

File

Beck 11/27
Price

Joe Fouchard, News Service Branch
Division of Public Information, HQ

November 14, 1963

Rodney L. Southwick, Assistant to the
Manager for Public Information, SAN

CALIFORNIA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT CLIPS

PI:RLS

*50-206 - (50-205)
50-214*

Attached are assorted clips on the reactors proposed by Pacific
Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison and Los Angeles
Water and Power Department.

Attachments:
As stated

cc: / Harold Price, REG, HQ, w/attachs.
Robert Lowenstein, DL&E, HQ, w/attachs.
F. K. Pittman, DRD, HQ, w/attachs.
J. D. Lyman, DPI, HQ, w/attachs.
E. W. Smith, Compl. V., SAN, w/attachs.

Rec'd Of. Dir. of Regn.
Date *11/18/63*
Time *3:45*
H ST *Beth* ✓



See 50-205 for enclosures

PI

SOUTHWICK:mt
11/14/63

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Lyman C. Anderson, Information Officer
State Office Building, Civic Center
107 South Broadway, Los Angeles 12
Phone: MADison 0-2240

205111263

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES, Nov. -- William M. Bennett, president of the California Public Utilities Commission, announced today that the PUC will petition to intervene at an Atomic Energy Commission hearing on a proposal to construct a nuclear power plant at San Onofre in Camp Pendleton.

The hearing has been set by the AEC for 10 a.m. on Nov. 19 in the Santa Ana City Hall.

"It is certain that nuclear power development will have an immense impact on our society," Bennett said. "Our purpose in intervening is to make sure that the vital interests of the people of California are fully protected."

Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric Companies have jointly applied to construct the \$82 million plant--designed to generate enough power to supply the electrical needs of a city of half a million population.

Construction of the atomic powered plant on a beach site south of San Clemente requires approval by the Public Utilities Commission as well as the Atomic Energy Commission.

The joint application is now pending before the PUC. Five days of public hearings were held by Commissioner Bennett in San Clemente and Los Angeles and the request was taken under submission last Aug. 29.

###

County of Sonoma

Office of Assessor

COURT HOUSE
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

R. J. McMULLEN
ASSESSOR

November 5, 1963

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
Administration Center
2555 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, California

Re: Increased Assessed Value, Bodega Bay Area

Gentlemen:

The following study has been made to determine the impact on taxes that the construction of the P.G.&E. Plant at Bodega Bay would have if it were now constructed. In estimating the increase in assessed value we have considered not only the proposed P.G.&E. Plant but also the related facilities that will be constructed by private capital as a result of the P.G.&E. development. In making this study we have considered separately the various taxing jurisdictions that would be effected. P.G.&E. has indicated its desire to annex to the Bodega Bay Public Utility District and for this reason the study has included this jurisdiction.

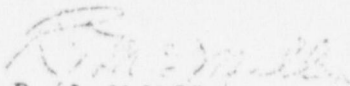
<u>Taxing Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>		<u>Tax Rates</u>	
	<u>Now</u>	<u>After Construction</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>After Construction</u>
Bodega Bay Elementary School	2,491,930	32,491,930	1.26	0.10
Tomales High School	4,902,400	34,902,400	1.36	0.19
Santa Rosa Junior College (Tuition)	7,401,030	37,401,030	0.39	0.08
County of Sonoma - Basic Rate (General and Flood)	299,507,055	329,507,055	2.81	2.56
Total Tax Bodega Bay Area (Outside Utility District)			5.82	2.93
Bodega Bay Public Utility	651,065	30,651,065	2.65	0.06
Total Tax Bodega Bay Area (Inside Utility District)			8.47	2.99

If the taxes in the Bodega Bay Area on a piece of property (outside the utility district) are now \$200.00 per year, after construction of the P.G.&E. Plant they would be approximately \$100.00 per year.

If the taxes in the Bodega Bay Area on a piece of property (inside the utility district) are now \$200.00 per year, after construction of the P.G.&E. Plant they would be approximately \$70.00 per year.

Countywide there would be a saving of \$0.25 per hundred dollars assessed value in the taxpayer's bill.

Very truly yours,


R. J. McMullen
Assessor, Sonoma County

RJM/ca

COFFEE BREAK

By JIM COOPER

THERE'S A QUIET DRAMA now awaiting the final act which involves space physics, politics, philosophy—and about everyone who has need to snap on an electric light.

At stake is the scientific question of whether the incredible power of the atom can safely be put to work making electric power.

Behind this are the political and philosophical questions of whether private capital and incentive will be turned loose on the job or whether it will remain to become another business for the government to enter.

☆☆☆

IT BECAME THE BUSINESS of everyone in the southland last February when Southern California Edison Co., San Diego Gas and Electric Co., Bechtel Corp. and Westinghouse Electric Corp. asked for permission to build a nuclear power plant on a 90-acre parcel inside Camp Pendleton.

The proposal would generate 375,000 net electrical kilowatts by nuclear power on the site whose northern limits are just across the county line, two miles south-east of San Clemente.

About 20 per cent of the power generated would be sold in San Diego by San Diego Gas and Electric, with the remaining 80 per cent available to Southern California Edison Co. in the local southland area.

A labyrinth of applications, legal forms, engineering proposals, and evidence of safe operations was provided both to the Public Utilities Commission of the state, and to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

☆☆☆

BOTH AGENCIES HAVE

ordered public hearings on every phase of the public safety and the type of private operation proposed. Exhaustive hearings have been held by the PUC in San Clemente and Los Angeles.

This week the Atomic Energy Commission announced a pre-hearing at 10 a.m. today at the county courthouse, and a full-fledged public hearing on issuance of a construction permit at 10 a.m. in Santa Ana council chambers on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

The AEC's Division of Licensing and Regulation has this week made public a 32-page report based on every aspect of safety in the new operation, including extra protection against earthquakes, and radio-active waste handling.

☆☆☆

IT IS PROPER FOR THE government to determine if the companies have the financial and technical capability to build the atomic plant and operate it safely from the standpoint of radio-active hazards—and the new AEC report concludes the companies have demonstrated they can do this.

But it is improper for any federal or state agency to deny private enterprise the right to develop or produce any legal product from electric power to popcorn.

I hope the PUC quickly issues its approval, and that the space-age power plants gets moving soon.

I know this is a dirty word in some quarters, but I hope that they make a profit, too.

It is the best incentive I know of to keep them moving to meet their competition and lower our electric light bills in future years!

Charges Fly At Nuclear Hearing

SANTA ANA — A pre-hearing conference on the \$30.8 million nuclear power plant proposed for San Onofre, erupted into a series of charges and counter-charges here this morning.

Representatives of Southern California Edison Co., San Diego Gas and Electric Co., Westinghouse Electric Corp., and Bechtel Corp., met with members of the Atomic Energy Commission to discuss procedures for conducting the formal hearing at 10 a.m. Nov. 19 in Santa Ana City Council chambers.

The conference, held before a panel of three officers of the AEC, involved protest statements from the National Coal Association and a representative of an unofficial committee of interested Southern California citizens.

AEC officers refused a Westinghouse request to order the National Coal Association to submit a statement outlining their reasons for opposition before the Nov. 19 hearing.

Westinghouse also made a request to disqualify the association as having an "invalid argument" because the association's opposition was not directed to the San Onofre operation, "but to nuclear reactors in general." AEC also refused this request.

A. E. Gaede of San Clemente, who said he represented a group of Southern California citizens, told officers that he would enter a protest petition at their convenience.

If approved, the nuclear power plant will be located on the 83.6 acre site at the northwest end of Camp Pendleton, south of Orange County.

DATE NOVEMBER 3, 1963

6 Million A-Plant one Hearing Due

Citizens' Group to Protest

MALIBU—The Regional Planning Commission hearing on the zoning permit for a controversial proposed \$96 million nuclear reactor power plant at Coral Canyon will be conducted at 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 4, at the County Hall of Administration.

Representatives and experts from the Malibu Citizens for Conservation, who oppose the 495,000-kilowatt plant, and the Department of Water and Power which is proposing the plant, will present their cases at the hearing.

A DWP spokesman said his group would "basically cover the same ground as we covered before."

First Hearing

The first hearing for the plant was held last summer but a second hearing was subsequently granted when the opposition said it had not had an opportunity to present its case properly.

The citizens' group has been scheduling busses to carry the Malibu residents to the hearing and their spokesman, Carl May, predicted 200 to 300 persons opposing the plant would attend.

He said his group would be represented by oceanographers, nuclear physicists, geologists, geneticists and atmospheric physicists.

He said, "We don't oppose nuclear reactors per se but we do think they should be placed in a much less densely populated area."

He said the opposition would be represented by Albert J. Day, an attorney of the legal firm of Hill, Sarrer and Burrell.

