A. CRANE, JR.
DENNIS C. SULLIVAN

By Philip A. Crane, Jr.
Philip A. Crane, Jr.

Attorneys for
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street
San Francisco, California 94106

Dated: July 3, 1975

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

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RESPONSE OF PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
TO MOTION OF WILLIAM P. CORNWELL
DATED JUNE 23, 1975

PGand E submits that the above-captioned motion should be denied. Wholly apart from questions of the propriety of Mr. Cornwell's motion and the methodology of collecting and analyzing the samples, there is no showing that

a. PGandE is responsible for the copper in the sediments in Diablo Cove;

b. That the amount contained in sample 10 (6 parts per million) is harmful to marine life (i.e., to what extent do marine animals and plants consume sediments?);

c. That a finding of 6 parts per million is unusual. On the contrary a cursory review of the literature reveals that higher readings are common. See, for example, an article in the August 1974 issue of Scientific American entitled "The Disposal of Waste in the Ocean" by Willard Bascom. The article includes a chart giving

trace metal copper concentrations in sea water and sediments and indicates that the average from five sites along the California coast as about 20 parts per million. A copy of the chart is attached. For further comparison, R. Chester, p. 61, Chemical Oceanography, Volume II (J. P. Riley and G. Skirrow, 1965, Academic Press), shows copper concentrations in near-shore sediments in the 40 - 50 parts per million range. Indeed, PGandE is mystified that the so-called control sample included so little copper and concludes that it must have been a rock.

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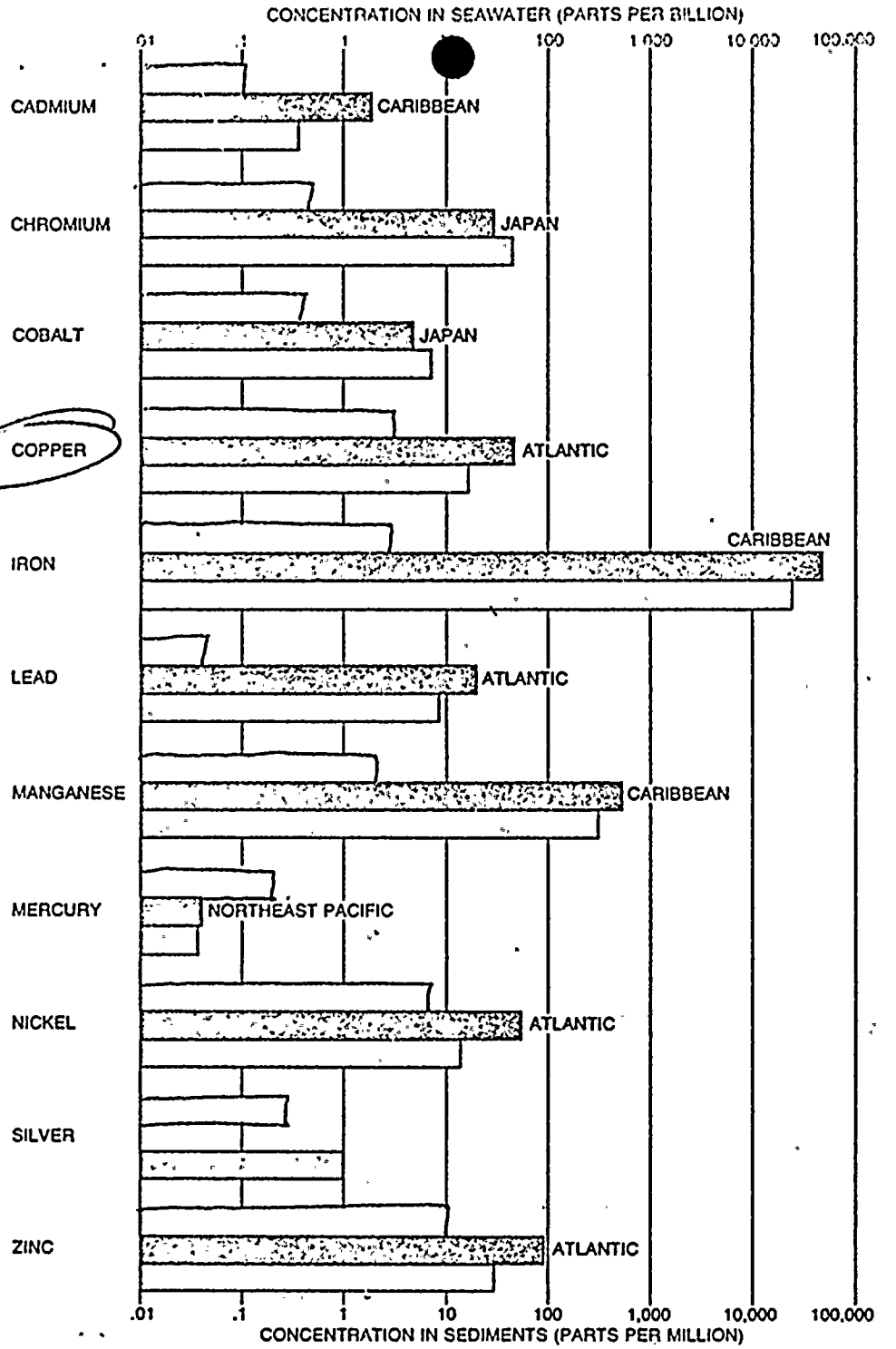
To maintain the ocean waters at an acceptable level of quality it is necessary to consider the main inputs of possible pollutants resulting from human activity. One of them is fecal waste (75 grams dry weight of solids per person per day), which after various degrees of treatment ends up in the ocean as "municipal effluent." Wastes also flow from a host of industrial activities. They are usually processed for the removal of the constituents that are most likely to be harmful, and the remaining effluent is discharged through pipes into the ocean. Dumping from barges into deep water offshore is a means of disposing of dredged materials, sewage sludge and chemical wastes. Thermal wastes include the warmed water from coastal power plants and cooled water from terminals where ships carrying liquid natural gas are berthed. In addition ships heave trash and garbage overboard and pump oily waste from their ballast tanks and bilges.

