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REGION V INF

JAMES D. SHIFFER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION

March 6, 1985

PGandE Letter No.: DCL-85-095

Mr. John B. Martin, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5368

Re: Docket No. 50-275, OL-DPR-80
Docket No. 50-323
Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2
Diablo Canyon Newsletter



Dear Mr. Martin:

Enclosed is a copy of the February 1985 "Diablo Canyon Newsletter" which is published to inform San Luis Obispo County residents about Diablo Canyon Power Plant and the Emergency Response Plan. This copy of the Newsletter is being supplied to the NRC to facilitate awareness of PGandE's public education program as it concerns the Emergency Response Plan. Future copies of the Newsletter will be sent to Mr. Raymond Fish as part of PGandE's routine distribution system.

Sincerely,

J. D. Shiffer
J. D. Shiffer

Enclosure

cc: R. Fish
G. W. Knighton

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ENCLOSURE

Diablo Canyon

Published periodically
for residents of
San Luis Obispo County.

Newsletter

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

FEBRUARY 1985

Diablo Canyon producing power as tests proceed

On November 11, Diablo Canyon Power Plant produced electricity for customers for the first time.

Early that morning, plant operators increased the power level of the Unit 1 reactor to 15 percent, the level at which electricity moves into PG&E's power grid to customers.

The unit has since produced power at up to about 50 percent of its capacity, serving the electrical needs of about 500,000 people. Operating at full power, the unit can produce 1.1 million kilowatts.

Power produced to date comes as part of a program testing all aspects of the plant for safe and efficient functioning. During these tests, the plant generates

power for varying periods at different power levels (30 percent, 50 percent, etc.). At each level, engineers repeat the tests to ensure that the reactor and the rest of the plant respond as they should to various conditions. If there are any variations, the engineers "fine tune" the controls.

Operators sometimes reduce the power level or shut the plant down to make modifications or re-calibrate instruments.

The purpose of the testing program is to ensure that the plant is ready for safe full-power operation. The testing began shortly after a U.S. Court of Appeals lifted a stay on the plant's full-power license on October 31. Testing was

expected to last about four months.

Diablo Canyon's Unit 2 is in the final stages of construction. On January 9 PG&E applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a license to load fuel and begin testing.

"Hot functional" testing has been completed at Unit 2. During this testing, the reactor coolant system was being heated by friction. There is no nuclear fuel in the reactor.

Plant personnel have operated all four large reactor coolant pumps and have heated the primary water system to operating temperature and pressure. □

County, PG&E Test Emergency Procedures

San Luis Obispo County and Pacific Gas and Electric Company procedures for dealing with an accident at Diablo Canyon Power Plant were successfully tested for the fourth time since 1981 on October 30, 1984 in an exercise monitored by both the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

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ELECTRICITY FLOWS FROM DIABLO CANYON—The Diablo Canyon button on this power control console lights up as the plant generates electricity for the first time.



Dale Auth and Van Lyons (in the car) are members of the ARES, a group of ham operators who help out in emergencies.

Amateur radio operators help with siren test

Sirens installed throughout San Luis Obispo County's Basic Emergency Planning Zone to alert residents to any emergency are tested each year to be sure that all parts of the system are working and that people within the basic emergency planning zone can hear them.

ARES helps with testing

For the past three years, a group known as ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) has worked with the county and PG&E in testing the siren system. During the test, about 85 ARES operators, all volunteers licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, are stationed at various siren locations. They relay information to a central command post and let authorities know if the siren sounded as it should.

Many of these volunteers also provided communication relay during the Coalinga earthquake. In addition to emergency work, they help during parades, marathons and fire watches.

When you hear the sirens

The sirens could be used in any type of emergency, but will definitely be used if there is an emergency at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant requiring some kind of action, or the potential for action, by the public.

If you hear the sirens sounding a steady tone for three to five minutes, tune your radio to KVEC (920 AM) or KUNA (1400 AM).

If there is an emergency at the plant, officials will notify local, state and federal authorities. The siren system is controlled from the county sheriff's office.

In an emergency, do not call the fire department or any other public safety departments. They need to keep lines open for emergency bulletins. Do not use your phone at all except for personal emergencies.

Every home should have a battery-operated radio and spare batteries to make sure occupants can find out what is going on if the sirens sound. □

KVEC and KUNA ready to broadcast emergency information

The Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) in San Luis Obispo County consists of 13 radio and TV stations which have agreed to broadcast official information in time of emergency. Two of these stations, KVEC (920 AM) and KUNA (1400 AM), are the control stations. One or the other would receive messages from the county's Emergency Operations Center over a special telephone line or a two-way radio. Other EBS stations will rebroadcast the message.

