



Fall 2019 NEWSLETTER

50
YEARS

1969 - 2019

Fifty years ago Mothers for Peace began its work to promote peace and a nuclear-free future. In the earliest years, the focus was on bringing an end to the Vietnam War and to the testing of nuclear weapons. In the early 1970's, attention was drawn

to the construction of Diablo Canyon nuclear reactors. Failing to prevent operation, Mothers for Peace became the watchdog organization - and its work continues as we approach plant closure and the decommissioning process.

In commemoration of 50 years of this journey, Mothers for Peace invites you to participate in the compilation of a **Memory Book**. Write down some of your personal memories, reflections, and experiences and send them via email to Jane Swanson at janeslo@icloud.com or to our PO Box.

Eventually, the Memory Book will be available to the Mothers for Peace Archive being organized by Cal Poly Special Collections and Archives.

Mothers for Peace member, Carole Hisasue, created a short **movie** to commemorate 50 years of activism. View it at <https://youtu.be/llkv041z39o>.

Mothers for Peace Collaborates Locally, Nationally, Internationally

Diablo Canyon

Decommissioning Engagement Panel

Mothers for Peace Board Member, Linda Seeley, has served on the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel (DCDEP) since its inception 1½ years ago. It provides her with a public forum to speak on safety related issues.

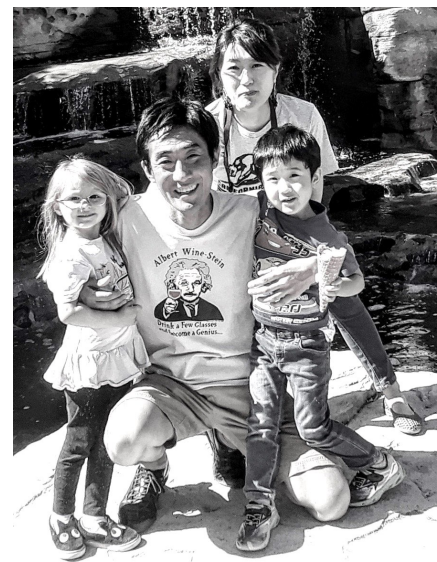
The DCDEP's February 2019 weekend workshop was devoted to the complex issue of safer dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel (SNF). Experts Klaus Janberg, Ph.D., Donna Gilmore, and Kevin Kamps presented information on the risks of spent fuel pools,

transportation, and the dry casks. Three manufacturers of dry casks, Holtec, Orano, and Germany's GNS, made presentations at the workshops. Representatives from PG&E, the California Energy Commission, and the NRC outlined the regulatory guidelines involved in spent fuel management. Members of the public voiced their concerns and opinions about storage of SNF at a follow up meeting.

The topic of the recent October public workshop was on the economic impacts and opportunities relating to plant closure. The upcoming November 13 meeting will continue that discussion, 6:00-9:30pm at the San Luis Obispo Government Center.

These panel meetings are public, live-streamed, and comments and questions are encouraged. The DCDEP has created a *Strategic Vision*, a living document that is submitted quarterly into the public record at the CA Public Utilities Commission. It documents all of the research and recommendations of the Panel. Find it at diablocanyonpanel.org.

Japanese researcher on emergency planning



Chika Shimizu lives in Fukushima Prefecture of Japan. In 2017 she received a grant from the Japanese government to learn about how emergency planning is done in the U.S. She was especially interested in the interactions between plant owners, emergency planners, and residents living near nuclear sites. Jane Swanson and Molly Johnson met with Chika and her husband, Akinori, in San Francisco in September of 2017 to discuss emergency planning.

Chika has obtained another grant, and this past August visited San Luis Obispo with her family. Mothers for Peace arranged meetings with PG&E and the SLO Office of Emergency Services. Chika sent them her questions in advance, and both parties were very thorough in their replies and discussion.

The NRC declined to send a representative but did reply to her questions via email.

