



DIABLO CANYON Decommissioning Engagement Panel

March 13, 2020

President Batjer
Commissioners Guzman Aceves, Shiroma,
Rechtschaffen, and Randolph
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
(Via Email and U.S. Mail)

Subject: **Request for Public Workshop in San Luis Obispo
On the Tribal Land Transfer Policy Guidelines**

Dear President Batjer and Commissioners:

We are the members of the **Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel**. Formed in 2018, the Panel was created to foster open and transparent dialogue between members of the local community and PG&E on topics regarding the decommissioning of the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Over the last two years, we have held multiple public meetings and workshops, to address such issues as the management of spent fuel, the economic impacts of decommissioning, and the disposition of the 12,000 acres that surround the power plant known as the “Diablo Canyon Lands.” (You can learn more about the Panel by visiting our website at www.diablocanyonpanel.org)

It has come to our attention that the California Public Utilities Commission passed the Tribal Land Transfer Policy (Policy) at the end of 2019. The Panel was unaware that the Policy had been adopted until after it became final. This is unfortunate because the Policy could have a significant impact on the decommissioning process and specifically the disposition of the Diablo Canyon Lands – an issue of high importance to the local community. **We would have liked to provide input to CPUC about the Policy but were not given the opportunity to do so.**

We understand now that the CPUC is sponsoring a public workshop on the implementation guidelines for the new Policy (Guidelines). Yet, the workshop will be held in Brooks, California, which is over 300 miles away from San Luis Obispo. Given this distance, it is not practicable for members of the Panel nor community to attend this meeting. And yet, like the Policy, the Guidelines may have a direct impact on the future of the Diablo Canyon Lands and their potential for conservation and public access.

It is imperative that our local community -- which will be directly impacted by the Policy and Guidelines -- have an opportunity to provide input on the Guidelines. We therefore respectfully request that the **CPUC hold a public workshop in San Luis Obispo before the Policy guidelines are adopted**. In this way, the Panel and the community can hear first-hand from the CPUC itself about the direction of the Policy as well as provide input on

how the Policy may be implemented in a manner that could provide a win-win solution for tribes, the community, and PG&E.

Please advise as soon as possible whether a CPUC public workshop can be scheduled in San Luis Obispo *before* the Policy Guidelines are adopted. As explained before by Panel member Kara Woodruff, the County of San Luis Obispo has agreed to accommodate such a workshop for the CPUC at the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the County Government Center; moreover, the Panel stands ready to assist in making arrangements for the CPUC's visit.

We understand that measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus may create an obstacle for a public hearing at this time, but we can offer two approaches to overcome this issue. First, a CPUC meeting – like the Engagement Panel meeting earlier this week – could be conducted “electronically.” That is, the CPUC Commissioners and the Panel members could meet in person at the Board Chambers (mentioned above), while being live-streamed to a larger, community audience. Public comments made online can be read onto the record and to the Commissioners and Panel members during the public comment period.

Alternatively, we can postpone the public workshop in San Luis Obispo until such a time when the uncertainties of the coronavirus have passed. We are fine with this approach, so long as the CPUC can assure us **that no final decisions will be made on the Policy Guidelines until the local workshop is held.**

We look forward to working with you on the successful implementation of the Tribal Land Transfer Policy and hope that you will appreciate our desire and request to allow for public input on the issues of high importance to our community. Please let us know at your earliest convenience whether you will accommodate our request.

Sincerely,

Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel:

David Baldwin
Dena Bellman
Lauren Brown
Sherri Danoff
Alex Karlin
Scott Lathrop
Frank Mecham
Nancy O'Malley
Linda Seeley
Kara Woodruff

cc: Jonathan Koltz, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Guzman Aceves
Leuwam Tesfai, Chief of Staff, Commissioner Shiroma
Stephanie Green, Tribal Liaison
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San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors