



ALLIANCE FOR NUCLEAR RESPONSIBILITY

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Utility Watchdog Joins Landmark Proposal To Phase Out California's Last Nuclear Reactor

The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR) has joined with PG&E, Natural Resources Defense Council, Friends Of The Earth and affiliated labor unions to begin the process that will close both units of Diablo Canyon nuclear plant no later than 2025. A key feature is that PG&E will completely abandon any ongoing or future attempts to obtain relicensing from the NRC. The prevention of license renewal achieves a milestone goal of A4NR's mission statement.¹

Rochelle Becker, A4NR's Executive Director notes, "We laud PG&E for acknowledging the inevitable changes in the way we make and use energy in our state. Parts of this proposal usher in a bold new paradigm for the state's energy future, but for those of us in San Luis Obispo, the proposal also provides an orderly path to phase out the reactors. After the sudden and chaotic closure of the San Onofre facility—and others around the country—it became clear that a more comprehensive and responsible approach was needed, one that would support the former host communities."

Through the negotiated process, A4NR succeeded in including or assuring:

- Continued tax payments at their present level from PG&E to San Luis Obispo throughout the phase-out period to insure local school support, even as the plant's value depreciates.
- Continued funding and support for the SLO Office of Emergency Services and offsite emergency planning beyond closure and for the duration of PG&E's Part 50 NRC license for the Diablo Canyon site.
- Resolution of many financial and rate uncertainties customers would otherwise face if the plant continued to operate past 2025.

If Diablo Canyon faces technical or economic problems that result in a shutdown earlier than 2025, the Settlement would protect all the above-negotiated conditions (subject to CPUC approval). As well, The Alliance remains committed to present comments requesting a full, discretionary CEQA review of PG&E's currently expiring permits before the State Lands Commission on June 28th.

Notes A4NR's Outreach Coordinator David Weisman, "Among the significant achievements of this settlement is the utility's commitment to preserve offsite emergency services after the shutdown. This has been a key concern at many former reactor sites, and we support PG&E's leadership in endorsing this critical post-operation protection for the local community."

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¹ The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility Legal fund lobbies for California legislation to limit the production and storage of high-level radioactive waste on California's coast to current license terms and to prohibit license renewals for California's nuclear plants until there is a permanent safe and operating solution to the storage of high-level radioactive waste.