

California Democratic State Central Committee

August 19, 1963

NY 8/24/63

The Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Democratic State Central Committee has asked a Committee, of which I am the Chairman, to study problems arising from the application of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company to build a nuclear power plant at Bodega Bay and has authorized the Committee to take such action as it deems appropriate.

Our Committee has studied material submitted by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, the Sierra Club and other interested groups. We have seen copies of letters to you from Secretary Udall and Senator Engle. We unanimously oppose any industrial development of this unique and beautiful part of California's shoreline, but are well aware of the limitations of your jurisdiction.

We urge that you hold extensive public hearings in Sonoma County and afford all interested persons and groups a full opportunity to present relevant evidence.

It would seem that there is a greater risk to adjacent and in this case heavily populated areas in locating a nuclear power plant near the San Andreas fault or other "earthquake areas" than outside of such areas. We ask that your Commission determine the degree of risk and then determine whether or not such risk is justified by other factors.

We urge that you act as promptly as possible because as you know the Pacific Gas and Electric Company continues to spend money in development of the site although the Company does not have authority from your Commission. We feel that such expenditures have been made at the risk of the Company and that your Commission should give no weight to them in making your determination.

Sincerely yours,

Roger Kent
Northern Chairman

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