

San Luis Obispo



Opposition to Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant since 1973

<http://mothersforpeace.org>

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Visit us on
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Who Are We?

We are a local, non-profit organization concerned with the local dangers involving the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, and with the dangers of nuclear power, weapons, and waste on national and global levels.

Additionally, we work on issues of peace, social justice, and a safe environment.



The Mothers for Peace formed in 1969 because of shared concerns regarding the Vietnam War.



We provided draft information and counseling. We held demonstrations and vigils.

When the war ended, the Mothers for Peace turned to other issues. In 1973, we filed as **Intervenors** against the licensing of the **Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant**.

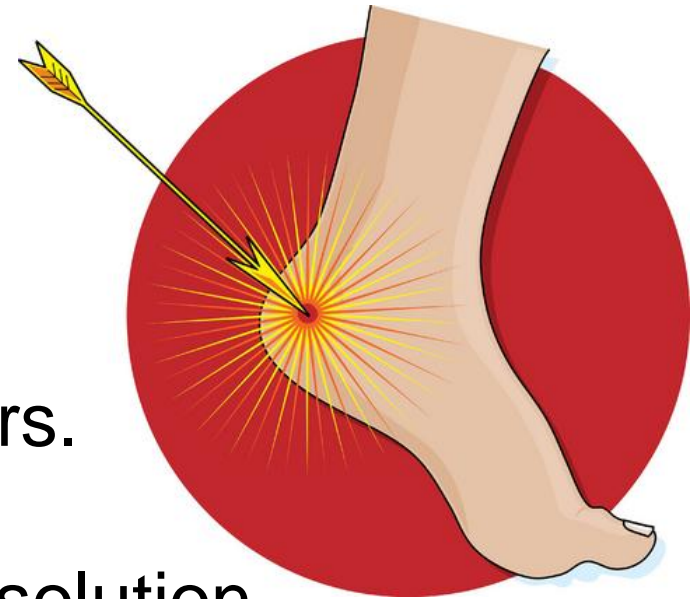
We became the 'watchdog' organization of Diablo Canyon, focusing on safe operation.

As legal intervenors, Mothers for Peace utilizes all available legal channels to ensure safe operation and compliance with State and Federal Laws.



High level radioactive waste is the Achilles' heel of the nuclear industry.

- It remains toxic for 250,000 years.
- There is no permanent storage solution.
- Reprocessing is not recycling;
the most dangerous elements still require isolation.



High level radioactive waste is stored onsite in open pools.



These pools are:

- tightly packed with a potential for a severe fire and catastrophic radiological release if partially drained due to terrorism or accident;
- vulnerable to sabotage; there is no containment structure;
- designed for temporary storage only.

After approximately 5 years in the pools,
the waste is placed in **dry casks**.

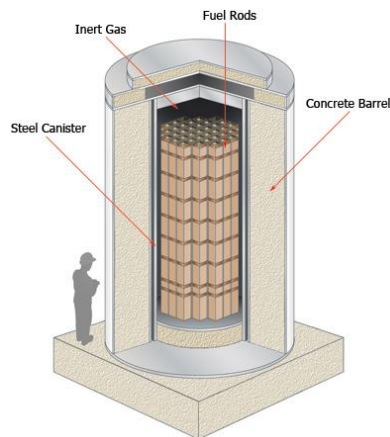
These casks are:

- vulnerable to sabotage;
- designed for temporary storage only.



Best Option: Hardened On-Site Storage

- Transport by truck, rail, or barge is vulnerable to accident or terrorism
- Reprocessing yields materials that can be used for weapons
- Dry Casks are less vulnerable to accident or terrorism



