



ALLIANCE FOR NUCLEAR RESPONSIBILITY

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES FOR 2019...

...In which we bid farewell to a decade that began with PG&E's bold attempt at a 20-year license renewal for Diablo Canyon (thwarted by A4NR in 2012!) and instead ends with the potential for earlier closure and final decommissioning of the plant.

Through it all, the Alliance *was there*...

Much of the Alliance's work during 2019 involved work at the California Public Utilities Commission regarding the decommissioning of both Diablo Canyon and SONGS.

For Diablo Canyon:

- A4NR is a party to the Decommissioning Proceeding at the CPUC and challenges PG&E's request for *over a billion dollars more* in ratepayer money than past estimates. A4NR's key point: PG&E was instructed to expedite moving deadly spent fuel from wet pools to dry casks years ago and have been dragging their feet. No movement...no money! Read it here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4174>
- A4NR is also a party to the General Rate Case at the CPUC. We are challenging the billions of dollars in "above market costs" that PG&E's captive ratepayers and departing customers are paying to keep Diablo in service. As more customers move to CCAs and renewables become cheaper, Diablo becomes a burdensome white elephant. Not another dime! Read about it here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4165>
- A4NR has *re-opened* the original Joint Proposal case to close Diablo...the decision in 2018 had said that if situations changed and Diablo was no longer economical, it could close sooner than 2024. Well, *they have changed*, and A4NR is moving forward with a Petition For Modification of that decision that would prove it! Read it here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4233>

For San Onofre (SONGS):

A4NR is a party to the CPUC Decommissioning case. Hearings have been rescheduled to early 2020, but A4NR continues to push for the *full removal of all subsurface piping and foundation material beneath the beach* and its eventual return to a state park. In an early victory before the Coastal Commission, A4NR got Southern California to make an important concession: They will reduce the NRC-mandated "security perimeter" around the plant as soon as the fuel is all transferred to dry storage, opening a wider section of the ocean for surfing, swimming and fishing decades earlier than Edison had intended. Read our Testimony here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4154>

General Decommissioning Issues:

On a national level, A4NR executive director Rochelle Becker was invited as one of three nuclear host community representatives to participate in the “Decommissioning Collaborative” – an initiative between the Departments of Commerce, Energy and five other federal agencies met to ascertain the impacts of reactor closures and determine what policies/opportunities they might provide to mitigate these concerns. Following her presentation at a roundtable in Washington DC last April, A4NR met with Santa Barbara and SLO County local state and federal officials, as well as chamber and business groups, and introduced them all to this valuable program. Regional offices from these departments are now holding summits in local communities to share information and determine what federal resources might be a good fit.

Their report to Congress can be found here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4222>

In San Luis Obispo, A4NR continues to monitor the activities of the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement panel. In written and oral comments, A4NR has questioned the independence of the committee, and has filed comments with the NRC regarding that agency’s attempt to create a national framework for such panels.

PG&E Bankruptcy:

A4NR is now actively intervening in the CPUC proceeding for PG&E’s bankruptcy. How will a bankrupt utility maintain safety at an aging nuclear reactor? Will any of PG&E’s possible new “owners” even have an interest in running the uneconomic plant for its few remaining years?

PG&E is also requesting permission to engage in “hedging” of interest rates for the borrowing it will need to do in order to escape bankruptcy. However, their plan is a lopsided attempt to advantage the current power structure at PG&E and disempower alternative bankruptcy solutions. A4NR joins other advocates in opposing this.

Read all the A4NR bankruptcy filings here: <http://a4nr.org/?p=4245>

A4NR is closely monitoring both Sacramento legislation and PG&E’s myriad requests for bailouts. Each day seems to bring another layer to this issue. Who will be running PG&E (bondholders vs shareholders)? Who will pay for bailouts (shareholders, ratepayers or taxpayers)? Check our Facebook page for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/Alliance-for-Nuclear-Responsibility-112757248958/>

For a broader picture of the PG&E bankruptcy and fate of the electric grid in California, see this major story from Mother Jones magazine, featuring extensive commentary from A4NR’s attorney John Geesman:

<https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/11/what-happens-now-to-pge-fires-california-public-takeover/>

None of our work is possible without the generous support of our donors. We thank you for making these 2019 successes possible and look forward to more victories in 2020 as we approach the day we can declare a nuclear-free California!