"Our studies show there is considerable danger of accident and that the area is on a proposed geological fault."

The DWP spokesman said their own geologists had mentioned the fault at the first hearing and said that it did not present any real danger.

DATE 11-5-63

The Stars Say

'No' to A-Plant

Up in Arms

Proposed rezoning for a Malibu atomic power plant was under submission by the Regional Planning Commission today after celebrities attacked the idea as dangerous and experts defended it as safe and desirable.

Strong objection to construction of the plant by the Department of Water and Power was voiced at a hearing yesterday by singer Frankie Laine, actress Angelina Lonsbury and attorneys for Bob Hope.

"It makes my hair stand on end," testified Miss Lonsbury, a Malibu resident and often the victim in hair-raising thriller movies. Other members of the Malibu colony said they feared accidental atomic explosions, radiation leaks and spoilage of fisheries and kelp beds offshore.

Citing an Idaho nuclear plant accident, Laine, also a resident, objected in addition that the plant would hurt property values by attracting heavy industry.

One hundred nineteen residents objected to the plant

Nearly a score of witnesses called by the Department of Water and Power, however, emphasized the minimum danger of possible earthquakes, structural failures and release of waste radiation into the atmosphere.

E. L. Kanouse, design engineer, pointed out that 10 nuclear reactors already are operating safely in this area.

The mayors of Eureka, Calif., and Buchanan, N.Y., and a bank president from Shelburne Falls, Mass., agreed nuclear plants in their areas increased property values, boosted tourist

Malibu Residents Tell A-Power Plant Fears

DO NOT
PASTE
BEYOND
THIS
LINE

Opposition to Ocean Site Voiced

By Ray Zeman

Times County Bureau Chief

Fears of atomic explosions, earthquakes, landslides, radiation leaks and damage to ocean fisheries and kelp beds were expressed Monday at a hearing on a proposed \$96 million nuclear power generator in the Malibu area.

When Arthur J. Baum, Regional Planning Commission Chairman, asked how many persons favored the city Department of Water and Power application, 194 rose.

When he asked how many of those live in the Malibu area, only three remained standing.

Opponents who stood next numbered 120; all but one Malibu residents.

Performers Present

Among them were singer Frankie Laine, actress Angela Lansbury and attorneys for Bob Hope who has sizeable real estate holdings adjacent to the plant site.

Samuel B. Nelson, Department of Water and Power general manager and chief engineer, explained that the power facility would be built at Corral Canyon on a site fronting on Pacific Coast Highway three miles northwest of Malibu Pier.

The first unit would have a capacity of 490,000 kilowatts.



'WE OBJECT'—Singer Frankie Laine and actress Angela Lansbury who joined opponents to proposed \$96 million nuclear power plant in the Malibu area.

The department seeks a zoning variance of 45 acres now zoned for light manufacturing light agriculture and unlimited commercial uses.

The remaining 260 acres have been offered to Los Angeles County for a buffer park and recreational area.

Under Submission

The planning commission took the matter under submission.

Nelson said nuclear power is needed as a safe, economical energy source and will not contribute to air pollution.

But Miss Lansbury, of 24818 Pacific Coast Highway, said the thought of an atomic plant there "makes my hair stand on end."

"The two words 'atomic'

PUBLICATION

TOWN

DATE

DO NOT
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BEYOND
THIS
LINE

"energy" are the most horror-packed words in the English language," the actress said. "We have harnessed it but as long as there is a margin for error I don't think the few in Malibu should be sacrificed for the many."

Laine, of 73 Malibu Colony Dr., echoed her sentiments and added the plant would bring in heavy industry and depreciate residential values.

He said a leaking truck carrying residue from a similar plant in Idaho contaminated the streets which had to be torn up and the material buried. "People say it can't happen here but it does," he added.

Attorneys for Hope said the actor and his wife are vehemently opposed to the project.

Terry Waters, chairman of the Malibu Citizens for Conservation and a member of the American Institute of Architects, charged that the plant would change the entire character of Malibu, frightening away potential residents and forcing present home owners to move.

Cites Landslides

Frank A. Morgan, past president of the American Assn. of Petroleum Geologists, said the plant site at the mouth of Corral Canyon is in a massive landslide area which will cause worries and concern.

Dr. Arthur H. Muir, nuclear physicist, submitted statements from other scientists warning that radioactive gases will be released during normal operation and that large-scale reactors should not be built in the Los Angeles basin until the experimental stage has passed.