* Passively cooled

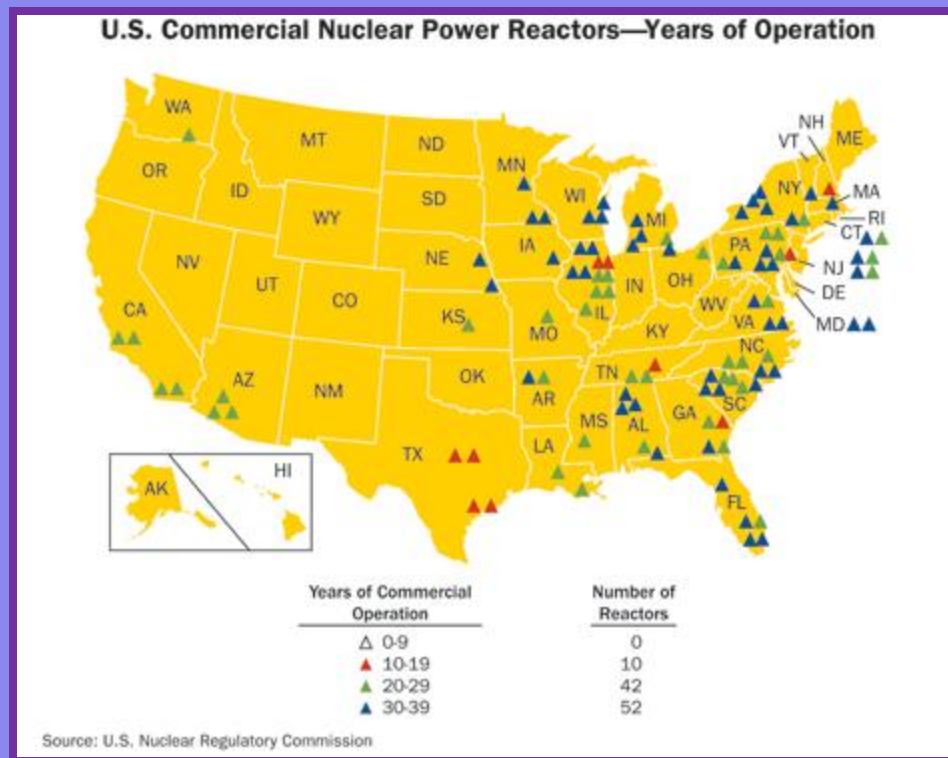
* Survived Fukushima intact

Nuclear energy is **subsidized** by the Federal Government:

- loan guarantees for construction;
- funds for research and development;
- the search for a solution to the problem of radioactive waste;
- insurance in the event of a major disaster – the Price-Anderson Act requires the nuclear industry to pay for only the first \$10 billion for deaths, injuries, and property damages.



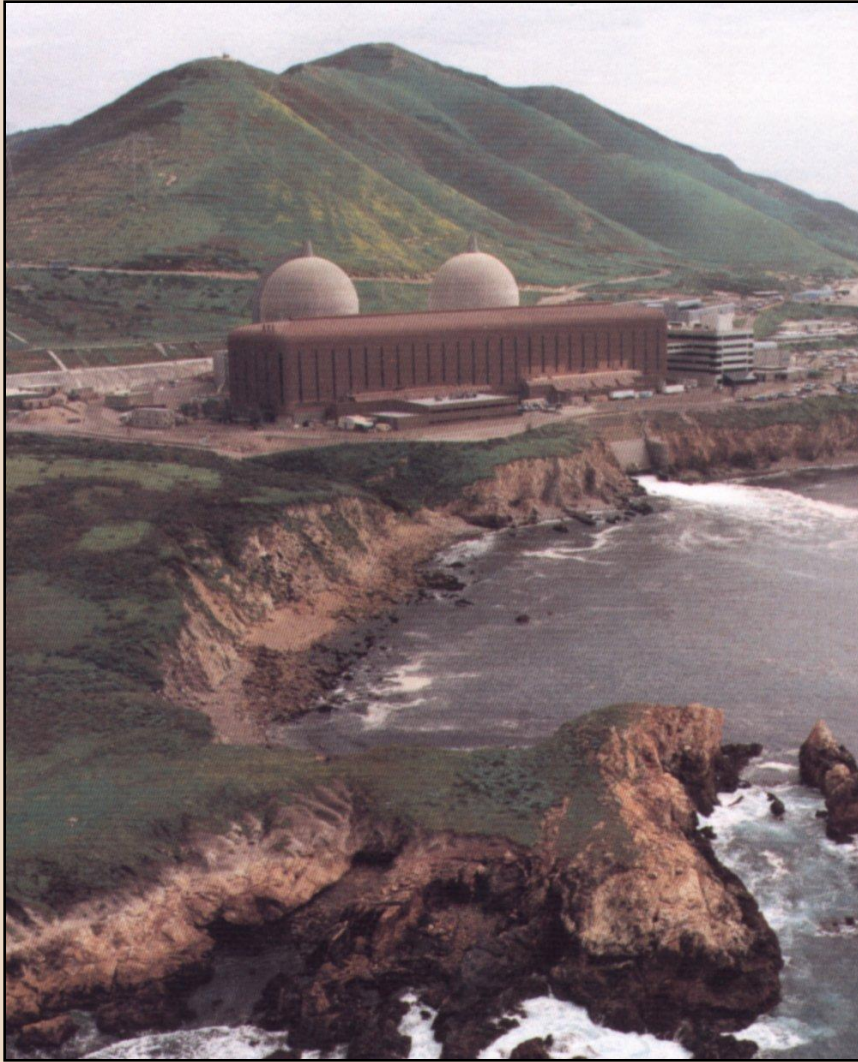
The Department of Homeland Security, the CIA, and the FBI have determined that **nuclear facilities are targets of terrorists.**



They offer “the potential for widespread health and economic damage.”

