



ALLIANCE FOR NUCLEAR RESPONSIBILITY

PO Box 1328  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406  
(858) 337-2703  
(805) 704-1810  
[www.a4nr.org](http://www.a4nr.org)

## A4NR SPRING NEWSLETTER

First, I hope everyone is remaining well, providing comfort or aid to those affected, and finding opportunity in isolation. For us, it's actually rather nice not to be running to Sacramento and/or the CPUC in San Francisco for a while.

Just before Governor Newsom asked for Californian's to shelter in place, A4NR spent a week in Sacramento meeting with all Assembly and Senate Energy oversight committee members to oppose two bills that have been introduced to reconsider nuclear power in our state. Excepting of three Republicans, no one felt these bills would get out of committee.

We also used this opportunity to share A4NR's CPUC Petition for Modification of the 2016 Joint Proposal to phase out Diablo. PG&E justified retirement claiming that by 2025 they would have lost over 44% of their customer base. Thanks to data requests we submitted and PG&E was required to answer, A4NR learned that PG&E's customer base had *already* shrunk to 43% in 2020, leaving fewer ratepayers to shoulder Diablo's rising above-margin operating costs.

PG&E expected to pass on these costs to *both* their captured customers and those who have decided to embrace Community Choice, an imprudent case of *double-dipping*. We expected the CPUC to live up to their own words from the 2018 Decision: "If in the interim period the facts change in a manner that indicates Diablo Canyon should be retired earlier, the Commission may reconsider this determination."

Sadly, shirking their responsibility to ratepayers, the CPUC has shunted our Petition to three different proceedings. While not denying our evidence, each judge keeps insisting there is a better venue elsewhere, until we're finally back where we began! If the term "Kafkaesque" ever applied to bureaucracy, this is it! We haven't given up and filed again in PG&E's bankruptcy Plan of Reorganization. Briefs have been submitted, but the Governor appears to be in a difficult position dealing with Covid-19, homelessness and housing, and trying to find a way to insure the lights will remain on and the state will be prepared for the 2020 fire season.

On the Decommissioning front, A4NR can point to some victories. A4NR prevailed in a settlement reached in the Diablo CPUC decommissioning proceeding by requiring that PG&E expedite the transfer of spent nuclear fuel from their pools to dry casks in 4 years instead of the 7 PG&E was proposing. This not only decreases risk, but will likely save money as well.

The San Onofre decommissioning proceeding is not yet resolved. A4NR stands strong in insisting that any plan must include the most stringent radiation cleanup levels, and must maintain an expedited removal of all subsurface structures beneath the facility as required by the Coastal Commission, and necessary to quickly restore the public's access to the beach.

As you have likely read PG&E admitted to 84 counts of involuntary manslaughter last week and the Governor approved a deal for the utility to exit bankruptcy. But the deal is yet to be sealed. To quote our closing Brief, "PG&E's shabby refusal to accept this statutory responsibility is consistent with its past mistreatment of customers, and will demand disciplined resistance from the Commission over an extended period of time."

So take care of yourselves, and hopefully take some time to acknowledge that it *is* spring; flowers *are* blooming and bird songs *still* fill the air. And know that, even as the government and oversight agencies are working from home, so is A4NR.

In peace,  
Rochelle