

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Diablo Canyon Power Plant  
P.O. Box 56  
Avila Beach, CA 93424  
805/545-6000



PG&E Letter DCL-2012-503

Certified/Return Receipt  
# 7010-1060-0000-4204-4197

January 27, 2012

Joseph G. Cordaro  
Wildlife Biologist  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200  
Long Beach, California 90802-4213

2011 Annual Sea Turtle Report for Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP)

Dear Mr. Cordaro,

As required by the biological opinion (issued: September 18, 2006) generated by Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) biologists and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries staff, the enclosed annual report summarizes sea turtles observed in the vicinity of DCPP during 2011.

No sea turtles were found in DCPP intake structure forebays during 2011. One green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) was observed swimming in DCPP's discharge outfall cove on October 19, 2011. No other sea turtles were observed in the vicinity of the power plant during 2011.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed report, or require additional information, please contact James Kelly of my staff at (805) 545-3194.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'James M. Welsch'. The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

James M. Welsch  
Station Director, Diablo Canyon Power Plant

2012503/jlk

Enclosures (1)

IE25  
MRK

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ENCLOSURE 1

**2011 ANNUAL  
SEA TURTLE REPORT  
FOR  
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT**

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY**

**NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION**

**2011 Annual  
Sea Turtle Report  
For  
Diablo Canyon Power Plant**

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

2011 ANNUAL  
SEA TURTLE REPORT  
FOR  
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT

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## **INCIDENTAL TAKE REPORTS**

No sea turtles were found or observed in Diablo Canyon Power Plant's (DCPP) intake structure during 2011. Therefore, there were no incidental take reports.

## **INTAKE INSPECTIONS**

Observations of DCPP's intake structure forebays continue to be conducted approximately every 12 hours by the Shift Operations Intake Watch.

## **SEA TURTLE OBSERVATIONS**

Biological monitoring and other activities occurred routinely in the ocean waters around the facility throughout 2011. One green sea turtle was observed on October 19, 2011 in DCPP's outfall cove by biologists conducting routine ecological monitoring. No other sea turtles were observed in the vicinity of DCPP during 2011.

## **STATUS OF DCPP INCIDENTAL TAKE LEVEL**

DCPP's 2006 Incidental Take Statement allows the following levels of sea turtle take for the period 2007 through 2026.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Total Entrainment</u>	<u>Mortality</u>	<u>Serious Injury</u>
Green	15 turtles	3 turtles	1 turtle
Leatherback	3 turtles	1 turtle	1 turtle
Loggerhead	3 turtles	1 turtle	1 turtle
Olive Ridley	3 turtles	1 turtle	1 turtle

Sea turtles taken and released since 2006: Three healthy green sea turtles (one in 2007, one in 2009, and one in 2010).

As three healthy green sea turtle were taken and released since 2006, DCPP has twelve remaining allowed green sea turtle takes for 2012 through 2026. Leatherback, Loggerhead, and Olive Ridley allowed takes remain at three. There have been no sea turtle mortalities or serious injuries.

## **ACTIONS TO REDUCE SEA TURTLE ENTRAINMENT**

DCPP took no specific direct actions to reduce sea turtle entrainment during 2011. Sea turtles continue to be rare in the vicinity of the power plant. In addition, all incidental takes to date have been live, healthy and uninjured, sea turtles that were released unharmed.

Signs reminding operations and maintenance personnel to watch for turtles during inspection rounds and other work activities were installed at the intake structure in early 2007, and remained in place throughout 2011.