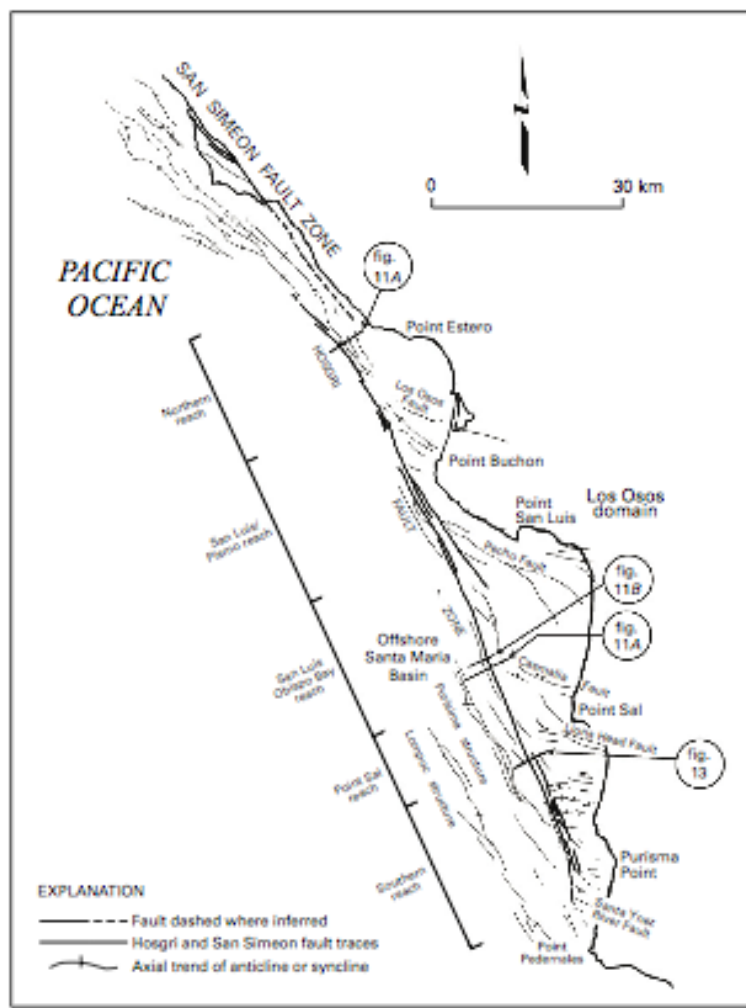
FBI Testimony before the Senate Committee on Intelligence (February 16, 2005)

Diablo Canyon is a particularly **vulnerable** target of terrorism because it is:



- located on an exposed and unprotected portion of the California coast
- susceptible to airborne and waterborne assaults
- not a no-fly zone

Diablo Canyon is located in a **seismically** active zone.



- Current NRC regulations prohibit nuclear facilities from being built next to active, major earthquake faults.

- The recently discovered Shoreline Fault has not been thoroughly studied. It is located 300 meters from the intake structure and 600 meters from the power block.

- There are multiple faults in the area – a minimum of 13.

Diablo Canyon is an old plant with **aging components**.

- Diablo was designed in the 1960s.
- Construction began in the late 1960s and continued into the 70s and 80s.
- Diablo didn't begin operation until 1984.

Do the math!

The plant was old before it began operation. It'll be over 60 years old at the end of the license renewal period.



Mothers for Peace plays a unique role as Intervenor in litigation involving:

- seismic safety
- high level radioactive waste storage
- consequences of a terrorist attack
- opposition to license renewal for Diablo Canyon



Legal Intervention

Mothers for Peace is fortunate to be represented by Attorney Diane Curran, an NRC law expert from Washington, D.C.



Current Intervention:

opposition to license renewal

at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant



PG&E currently has licenses to operate the two reactors at Diablo until 2024 and 2025.

In November of 2009, PG&E applied for 20 additional years, until 2044 and 2045.

In its opposition to license renewal, Mothers for Peace asserts that PG&E:



- lacks essential information about potential environmental impacts of earthquakes, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act
- is out of compliance with federal law, which requires the NRC to take into account severe accident risks that have been recognized by NRC staff studies of the on-going Fukushima disaster

MFP attorney **Diane Curran** takes leadership in coordinating legal challenges of the NRC by dozens of intervenors.

- 37 groups demand the NRC expand evacuation zones and improve emergency planning for all reactor sites.
- 26 groups successfully demanded the NRC complete a thorough study of the environmental effects of storing spent radioactive fuel before issuing any licenses.

MFP Position on 3-D Seismic Tests

(Tests were denied by California Coastal Commission)

- Require baseline studies of marine life
- Search for less harmful technologies
- Include Diablo Cove Fault in study (which runs directly under Unit 1 reactor)
- Alternative to these studies:
- **SHUT DOWN BOTH REACTORS
AND MOVE HIGHLY RADIOACTIVE
WASTE TO DRY CASK STORAGE AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

MFP rejects PG&E Shoreline Fault Report; NRC accepts it

- high levels of uncertainty among expert earth scientists of Senior Seismic Hazard Analysis Committee meetings
- the NRC's responsibility to protect public safety, rather than PG&E's bottom line
- the decades long record of NRC failure to enforce regulations

What's our alternative?

- **conservation**: reducing energy consumption
- **energy efficiency**: reducing the amount of energy required to provide heating, lighting, etc.
- **multiple sources of sustainable energy**, as supported by the California Energy Commission
- See mothersforpeace.org for more information on **Sustainable Energy**



You can support our work:

- Donate!
- Invite Mothers for Peace to speak to a group
- Inform your friends
- Visit us at our website and on Facebook

<http://mothersforpeace.org>