

## IE HQ FILE COPY ALIFORNIA UTILITY USERS COALITION

P.O. Box 4639 Mountain View, CA 94040 L.D. Belveal - Exec. Dir.

16 April, 1982

Mr. Richard C. DeYoung, Director, Inspection & Enforcement Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1717 "H" Street Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

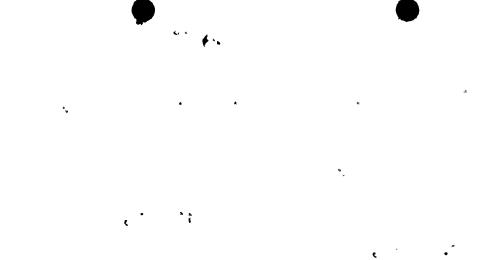
May I be one of many individuals and organizations to congratulate you on the forthrightness with which you rejected Pacific Gas & Electric Company's effort to get the Commission's "Notice of Violation" rescinded. Your action constitutes an important step in reestablishing NRC's credibility as a guardian of the public interest.

I'm sure you and the Commissioners must realize that many --- perhaps most --- of the questions that currently worry a lot of thoughtful people here in California, apropos Diablo Canyon, are just no longer answerable by the discredited management of Pacific Gas & Electric. has been amply demonstrated that PG&E will use any combination of evasion, dissembling and bald lies in its efforts to lull the public and its lawfully designated regulators into a sense of false security. company's representations concerning Diablo Canyon, or anything else that relates to public safety, are -- and must continue to be -- taken at far less than face value. FG&E has no credibility in this area.

This organization believes that nuclear power is a logical next step in meeting our nation's energy requirements. At the same time, we are unwilling to join in any effort to force people to live in proximity to that "composite fiasco of stupid placement, slipshod planning, flawed design, and atrocious execution. The question now comes down to "how would I like to live in the vicinity of Diablo Canyon when they start it up?"' I can tell you, most folks would rather not; and, feeling as they do, most folks are therefor unwilling to impose this open threat on others who do happen to live in the vicinity.

In my opinion it makes little difference what the verities happen to be with respect to Diablo's engineering integrity and earthquakeresistant capabilities. The issue relates to public confidence. We have been lied to about this plant. Considering the hazards involved, the label of criminal disregard of public safety is the only one that fits. PG&E should be called to legal account for its criminal intentions and its overt efforts to translate those intentions to <u>criminal acts.</u>

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With this as a background, I have the greatest difficulty imagining any authority with sufficient public credibility to allay the fears that quite properly now surround the issue. At the very least, if Diablo Canyon is ever adjudged safe for operation, it should be placed under the operational control of someone other than Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Commissioner Victor Gilinsky spoke for millions of Californians when he declared that PG&E's shabby behavior in this matter raised "serious questions about the fitness of the company to operate a nuclear plant."

It comes down to the fact that, while there are some people in this state who are just flatly opposed to nuclear energy, they constitute a small minority. When you begin counting the people in this state who are unwilling to trust their safety to manipulators, incompetents and liars that presently direct the affairs of Pacific Gas & Electric, you find near-unanimity! There is too much at stake here to be risked lightly — and the record at PG&E in this issue is not one to engender confidence.

Again, my sincere congratulations to you for refusing to play the "game" with Pacific Gas & Electric. There is far too much at stake here to permit administrative toleration. If those folks had gotten their way earlier, they were willing to gamble with the health and even the lives of millions of people! In any future dealings with this crowd, that single, reprehensible, hair-raising fact must never be forgotten!

Very sincerely yours,

L. D. Belveal

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Copies to: NRC Commissioners

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