

50-133

AUG 31 1982

Dist.	M. Jambor	RMattson
Docket File ✓	M. Stine	RVollmer
NRC PDR w/incoming	SNorris	HThompson
LPDR w/incoming	VRooney	PCheck
EDO Rdg	Gray File	BSnyder
ORB #2 Rdg	SECY 0852	ORB #2 GT file
DEisenhut	HDenton	OCA-3
RPurple	DVassallo	
JHeltemes	Davis	
OELD	ECase	
MBridgers (#12222)	SHanauer	
Program Support Staff, NRR		

Mrs. Lee Ross
P. O. Box 1107
Ross, California 94957

Dear Mrs. Ross:

Your letter dated July 25, 1982, to the Chairman has been referred to me for response. In your letter you requested information about the disposition of radioactive waste stored at the Humboldt Bay plant and the status of Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) plans for "closing the grounds."

All of the radioactive waste present at the Humboldt Bay Plant was either generated during the past operation of the plant (which has been shutdown since July 1976) or during the servicing of the shutdown plant. There is substantially less radioactivity on site than would be the case if the plant had recently operated. Shipments of low-level radioactive waste are made to the radioactive waste repository at Richland, Washington from time to time so that the radioactive waste inventory at the plant is gradually being reduced.

Plans for ultimate disposition of the plant and associated wastes, including the fuel, have not been finalized by PG&E. An NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has ordered that PG&E report, at a future date, plans for long term use of the Humboldt Bay plant, and to submit three months status reports in the meantime. According to these reports PG&E is studying various alternatives, ranging from resumed operation of the plant to various types of decommissioning.

If PG&E decides it wants to resume operation of the Humboldt Bay plant, it must first obtain NRC approval. Considering the shutdown condition of the plant, the NRC regards the plant, and level of radioactive waste present, as safe. The NRC staff would not recommend or approve resumed operation of the plant until convinced that all safety and environmental issues pertaining to plant operation were resolved so that the public health and safety would continue to be adequately protected.

I hope that this information is responsive to your concern. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Previous concurrence copy concurred on by:
S. Goldberg, OELD, 8/27/82

Harold R. Denton, Director

8209220355 820831
PDR ADOCK 05000133
H PDR

OFFICE	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation	NRR
SURNAME	VRooney:ms	DVassallo	GLainas	DEisenhut	HRDenton
DATE	8/27/82	8/27/82	8/27/82	8/ /82	8/31/82



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

AUG 31 1982

Mrs. Lee Ross
P. O. Box 1107
Ross, California 94957

Dear Mrs. Ross:

Your letter dated July 25, 1982, to the Chairman has been referred to me for response. In your letter you requested information about the disposition of radioactive waste stored at the Humboldt Bay plant and the status of Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) plans for "closing the grounds."

All of the radioactive waste present at the Humboldt Bay Plant was either generated during the past operation of the plant (which has been shutdown since July 1976) or during the servicing of the shutdown plant. There is substantially less radioactivity on site than would be the case if the plant had recently operated. Shipments of low-level radioactive waste are made to the radioactive waste repository at Richland, Washington from time to time so that the radioactive waste inventory at the plant is gradually being reduced.

Plans for ultimate disposition of the plant and associated wastes, including the fuel, have not been finalized by PG&E. An NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has ordered that PG&E report, at a future date, plans for long term use of the Humboldt Bay plant, and to submit three months status reports in the meantime. According to these reports PG&E is studying various alternatives, ranging from resumed operation of the plant to various types of decommissioning.

If PG&E decides it wants to resume operation of the Humboldt Bay plant, it must first obtain NRC approval. Considering the shutdown condition of the plant, the NRC regards the plant, and level of radioactive waste present, as safe. The NRC staff would not recommend or approve resumed operation of the plant until convinced that all safety and environmental issues pertaining to plant operation were resolved so that the public health and safety would continue to be adequately protected.

I hope that this information is responsive to your concern. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation