



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 26, 2024

Ms. Paula Gerfen  
Senior Vice President, Generation  
and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant  
P.O. Box 56  
Mail Code 104/6  
Avila Beach, CA 93424

SUBJECT: DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 – LICENSE  
RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE LETTER

Dear Ms. Gerfen:

By letter dated November 7, 2023 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Package Accession No. ML23311A154), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted an application for the renewal of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-80 and DPR-82 for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (DCPP), Units 1 and 2 to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). By letter dated November 14, 2023 (ML23293A105), and *Federal Register* Notice dated November 20, 2023 (88 FR 80780), the NRC noticed the receipt and availability of this application.

On December 19, 2023 (ML23341A004), the NRC staff determined that the application contained sufficient information for the agency to formally docket the application and begin its safety and environmental reviews and stated that it was in the process of formulating its review schedule and resource estimates. By letter dated January 17, 2024 (ML24017A322), PG&E requested that “the NRC avoid scheduling any [license renewal application] review activities during the upcoming Unit 2 refueling outage....”

This letter forwards the NRC staff’s review schedule for the DCPP license renewal application (LRA) (Enclosure). The NRC staff will follow established review procedures and the enclosed schedule to complete the reviews required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Parts 51, “Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions,” and 54, “Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants.” Based on the information provided in the LRA, the NRC staff has estimated that the review of the LRA will take approximately 16,500 hours to complete. The schedule for the review accommodates PG&E’s January 17, request. This requires the NRC staff to delay scheduling critical safety review activities, such as early audits, until after the Unit 2 refueling outage which impacts the overall schedule. The environmental review schedule is not impacted by PG&E’s request. The NRC staff anticipates that opportunities may exist to streamline the review. For example, the NRC staff will appropriately account for its prior review of the initial license renewal application filed by PG&E in 2009 that was subsequently withdrawn. However, the NRC staff will need input from PG&E during this review to fully understand any changes that have occurred in the intervening period to support its regulatory decision. Finally, if there are emergent complexities or challenges in the review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the

changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated via separate correspondence. Milestones for hearing activities that may be needed are not included in the enclosed schedule or the estimated hours because these dates, if needed, would be established by the Commission or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board and new resource considerations would need to be developed.

The review schedule also relies on your responses to the NRC staff's requests for additional information, if needed, being of high quality and provided in a timely manner. A timely response is defined as 30 days from the date of the request, or within such other time as may be specified in the request in accordance with 10 CFR 2.108, "Denial of application for failure to supply information." You should also be prepared to provide high quality support in a timely and organized manner during technical audits determined to be necessary by the NRC staff. Delays in the NRC staff's receipt of necessary information could result in changes to the schedule for evaluating and processing the LRA, up to and including the denial of the LRA in accordance with the NRC's regulations. The NRC staff requests that you inform it in writing as early as possible should potential delays arise in your support of the schedule. The NRC staff's goal is to complete the review of the LRA in 20 months provided that PG&E fully addresses the staff's information needs in a timely manner.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Brian Harris, Senior Project Manager for the safety review of the LRA, by email at [Brian.Harris2@nrc.gov](mailto:Brian.Harris2@nrc.gov) or Ms. Kimberly Conway, Project Manager for the environmental review, by email at [Kimberly.Conway@nrc.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Conway@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,



Signed by Harris, Brian  
on 01/26/24

Brian K. Harris, Senior Project Manager  
License Renewal Projects Branch  
Division of New and Renewed Licenses  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-275 and 50-323

Enclosure:  
Review Schedule

cc w/encl: Listserv

SUBJECT: DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 – LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE LETTER  
DATED: JANUARY 29, 2024

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**ADAMS Accession No. ML24018A015**

OFFICE	NRR/DNRL/NLRP/PM	NRR/ DNRL/NLIB/LA	NRR/DNRL/NLRP/BC
NAME	BHarris	SGreen	LGibson
DATE	01/16/2024	01/18/2024	01/23/2024
OFFICE	OGC	NRR/DNRL/NLRP/PM	
NAME	JWachutka	BHarris	
DATE	1/25/2024	1/26/24	

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**DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE**

Milestone	Scheduled	Actual
Receive License Renewal Application (LRA)	11/23	11/7/23
Publish <i>Federal Register</i> Notice (FRN) – LRA Availability	11/23	11/20/23
Publish FRN – Docketing Acceptance/Rejection and Opportunity for Hearing	12/23	12/19/23
Publish FRN – Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping	01/24/24	01/24/24
Public Meeting – Overview of License Renewal Process and Environmental Scoping	02/01/24 (Virtual) & 02/08/24 (In-Person)	
Environmental Scoping Period Ends	2/23/24	
Deadline for Filing Hearing Requests and Petitions for Leave to Intervene	03/04/24	
Issue Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Public Comment	10/24	
Public Meeting – Draft SEIS Meeting, if Needed	10/24	
End of Draft SEIS Comment Period	11/24	
Issue Safety Evaluation Report (SER)	06/25	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency FRN Published – Availability of Final SEIS	06/25	
Issue Final SEIS	06/25	
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Full Committee Meeting	07/25	
Decision – Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation	08/25	

Enclosure