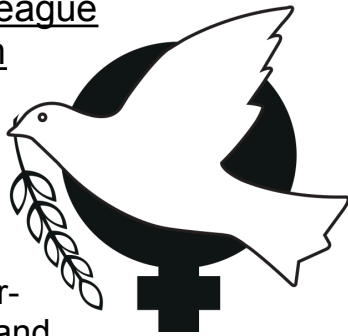
Chika will deliver a report to the Japanese government contrasting emergency planning and the roles of citizens in both planning and implementing such plans.

Climate Emergency

In addition to Mothers for Peace's efforts to create a nuclear-free future, its mission also includes working to promote renewable energy. Mothers for Peace is collaborating with other local organizations to meet San Luis Obispo's commendable goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2035.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Mothers for Peace was honored to host three members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom on their nuclear-free tour of California and then Japan. Nuri Ronaghy, Alan Shorb, and Ellen Thomas presented an educational workshop in July. They educated the audience on how to lobby congressional representatives to support the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.



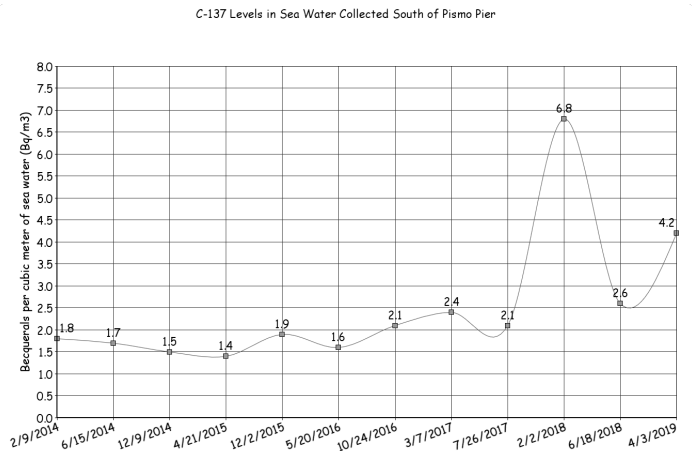
California Public Utilities Commission

Mothers for Peace is a party in the current CPUC Nuclear Decommissioning cost Triennial Proceeding, represented by attorney Sabrina Venskus. Our primary goals, as always, are safety and earlier shutdown. Our focus is on plant reliability and deferred maintenance.

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

Since 2014, Mothers for Peace has periodically taken samples of ocean water near the Pismo Pier and sent those samples to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) to be tested for radioactive content. The first sample taken showed $1.8 \pm .01$ Becquerels per cubic meter of sea water (Bq/m³) of Cesium137 (Cs137). Those numbers had steadily increased to a high of 2.4 ± 0.1 Bq/m³ by March 2017. The February 2018 sample showed a dramatic increase to 6.8 ± 0.2 Bq/m³, a more than 300% increase from the previous test in July 2017. The next sample taken in June 2018 showed a lower reading of 2.6 ± 0.1 Bq/m³. Our last sample, taken in April 2019 again jumped to 4.2 ± 0.1 Bq/m³. WHOI is in the process of analyzing these results and comparing them with other samples taken on

the western coastline. For more information go to <http://ourradioactiveocean.org/>.



Another sample will be taken in mid-November.

Annual Scholarships

Mothers for Peace awards 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/schol/scholarships>



Choose San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace when you make purchases through smile.amazon.com, and the company will donate .5% of the purchase price on eligible products.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for your on-going support for San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace. Your tax-deductible donations will enable us to continue our collaborative work with like-minded organizations nation-wide. Together we challenge unsafe practices of the nuclear industry related to the storage and potential transportation of high-level nuclear wastes. Our function as the watchdog of Diablo Canyon is still needed! The plant will continue to operate until the end of 2025. Decommissioning is projected by PG&E to take another decade after that. And the wastes will remain on site for decades or centuries.

Donations may be made electronically through our website or by mail.

PO Box 3608, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403
<https://mothersforpeace.org>

We grieve the passing of cherished Mothers for Peace members: Pat Miller, Liz Apfelberg, Bobbe Scott, and Henriette Groot.