Dr. Rimmon C. Fay, marine biologist, said Santa Monica Bay probably would

suffer a loss of valuable Kelp beds, a reduction in the diversity and amount of fishes and will probably prove an attraction to "dangerous marine animals." "Such as the sting ray which seeks out warmer waters for breeding."

Besides the Malibu Colony Assn., Malibu Board of Realtors and Malibu Cove Colony Property Owners' Assn., protestants appeared from Big Rock Mesa, Sycamore Park, Escondido Beach, Las Flores Mesa and Sea Vista drive areas.

To allay the fears, the Department of Water and Power introduced Mayor Fred Thevenin of Eureka, Mayor William J. Burke of Buchanan, N.Y., and P. B. Hunt, president of a bank in Shelburne Falls, Mass.

'Can't Explode'

These three emphasized that nuclear power plants in their areas had increased property values, created extra jobs, boosted tourist trade, stimulated population growth and proved to be a community asset.

Hunt said that trout fishing is better than ever in a popular stream near the Yankee Atomic Electric Co. plant in northwestern Massachusetts.

Others said that schools, hospitals and convalescent homes have been built across the street and near the atomic plants.

Dr. Warren F. Witzig, technical director of the Nuclear Utility Services, Inc., Washington, D.C., said it is impossible for the reactor plant to explode as an atomic bomb and that precaution, such as a 6 ft. thick wall of concrete and steel will prevent radiation.

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

COPY

November 4, 1963

The Honorable S. Carson Mitchell, Chairman,
Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County,
Administration Building,
2555 Mendocino Avenue,
Santa Rosa, California

Redeaga Bay Atomic Park
Resolution No. 7436-1

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter is in response to the above-numbered resolution, a copy of which was forwarded to us by Mr. Richard M. Ramsey, County Counsel, in which the Board of Supervisors requested that it be kept informed regarding the Company's plans for a power plant at Redeaga Head.

The excavation for the Company's Redeaga Bay Atomic Park has been completed. As you know, this work was performed by the Company, as permitted by regulations of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, to enable consultants for the Company and the Commission to study in detail the rock in which the plant will be located, as well as the overlying sediments.

Our contractor is currently paving the road along the west side of the bay. Further work at the site, other than scientific studies and normal maintenance work, will not be performed until after the public hearing on our application before the Atomic Energy Commission has been held and a construction permit issued. We don't know when the public hearing will be held but we assume that it will be shortly after the reports of the various geologic and seismologic consultants have been received and reviewed. Our consultants have completed their on-site review of the excavation and are working on their reports. If these reports and those of the AEC consultants are submitted soon, we are hopeful that the hearing can be held early next year. However, until the hearing is held and a construction permit issued, any date we might furnish for completion of the plant would be based upon sheer speculation and, therefore, would not be meaningful.

COPY

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

The Honorable S. Carson Mitchell

-2-

November 4, 1963

Our extensive investigations and preparatory work have uncovered nothing which, in our opinion, would militate against our receipt of a construction permit. However, the issuance or denial of a construction permit is a matter to be decided by the ABC. If the ABC should deny our request for a construction permit it will be necessary to undertake studies to determine alternate power sources, including installation of conventionally fueled plants, the locations or dates of completion of which cannot be determined at this time.

We will, of course, keep you fully informed as to the status of the work and will furnish you estimated completion dates when the information upon which they are based becomes available.

Very truly yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

BY E. S. DAY

E. S. DAY, Manager
North Bay Division

BSD:GR

cc Messrs. E. J. Guidotti

Gay A. King

Arthur Ruonevaara

Leigh S. Shoemaker

Mr. John M. Prather

Mr. Richard M. Ramsey

bcc KHCordes

SLGibley

CCWhitely

JBWilton

RMGros

RPeterson/JC Morrissey

ENKelly

FFMutz

ESBarton

ASModa/KJDiardis

ESCarr

Experts Testify Malibu A-Plant 'Safe'

Testimony of nearly a score of experts on the safety of a proposed nuclear power plant at Malibu was introduced today to the Regional Planning Commission held a final hearing on a zone exception request.

About 500 persons were on hand to hear the testimony in the highly controversial case. The plant is planned by the City Department of Water and Power on a 45-acre site in Corral Canyon at a cost of \$96 million.

The witnesses called by

the city department stressed solely the safety factor from such divergent points of view as possible earthquakes, structural failures, and the limited release of radiation into the atmosphere.

