FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ALLIANCE POSITION ON PG&E SEISMIC TESTING AT DIABLO CANYON

The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility was greatly disappointed with the State Lands Commission permitting PG&E’s seismic testing using less than state-of-the art vessels and an incompletely vetted scope.

The Alliance understands the concerns of the fishing, Native American, and business community regarding the unmitigatable impacts of testing to marine life, sacred sites and local economy. Yet even if there were no license renewal on the table and Diablo shut down tomorrow, thousands of tons of radioactive waste will remain on our seismically active coast, and any national solution is decades—if not a century—away. We need to investigate the current seismic footprint to ensure that PG&E’s aging reactors and highly radioactive waste will remain safe. A chilling reminder comes from Japan this week, as Tokyo Electric Power Company found cesium at 258 times the safe levels in fish caught for tests within 12 miles of the coast from the crippled Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear plant. Commercial fishing remains banned in those waters. Such a longer-term risk to our marine environment cannot be ignored.

President Reagan often demanded that we “trust, but verify.” Our State Lands Commissioners did not heed these words, leaving ratepayers and the San Luis Obispo vulnerable to a second round of devastation. We hope that the California Coastal Commission, who will consider this issue in October, acts with more wisdom and foresight.

Current news articles documenting the ongoing devastation to the marine environment and fishing industry in Japan caused by the Fukushima nuclear disaster can be accessed from:

(copy and paste the link below into your browser)

http://a4nr.org/?p=2330