

FEB. 16, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace

Re: **California Public Utilities Commission Town Hall Meeting,
Feb. 22, 2005**

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The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will hold a Town Hall meeting regarding PG&E's proposal to replace the steam generators at its Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant on

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

7 pm - 9 pm

San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

Commissioner Geoffrey F. Brown will be present to hear from the community. Members of the public are invited to attend this meeting and to give input.

The Mothers for Peace, Sierra Club, Greenpeace, Environment California, and Public Citizen are co-intervenors in this case. At issue is the cost-effectiveness of the steam generator replacement project (>\$706 million) and the environmental impact of the extension of plant operation that would result from this project.

MFP comments to the PUC were filed on February 14 and may be viewed at <http://www.mothersforpeace.org/data/2005-02-14MFPOpeningComments.pdf>.

The PUC is expected to make a decision on this portion of the case on February 24, so this is a rare opportunity for residents of the Central Coast to speak directly to the commissioner with questions and/or concerns regarding PG&E's request.

If unable to attend the meeting, comments may be sent via e-mail to DMG@cpuc.ca.gov. and should refer to proceeding number A.04-01-009.

Background:

PG&E has filed an application with the PUC to replace the steam generators at DCPD Units 1 and 2. The project would enable DCPD to remain in service until the end of the current terms of the NRC licenses (2021 and 2025). However, the existing steam generators have exhibited degradation, and they are currently predicted to reach the end of their operating life within the next several years. The original steam generators will eventually reach a state where, under applicable NRC regulations, either the steam generators must be replaced or the units must be shut down. But if PG&E replaces its steam generators, it may apply for an operating license extension of 20 additional years.

DCPD Units 1 and 2 went into operation in 1985 and 1986, respectively. DCPD uses eight steam generators, four per unit, which are large heat exchangers that convert heat from the reactor into steam to drive the turbine generators and produce electricity. All eight would be replaced as part of the proposed project.

For more information on the PUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov. For more information on the Mothers for Peace, visit mothersforpeace.org.