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September 15, 1983

Nunzio Palladino, Chairman
James Asselstine, Commissioner
Frederick M. Bernthal, Commissioner
Victor Gilinsky, Commissioner
Thomas Roberts, Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Pacific Gas and Electric
Company, Diablo Canyon
Nuclear Power Plant
Unit 1 and Unit 2,
Docket # 50-275 & 50-323

Gentlemen:

The Commission has deferred indefinitely its meeting to hear the views of the parties to the Diablo Canyon licensing proceeding on reinstatement of the low power test license. When that meeting is rescheduled, we request that it be held in San Luis Obispo, California, the location of the plant, and that the public be provided an opportunity to address the Commission.

We believe that all parties -- and particularly the Commission -- have much to gain by granting this request. In the first place, a local hearing will increase public understanding of the Commission's deliberative process. Usually all that the public sees is the final product of the Commission's deliberations, an edict issued by faceless bureaucrats living far from the plant. However, if the public is provided the opportunity to hear the arguments

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first hand, (instead of through second hand, abbreviated news reports) and to see the Commission consider those arguments, then they are likely to have a greater appreciation for the decision making process. Moreover, if they believe in the strength of their case, PG&E, Teledyne and the Staff should welcome the opportunity to present them to the public.

Secondly, presenting the public an opportunity to express their views to the Commissioners demonstrates that this matter is receiving the high degree of concern that it merits.

The events of the last two years have taken their toll on public confidence. First, in an unprecedented act, the Commission, in November 1981, was compelled to reverse its safety finding and suspend the Diablo Canyon operating license issued only two months earlier. Since that time repeated disclosures of major design and construction errors has further eroded public confidence in the plant's safety. And most recently the public learned that PG&E (1) withheld documents reporting major deficiencies in the quality assurance program of a major construction contractor, and (2) misled the Appeal Board on this matter in sworn testimony at the July, 1983 "mini hearing,"*/ a disclosure that cast suspicion on the reliability of the Diablo Canyon Project's recent assurance that the plant is now safe.

Under these unusual circumstances, the Commission should take every step to permit public participation and

*/ Joint Intervenor's Supplement to Motion to Reopen the Record on the Issue of Construction Quality Assurance Dated September 9, 1983

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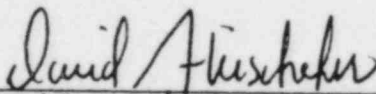
increase public appreciation for its decision making process. Granting this request is a step in that direction.

Very truly yours,

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

_____)	
In the Matter of)	
)	
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY)	Docket Nos. 50-275
)	50-323
(Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power)	
Plant, Unit 1 and Unit 2)	
_____)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of September, 1983, I have served copies of the foregoing letter, mailing them through the U.S. mails, first class, postage prepaid.

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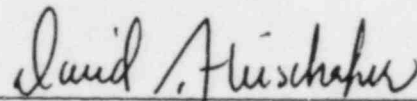
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