Among the witnesses, E. L. Kanouse, the department's design engineer, pointed out that 10 smaller nuclear reactors are already operating in this area.

The Department of Water and Power owns a 305-acre

site fronting on Pacific Coast Highway, but proposes to give, afternooon session, attacking to the county the acreage not needed for the reactor for being completely "out of character" with the nature of the use as recreational facilities. The Malibu residents had area.

A-2 Los Angeles Herald-Examiner H* Monday, Nov. 4, 1963

Experts Say A-Plant for Malibu Safe

Testimony of nearly a score of experts on the safety of a proposed nuclear power plant at Malibu was introduced today as the Regional Planning Commission held a final hearing on a zone exception request.

About 500 persons were on hand to hear the testimony in the highly controversial case. The plant is planned by the City Department of Water and Power on a 45-acre site in Corral Canyon at a cost of \$96 million.

The witnesses called by the city department stressed solely the safety factor from such divergent points of view as possible earthquakes, structural failures, and the limited release of radiation into the atmosphere.

Among the witnesses, E. L. Kanouse, the department's design engineer, pointed out that 10 smaller nuclear reactors are already operating in this area.

He said the automatic shut-off features, to be included in the department's project exceed any others thus far built.

The Department of Water and Power owns a 305-acre site fronting on Pacific Coast Highway, but proposes to give to the county the acreage not needed for the reactor for use as recreational facilities.

PAPER L. A. Times

DATE 11-4-63

A-Power Plants Seen as Aid to Cleaner Air

Nuclear-powered plants, there is no possibility of a bomb-like explosion of the type that is feared for the reactor.

He said the APCD has a staff trained in the radiological field and that the agency conducts daily monitoring for airborne radioactivity.

In an address prepared for delivery today to the County Regional Planning Commission, Griswold noted that natural gas produces less smog than fuel oil and that nuclear plants will produce no air pollution and are the most desirable.

The Department of Water and Power is seeking a zone exception to allow construction of the nuclear power plant on the coast at Corral Canyon.

Griswold also said the proposed plant would not pose any radioactive contamination threat and that

PAPER L. A. Herald-Ex.

DATE 11-4-63

A-Power Plants Cut Smog

County Air Pollution Control chief Smith Griswold stated today nuclear-powered generating plants like the one proposed for the Malibu area will aid in the battle against smog.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the County Regional Planning Commission, Griswold said that natural gas produces less smog than fuel oil, but that nuclear plants produce no air pollution and are the most desirable.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is applying for a zone variance to allow construction of the nuclear power plant on the coast at Corral Canyon.

Griswold said the proposed generating plant would not pose any radioactive contamination threat, and that there is no possibility of a bomb-like explosion of the reactor.

Scientist Vs. Scientist

400 Jan Malibu A-Plant Rehearing

By LOUISE LARSON
Evening Outlook Staff Writer

Scientists were pitted against scientists today at the public rehearing for the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission on a \$66 million nuclear power plant in Malibu.

Some 400 persons, the majority of them Malibu residents, were present in the county supervisors' hearing room at the Hall of Administration. There was also a large representation

from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which is requesting a zone exception for 45 acres of a 305-acre site in Corral Canyon.

Orville Christiansen of the planning staff, said the commission had received 81 telegrams and letters and 650 postcards, most of them opposing the project.

First to testify for the DWP was Samuel B. Nelson, general manager and chief engineer,

who said that a nuclear-generated power plant is "especially desirable in the Los Angeles basin because it will not contribute to the local smog problem."

Nuclear power will be "safe, economical and more abundant than gas," Nelson said.

Safety features and technical details of the project were described by E. L. Kanouse, engineer of design and construction, and Eugen Koffmann, senior nuclear engineer, for the DWP.

"There is no possibility that this type of reactor can explode like an atomic bomb because the chain reaction which produces heat to create steam is a controlled reaction," Kanouse said.

Construction Told

He said the reactor will be contained in a structure consisting of two steel shields surrounded by reinforced concrete six feet thick.

Koffmann said the amount of radiation for people living adjacent to the site would be only 1 per cent of the amount considered permissible by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Gene Blanc, state coordinator for the Atomic Energy Commission, testified that the state is "vitally interested in the safety control of nuclear plants," and that numerous state agencies were involved in the regulations.

He said the state had met with the DWP, and that the "applicants had cooperated very nicely with the state."