Such are the intentional discharges, but pollutants reach the ocean in other ways. Aerial fallout brings minute globules of pesticide sprayed on crops, particles of soot from chimneys and the residue of the exhaust of automobiles and airplanes. Painted boat bottoms exude small amounts of toxicants intended to discourage the growth of algae and barnacles. Forest fires put huge amounts of carbon and metallic oxides into the air and thence into the sea. Oil spills from ship collisions and blowouts during underwater drilling operations add an entire class of compounds.

Moreover, natural processes contribute things to the sea that would be called pollutants if man put them there. Streams add fresh water, which is damaging to marine organisms such as coral, and they also bring pollutants washed by rain from trees and land. Volcanic eruptions add large quantities of heavy metals, heat and new rock. Oil has seeped from the bottom since long before man arrived.

Finally, the ocean is neither "pure" nor the same everywhere. It already contains vast amounts of nearly everything, including a substantial burden of metals at low concentration and oxygen at relatively high concentration, plus all kinds of nutrients and chemicals. It has hot and cold layers, well stratified by the thermocline (the boundary between the warm, oxygen-rich upper layer and the cold, oxygen-poor depths). Waves and currents keep the water constantly in motion. It is against this complex background that man must measure the effects of his own discharges.

Even if there were no people living on seacoasts, it would be impossible to predict accurately the kind and quality of marine life because of the natural variability of the ocean. The biota shifts constantly because the temperature and the currents change. Great "blooms" of plankton develop rapidly when conditions have become exactly right and then die off in a few days, depleting the oxygen in the water on both occasions. Within a single year the population of such organisms as salps, copepods and euphausids can change by a factor of 10. When the waters off California become warmer as the current structure shifts, red "crabs" (which look more like small lobsters and are of the genus *Pleuroncodes*) float by in fantastic numbers, fol-



TRACE METALS in seawater (*color*) and top 10 centimeters of sediment (*gray*) are charted. Seawater figures are a worldwide average. The darker gray bars show concentrations at several sampling sites and the lighter bars the average from five sites along California coast.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The foregoing document(s) of Pacific Gas and Electric Company ~~has~~ (have) been served today on the following by deposit in the United States mail, properly stamped and addressed:

Mrs. Elizabeth E. Apfelberg
C/o Ms. Raye Fleming
1746 Chorro Street
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

James R. Tourtellotte, Esq.
Office of Executive Legal Director
BETH 042
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Elizabeth S. Bowers, Esq.
Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Landow Building - Room 1209
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Mr. William P. Cornwell
P. O. Box 453
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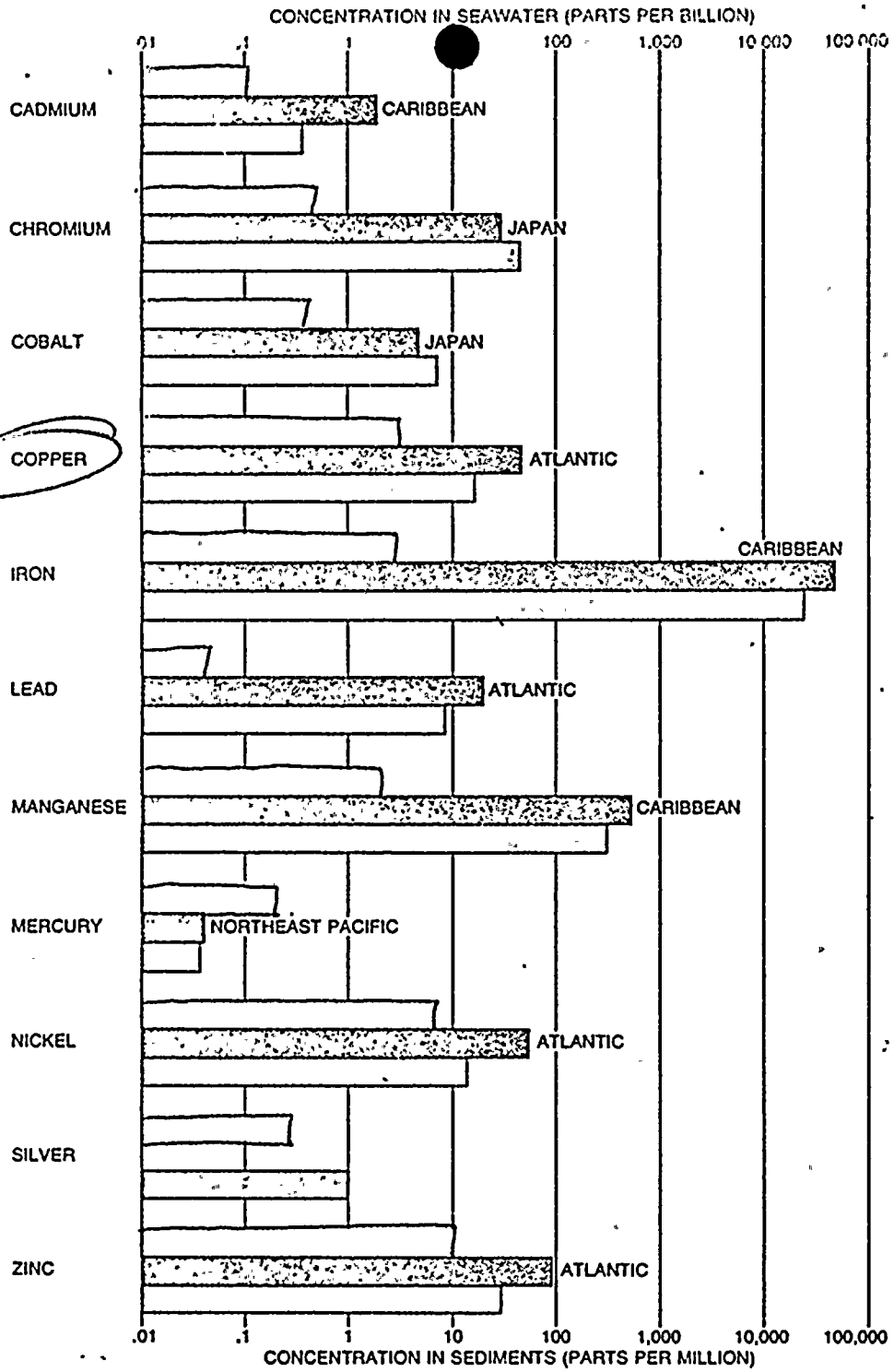

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