KVEC is the primary station from 5 a.m. until midnight when it goes off the air. KUNA takes over from midnight to 5 a.m. and at other times if for some reason KVEC is not operating.

To improve the reliability of the system, both stations are being supplied auxiliary power units by PG&E so that they could continue to operate during a power outage. The auxiliary power units are already installed and operational at KVEC and the units for KUNA were scheduled to be completed by February 1. □

Information in Telephone Book

Your telephone book contains information about what to do in case of an emergency at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. The information is on page A40 of the latest edition of Pacific Bell's directory. □



Jeannie Nix, executive director of the San Luis Obispo Red Cross, explains all the functions of her organization.

Red Cross aids county in emergency planning

The Red Cross, known everywhere for providing relief in all kinds of situations, is ready to help San Luis Obispo County during local emergencies. The list of emergencies the organization is prepared for includes fire, flooding, earthquakes, hazardous chemical spills and nuclear power plant accidents.

The Red Cross works year round with the county to be pre-

pared for any disaster. It is ready to provide shelter, clothing, food and medical care at the shelters. To coordinate these plans, officials from the county's Office of Emergency Services serve on the Red Cross Disaster Service Committee, working closely with Disaster Chairperson Virginia Bowser. The county and the Red Cross function as a team in providing emergency services.

The American Red Cross is chartered by Congress and mandated to provide disaster relief, but is not funded. Each of the 3,000 chapters raises its own money and makes its own plans, based on what emergencies its area is susceptible to. □

Questions and Answers

Here are the answers to questions often asked by your neighbors about emergency response planning in San Luis Obispo County for the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. If you have questions, or would just like some more information, contact the County Office of Emergency Services at 549-5011 or PG&E's Community Activities Department at 544-3334.

Q. Who will make the decisions about how to respond during an emergency?

A. If there is an emergency (of any kind) which has the potential to endanger San Luis Obispo County residents, the county administrative officer becomes the

emergency services director. With help and advice from other county government officials (such as the sheriff, health officer, fire chief and the board of supervisors) and state and federal government officials, the emergency services director would decide what actions would be necessary. In case of an accident at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, the emergency services director would also have PG&E's help.

Q. In the case of an accident at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant involving the release of radiation, how will decision-makers get accurate information about radiation levels outside the plant?

A. The county's Emergency Response Plan calls for the creation of a radiation monitoring center in the case of an emergency at Diablo Canyon. This center would send monitoring teams wherever radiation testing is needed. The teams would

radio their data back to the center, where it would be used to determine what the appropriate precautions or emergency response would be. All needed equipment is in place, and trained personnel are ready to activate the center immediately should it be needed. Also, special radiation measurement instruments installed at major population centers automatically send information to the radiation monitoring center. □

About this Newsletter

Diablo Canyon newsletter is published twice a year by PG&E to inform residents of San Luis Obispo County about the Emergency Response Plan and about the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. We invite your questions and comments. You may send them to Don Kennedy, Los Padres District manager, P.O. Box 592, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406. □

County, PG&E Test Emergency Procedures

continued from front cover

The drill tested the communications and emergency management capabilities of the county and PG&E under three of the nuclear emergency categories defined by the NRC.

Beginning with a mock alert the realistic but improbable scenario took plant operators and county response teams through the site area emergency and general emergency conditions.

The six-hour drill involved teams at Diablo Canyon Power Plant, the county's Emergency Operations Center, PG&E's Emergency Operations Facility and PG&E's corporate offices in San Francisco. Local schools also tested their own emergency plans and the American Red Cross practiced its ability to operate a reception and care facility.

No serious deficiencies were found by the FEMA team observing the annual exercise. They had compliments for the Red Cross, Lucia Mar School District, radiological field teams, the county's Emergency Operations Center and PG&E Emergency Operations Facility. FEMA also praised the joint public information operation by PG&E and the county at the Cuesta College auditorium.

"Drills of this type test emergency response capabilities under realistic conditions," said County Administrator Bill Briam, who serves as the county's Emergency Services Director. "They are necessary to ensure proper and adequate public protection and information, should they ever have to be used."

"In an emergency, County and PG&E personnel have immediate responsibilities. These drills are a good indicator of how those responsibilities will be carried out for the protection of the public," Briam said. □

Emergency Response Plan Booklet

A booklet describing the county's Emergency Response Plan is distributed each fall to residents of the Basic Emergency Planning Zone around the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. The booklet gives information about what to do in the event of an emergency involving the plant. If you don't have one or would like more information, call the County Office of Emergency Services at (805) 549-5011 or PG&E's Community Activities Department at (805) 544-3334. □

Diablo Canyon Newsletter

