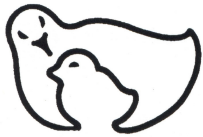


San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace



Newsletter
Fall 2021

We remain in uncertain times as COVID-19 persists. Our hope is that you are well and as secure as possible. Mothers for Peace continues to utilize Zoom and outdoor settings to do our work and maintain our relationships.



Statement on the Health of the Planet

Mothers for Peace recognizes the many threats to the health of the planet and all its lifeforms. We acknowledge both the gravity and urgency in addressing the myriad issues.

Our primary focus continues to be the dangers posed by the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant and the global issues of nuclear energy, nuclear weapons, and radioactive waste. But because we recognize that “all things are bound together” (Chief Seattle of the Suquamish and Duwamish Nations), we find ourselves extending our work beyond the usual parameters to climate action, plastic pollution, biodiversity loss, social and environmental justice, and more.

The Climate

The 2021 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a Code Red for Humanity. It is quite alarming. Read it [here](#) and watch Linda Seeley’s [commentary](#) on our collective response to the climate crisis.



Follow us on social media!



Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee

Mothers for Peace members attend virtual meetings of the Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee to learn about recent incidents at the nuclear plant. At the most recent meeting, PG&E presented information on efforts to diagnose and resolve problems such as leaks in pipes, pump failures, and excessive vibrations in a component of a steam generator. The Committee will continue to function after closure of both reactors in 2025 until the high level radioactive waste has been removed from the fuel pools and transferred to dry casks.



MFP spokesperson Linda Seeley will continue to serve on the Panel through 2022. One pressing issue is the management of high level radioactive waste. PG&E is now choosing the new dry cask storage system to store the 138 containers on site after plant closure. The added challenges of these new casks is to manage the prevalent high burnup fuel (hotter temperature and radioactivity) and to do so with expediency. PG&E intends to reduce the amount of time the fuel is required to cool in the pools from 10+ years to seven or fewer years. All cask information is “proprietary” and thus unavailable to MFP at this time. This choice of cask will be the topic for the March 2022 Panel meeting. To read the Panel’s recommendations for dry cask storage, see page 83 of the Strategic Vision Report, a document created using input from community members and cask experts. [Link](#)

National Radioactive Waste Coalition

Mothers for Peace continues to work with the National Radioactive Waste Coalition - a group consisting of over 40 organizations across the nation. Our goals include:

1. stop Yucca Mountain from becoming a permanent nuclear waste repository;
2. stop plans for consolidated/centralized interim storage (proposed for New Mexico and Texas);
3. keep high level radioactive waste as close to its current sites as possible and “harden” the storage so it is as safe as it can be. [Link](#) to the website (under construction; check back).



NO! to Consolidated Interim Storage (CIS)



Mothers for Peace opposes the transportation of high level radioactive waste that has been generated at Diablo Canyon and at all nuclear plants to other communities, particularly to poor communities of color. Two sites have been proposed in New Mexico and Texas. Building these so-called 'interim' sites would require hauling dangerous nuclear waste all over the country twice: once to the 'interim' site, then once again to a permanent site—if one is ever built. Meanwhile, these 'interim' sites could become de-facto permanent storage sites. MFP firmly believes that Diablo's waste must be stored on-site as safely and securely as possible until a permanent repository can be found. More robust storage containers and systems are therefore needed at all existing reactor sites.



Monitoring Radiation

In the air: MFP utilizes our three monitors to collect local and regional data and upload it to [Safecast](#).

In the ocean: We continue to take samples of the water off Pismo Beach Pier to have analyzed for radiation from the Fukushima disaster through Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. The levels of cesium 137 continue to decrease. MFP actively opposes Japan's proposal to release 1.25 million tons of wastewater contaminated by the Fukushima disaster into the ocean.

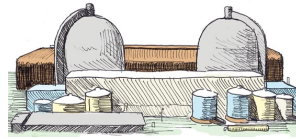


Mothers for Peace appreciates your moral and monetary support! You may donate online or by mail.

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Upcoming Scoping Meetings



SLO County has accepted PG&E's application for the Decommissioning Plan for Diablo Canyon. This triggers preparations for an Environmental Impact Report. The County will hold multiple scoping meetings via Zoom to take public input on the scope and content of the report. The next meetings are December 1 and 4. Comments are due December 6. Go to the [County website](#) for details.

\$tudent \$cholarships

One of our most gratifying projects is the annual selection of student scholarship recipients. This year's recipients are three high school students. We congratulate them and wish them well!

Arabella Edler, Arroyo Grande - Arabella is studying pre-law and environmental science at UC Santa Cruz.

Savanah Ruiz, Nipomo - Savanah is studying environmental law at UC Berkeley.

Sydney Barker, Templeton - Sydney is studying math and statistics at UC Berkeley.

Details and the applications for 2022 can be found at our website. Applications are due mid-March.

Mothers for Peace website



is being updated and modernized. Check out our new look in 2022!

ZERO WASTE TABLEWARE!

If you're planning larger gatherings, consider going zero waste for your tableware and borrow what you need!



Contact Janine Rands through Facebook:

[Table Ware Share - Lend A Dish](#)

MFP sends heartfelt wishes for good health, good work, and a bright 2022.



Art by Carol Paulsen 1984