

San Luis Obispo



Fall 2018 NEWSLETTER

Diablo Canyon Conditions of Closure

The two nuclear reactors at Diablo Canyon are scheduled to shut down in 2024 and 2025. Mothers for Peace thanks you, our supporters, for your financial contributions that made it possible to influence the Final Decision of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on the conditions of closure.

Mothers for Peace partnered with Women's Energy Matters to present the analysis of Robert Freehling, demonstrating that continued operation of Diablo Canyon is increasingly uneconomical - and that **early closure might be in the best interests of the ratepayers**. Mothers for Peace attorney, Sabrina Venskus, reacted to the CPUC Decision by stating: "We are pleased that the Commission acknowledged that **earlier closure of Diablo may be warranted**, and has built into its Final Decision the possibility of challenging the continued operation of Diablo well before the anticipated 2024/2025 shutdown."

Decommissioning of Diablo

Planning for decommissioning (dismantling) is already underway. Every stage of the nuclear power industry is inherently dangerous. So it is important to understand that decommissioning is not a benign process. Furthermore, it has the least environmental scrutiny and regulatory oversight. The public has no due process and there is very little transparency into the health, safety, and environmental impacts.

The **Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel** (DCDEP) was created to promote dialogue between members of the local community and PG&E on topics regarding the decommissioning of the nuclear plant. Mothers for Peace Board member, Linda Seeley, is on this panel of 11 people. The panel has no enforcement power, but it does hold influence with the CPUC. The more public participation in the process, the more the CPUC pays attention. These panel meetings are open to the public, and public comments and questions are encouraged. Live stream and videos of the meetings are also available. pge.com/en

- September 26: panel meeting on repurposing the Diablo Canyon facilities; 7-9:30pm, San Luis Obispo County Government Center
- October 24: panel meeting on emergency planning; 7-9:30pm, location to be determined
- November 14: panel meeting on irradiated fuel storage; location and workshop schedule to be determined
- December's panel topic will be on economic impacts. Details have yet to be determined.

Film and Speaker October 13: A2-B-C



Mothers for Peace is showing this award-winning documentary by Ian Thomas Ash. It explains the thyroid and other health problems facing the Japanese children after the nuclear meltdown in Fukushima. Following the film, Michiko Kato, a mother evacuated from the Fukushima area, will speak.

Saturday, October 13

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

2201 Lawton Avenue, San Luis Obispo

6:30pm: enjoy conversation, cookies, coffee, tea

7:00pm: film 1 h 11m

Speaker

donations gratefully accepted



VOTE!

Your **VOTE** is your **VOICE!**

Vote on November 6!

If you are not registered to vote in San Luis Obispo County, we urge you to do so now. If you are uncertain about your voter registration status, you can check it - as well as register to vote - at: <http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Clerk-Recorder/All-Services/Voter-Registration.aspx>

Mothers for Peace is not telling you how or for whom to vote. Our only concern is that you vote. There are many choices on the November ballot which impact our local, state, national, and global environment.

November 10 Speaker: Kathleen Sullivan

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) is a coalition of organizations from over 100 countries. It received the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of its role in achieving the



Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It's an honor to host Kathleen Sullivan who will be speaking about her experiences with this organization, her work with atomic bomb survivors, her films, and her other educational activities.

Saturday, November 10, 7pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

2201 Lawton Avenue, San Luis Obispo

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI)

Mothers for Peace continues to fund Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute's quarterly testing of the waters off Pismo Pier to test for radiation from the Fukushima disaster initiating in 2011. Cesium 137 (Cs137) is a marker of that contamination, so it is a focus of the testing.

The first sample, taken on February 9, 2014, showed 1.8 ± 0.01 Becquerels per cubic meter of sea water (Bq/m³) of Cs137. Those numbers increased with each test. The sample taken on February 2, 2018 showed 6.8 ± 0.02 Bq/m³; a more than 300% increase in the amount of Cs137 detected from the previous test in July of 2017. The shocking increase in that test and the results of other tests on the west coast led WHOI to declare, "Clear Evidence Fukushima Radiation Has Reached Our Shores". The last sample was taken on June 18, 2018 and showed a decrease to Cs137: 2.6 ± 0.1 Bq/m³. WHOI is in the process of analyzing these results and comparing them to other samples taken along the west coast.



<http://ourradioactiveocean.org/results>

August 6 Rally, March, and Action to Abolish Nuclear Weapons



Mothers for Peace member Carole Hisasue addressed the crowd at the August 6 rally at

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to commemorate the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She shared the stage with Daniel Ellsberg, whistleblower and author, and many others. All spoke with passion and moved the crowd to tears.

Following the rally, participants marched to the Lab's West Gate, where the chalking of bodies on pavement symbolized the vaporized remains found after the atomic bombings.

This annual event was organized by Tri-Valley CARES.



Student Scholarships Available

Mothers for Peace awards yearly scholarships to high school seniors and college students whose career plans and community work demonstrate serious commitment to caring for the Earth or promoting world peace. <https://mothersforpeace.org/collections/scholarship>

Series of Educational Videos

When Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant closes, we will still be faced with the challenges of storage and transportation of radioactive waste. LUSH provided a grant which enabled Mothers for Peace to present a series of educational events. Links to the videos are available on the home page of our website: <https://mothersforpeace.org>

1. Topic: On-Site Storage
2. Topic: Yucca Mountain – is it viable?
3. Transportation of Radioactive Waste and Consolidated "Interim" Storage

Next year on October 12, 2019,
Mothers for Peace will be celebrating its



Save the date!
You won't want
to miss this
party!

FUNDING

Mothers for Peace relies on voluntary contributions to fund our unique work. Because we are a local, all volunteer organization with no expenses for office rental or salaries, every penny you donate goes for legal fees, expert witnesses, and educational events.

During the past calendar year, we persuaded the CPUC to leave the door open for earlier closure of Diablo Canyon. Mothers for Peace is also pushing for improvements to the storage system of the high-level radioactive waste which will remain on site for decades or centuries to come.

Consider making a tax-deductible donation to Mothers for Peace for our ongoing work and projects. There are two convenient ways to contribute - by mail or on-line. Thank you for your continued support of our crucial work.



P.O. Box 3608 San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

<https://mothersforpeace.org>

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Contacts

Jane Swanson (805)440-1359

Linda Seeley (805)234-1769

Elaine Holder elaineholder@att.net to be notified of meetings or email Action Alert messages