What’s in store for 2014?  
(Hint: It’s not license renewal for Diablo.)

At our annual Peace Potato Party, the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR) predicted “no license renewal” for Diablo Canyon. This prediction is based on a number of industry wide changes and site-specific challenges that make the cost-effectiveness and reliability of California’s last remaining reactor doubtful.

- Cooling alternatives  ...Over a billion dollars
- Seismic requirements  ...Unknown as Diablo does not meet its current seismic design
- Waste storage issues  ...Thousands of tons of radioactive waste on our fragile coast—indefinitely

Addressing these issues will require ratepayer dollars, and our state has full jurisdiction over the economics and reliability of regulated utilities. The time it would take to resolve these and other constantly emerging regulations would span decades. Furthermore, investing in license renewal only to have a major event prematurely shut the facility down is real possibility (four reactors in 2013 alone in the U.S., including SONGS—the San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station).

The end of Diablo Canyon is in your children’s lifetime. To speed this along, The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility will:

- Travel to closed reactors sites to interview local community leaders on how they are transitioning to a non-nuclear economy and what lessons they can share.
- Actively participate in California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proceedings dealing with rate decisions on Diablo Canyon (http://a4nr.org/?p=2834) and SONGS (http://a4nr.org/?p=2763)
- Represent San Luis Obispo on the California Water Boards Nuclear Oversight Committee on cooling issues at Diablo and continuing no license renewal as mitigation.
- Work with federal and state offices to demand the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) explain why they are allowing PG&E to operation Diablo Canyon without meeting DDE, DBE requirements (http://a4nr.org/?p=2998)

This list if far from complete and agendas will change, but we have checked the “no license renewal” box in pencil and we hope to use pen in 2014. With your help, by 2015 a permanent marker will make that "X" final.

The argument in California goes beyond whether nuclear power is “safe.” More undeniable are its rising costs, aging components, and cheaper alternatives that make future investment in nuclear power a risky gamble.

Join me in supporting the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility’s positive and dynamic actions--working to end nuclear power in California in a safe, cooperative, and fair way for all PG&E ratepayers.

Donations (and newsletter sign ups) can be made online at: www.a4nr.org
Tax deductible checks can be made to A4NR: P.O. Box 1328, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406