

3721 San Ysidro Way
Sacramento 25 Calif.
March 31, 1964

The Executive Officers

United States Atomic Energy Commission
1717 H Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

LAR File Copy

Subject: Proposed Atomic Energy Plants
by P.G. & E. at Bodega Bay & Monterey Bay, Calif.

Dear Sirs:

I have been following newspaper reports concerning the above proposed atomic energy power plants with interest. The discussion evolves mainly around the following factors

1. Availability of large water supplies (the ocean); Economy.
2. Concern over proximity of site to an earthquake fault; Safety.
3. Loss of "natural picturesque setting; beauty."

Solely on the basis of the above matters I would be inclined to attempt to influence P.G. & E. Company against building these plants as proposed. In fact it has long been known that all of California is subject to earthquakes and this alone should discourage the use of atomic energy plants in this state - and on the Pacific Coast.

But I am sure that others have already called your attention to the foregoing, and I do not intend to repeat this view which has already been made by others. It is rather the necessity to call your attention to another consideration entirely, one which has not appeared in public forum that prompts this letter.

DR-95

Please refer to "Planet Earth as a Vehicle" by Bernard Baron; Library of Congress registration number A-680249.

In this book I touch upon the relation that our oceans have with concentrated stores of hydrogen and oxygen, both of which are readily - even explosively - combustible. The concentrations of molecules of hydrogen and oxygen are much greater in a liquid, like water, than in a gas, like the atmosphere. One atomic explosion that vaporizes the liquid, followed closely by a second explosion - has far greater potential for causing ignition than has a similar sequence in our atmosphere. Thus atomic accidents in, on, or adjacent to oceans and large bodies of water should be a matter for grave concern. They threaten not only to eliminate a single community, but they also threaten to transform the entire planet into a blazing sun.

Now let us assume that the chances are a million to one against such a resultant from an accident. But, if these plants are erected as proposed, they will be followed by others and the odds will diminish proportionately. And every atomic ship that plies the oceans will diminish these odds further.

Thus, the problem that enfolds around Bodega Bay is not one that concerns itself alone but involves serious consideration and deliberation on the entire atomic energy program. Perhaps this is best ~~resolved~~ ^{approached} by beginning to gently educate the community in these matters for they involve the acts of other nations as well as our own.

Respectfully yours
Bernard Baron

FROM: **Bernard Barca**
3721 San Isidro Way
Sacramento 25, California

DATE OF DOCUMENT:

3-11-64

DATE RECEIVED

4-13-64

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DATE ANSWERED:

NO ACTION NECESSARY ☐

COMMENT ☐

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FILE CODE:

Docket Nos. 50-205 and 50-133

DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified)

Ltr. opposing PC&R's plants for Bodega and Monterey Bays and stating why he feels that atomic accidents in, on, or adjacent to oceans and large bodies of

ENCLOSURES:

water should be a matter of grave concern (referring to his article on "Planet Earth as a Vehicle").

M. L. Price

4-14

ATTN: C. T. Edwards w/50-205 SUPPL. FILE CY
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(OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR)

REMARKS:

Mail Rm Dist: 1 to each formal file
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