Mayors Await Call

In addition to the scientists, the DWP planned to call mayors of two cities which now have nuclear power plants. They were Fred Thevenin, mayor of Eureka, Calif., and William J. Burke, mayor of

Buchanan, N.Y. The president of a bank, P. B. Hump, in Shelburne Falls, Mass., was also to testify.

Opposition testimony, to follow the DWP presentation, was to be presented by scientists, experts on the advisory committee of the Malibu Citizens for Conservation (MCC).

Attorney Robert Nibley was to introduce their witnesses. They will include consulting geologist Frank A. Morgan, Dr. Arthur H. Muir, nuclear physicist; Dr. Donald L. Drukey, physicist; Dr. Rimmon C. Fay, marine biologist, and Terry Waters, architect and chairman of MCC.

County Action Unneeded

At the first hearing and on occasions since, some commissioners have pointed out that the DWP is not required to come to the county for the zone exception.

Under a section of the government code of the State of California, a city is not subject to county zoning or vice versa. When asked specifically by the commissioners about the DWP matter, the county counsel ruled that the city was not required to come to the county for the exception.

DWP spokesmen have explained they are going through the normal channels in order to comply with all county procedures.

SANTA MONICA OUTLOOK

PAPER

NOVEMBER 1, 1963

DATE

Rehearing Set

Stormy Debate Seen
At Nuclear Plant Meet

By LOUISE LARSON

Evening Outlook Staff Writer

A loud and stormy rehearing on the proposed nuclear power plant in Malibu is expected Monday at 10 a.m. before the Regional Planning Commission.

The session will be held in the hearing room of the Board of Supervisors, Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, because of the large attendance expected. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is requesting a zone exception for a 10-acre site in Corral Canyon where it hopes to build the 100-million plant.

person campaign.

Bus transportation will be provided, with buses leaving the Mayfair Market parking lot at 7:30 a.m.

Bus Reservations

Tables will be manned in the lobby of this weekend by MCC members who will accept bus reservations.

Terry Water, chairman of MCC, said that persons as far away as Santa Monica, Beverly Hills and the west San Fernando Valley should be concerned since a nuclear accident at the proposed plant could endanger them.

First Hearing

Last July 10, at the first hearing, there was little opposition to the testimony offered by a battery of DWP experts and scientists.

Under the leadership of Malibu Citizens for Conservation, organized immediately after the hearing, strong community opposition developed which led to the granting of a rehearing before the commission.

This time the opposition will present its case with the help of Albert J. Day, Los Angeles attorney, according to Carl V. May, spokesman for the MCC.

May also said that "hundreds" of cards and letters have been sent by Malibu residents to the commission urging denial of the zone exception.

The MCC will work intensively all weekend to see that there is a large turnout for the hearing, May asserted. There will be a house to house, person to

In Sacramento this week the state highway engineer announced his preferred alignment for a freeway through the Malibu area. It is one which would closely parallel the present coast highway in the vicinity of Corral Canyon and beach. His recommendation, while it may not be accepted in all particulars by the State Highway Commission, provides another reason why the proposal of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to build a nuclear reactor complex at the mouth of Corral Canyon close to the present highway should be carefully reviewed before any final decision is made.

The recommended route would take out at least part of the site of the proposed complex. Even if it did not interfere with the plans for the complex as presently drawn, it would put the two facilities close together and greatly increase the difficulty of concealing this industrial complex with any kind of landscaping.

We have seen the architects' drawing of this proposed reactor complex, and we don't blame residents of Malibu for asking that it be hidden or located elsewhere. It seems doubtful that it could be hidden by anything less than a Redwood forest or a pea-soup fog. And no one could claim that its tall stacks and dome will resemble the "stately pleasure dome" decreed by Kubla Khan in the Coleridge poem.

Yet this is not the only reason for doubting that the reactor site is well chosen. A leading geologist, Frank Morgan, declares that the site is on a fault line susceptible to serious earthquakes and/or earth movements. If this is true, it is not farfetched to conceive of earthquake damage to the nuclear reactor complex which would involve serious hazards.

The fact that the state highway engineer is apparently little afraid of earthquakes in this area is not wholly reassuring. A freeway can withstand an earthquake with only minor damage, but what about an atomic pile, if its protective shield suffered cracks or dislocation?

We feel the questions raised are valid and worthy of serious examination. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power should answer these questions to the satisfaction of the public before going ahead with this project.