

DLR:CTE

Docket No. 50-225

AUG 16 1963

Mr. James A. S. Wagstaff
3556 Ramona Street
Palo Alto, California

Dear Mr. Wagstaff:

This replies to your letter of July 24, addressed to Chairman Seaborg in which you expressed concern with respect to the proposed construction of a nuclear power plant at Bodega Head, California.

At the Commission's request, the U. S. Geological Survey has been conducting a thorough field study of the geology of Bodega Head since early May. In addition, expert consultants have been retained to assist the AEC Regulatory Staff in evaluating Pacific Gas & Electric Company's application with respect to the seismology of the area and structural design of the proposed plant. Final action on the Pacific Gas & Electric Company application will not be taken until the report by the U. S. Geological Survey has been received and evaluated. Further, a construction permit will not be issued unless the Commission, following a public hearing and a decision by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board and consideration of all factors bearing upon safety is convinced that the facility can be constructed and operated at the proposed location without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

Enclosed is a pamphlet which describes the procedures relating to the licensing of power reactors by the Atomic Energy Commission. The public will be given thirty days notice of the date of the public hearing to be held in Santa Rosa in this matter through a notice published in the Federal Register. In addition, a public announcement will be issued.

We feel confident that these procedures and their provision for public hearing will enable all interested persons to acquaint themselves with the details of Pacific Gas & Electric Company's

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proposal and will assure thorough consideration of all aspects of the proposed plant bearing upon the question of whether it can be constructed and operated at the proposed site without undue risk to the health and safety of the public. However, local zoning, conservation and the esthetics of the site are not within the jurisdiction of the Atomic Energy Commission and, therefore, are not considered in the evaluation of the application.

Thank you for your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by
Eber R. Price

Eber R. Price
Assistant Director
Division of Licensing
and Regulation

Enclosure:

Pamphlet

Distribution:

Formal

Supplemental

Public Document Room (2)

C. T. Edwards, DLR

G. Hadlock, OGC

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