

DOCKETED

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021317 A4NR-IEPR draft comments

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



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

ALLIANCE FOR NUCLEAR RESPONSIBILITY

TO: California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 17-IEPR-01
1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

FROM: Rochelle Becker, Executive Director
Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility

DATE: February 10, 2017

SUBJECT: Comments of Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility on Draft 2017
Integrated Energy Policy Report Scoping Order

Docket Number: 17-IEPR-01

The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR) requests permission to provide comments/additions to 17-IEPR-01. It is our understanding that the California Energy Commission (CEC) filed a “Notice of Request for Public Comments on the Scoping Order for the 2017 Integrated Energy Policy Report ” on January 11, 2017. Even though A4NR had been on the IEPR service list for over a decade, apparently we had been dropped this year and only discovered the “Notice” had been filed when we asked CEC staff member Justin Cochran when it would be released.

A4NR had shared with CEC staff our concern that PG&E was not following the direction of the CPUC in Decision 14-08-032. During a meeting at the CEC on January 10, 2017, we were told by Mr. Cochran and Mr. Barker that the IEPR may not contain a workshop to update the Commission on expedited spent fuel transfer transfer at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, and they suggested we filed comments suggesting that this issue be added to the 2017 IEPR.

CPUC Decision 14-08-032 states:

6.3.1.14.4. Conditions Related to the Rate of Spent Fuel Storage Into Dry Casks

A4NR proposes that conditions be placed on approval of PG&E's proposed cost recovery of \$26.1 million to construct the remaining five pads at the ISFSI in 2014 and \$19.6 million to transfer spent fuel to dry cask storage in 2015 and 2016. A4NR proposes that PG&E's proposal be approved only on the condition that PG&E file with its next GRC a satisfactory plan to comply with CEC recommendations regarding the transfer of spent fuel to dry cask storage in its AB 1632 Report. The specific recommendation in the AB 1632 Report was that: "PG&E and SCE should return their spent fuel pools to open racking arrangements as soon as feasible, while maintaining compliance with NRC cask and pool spent fuel storage requirements, and report to the Energy Commission on their progress in doing so." (AB 1632 Report at 15). PG&E opposes this recommendation, arguing that under federal law, the CEC does not have legal authority to regulate nuclear safety issues. PG&E argues that A4NR is attempting to impermissibly use the ratemaking process to compel utility action on nuclear safety issues exclusively regulated by the NRC.

Discussion

We find it reasonable to grant the proposal of A4NR to direct PG&E to file with its next GRC a satisfactory plan to comply with CEC recommendations regarding the transfer of spent fuel to dry cask storage in its AB 1632 Report, and to approve PG&E's forecast of \$26.1 million to construct the remaining five pads at the ISFSI in 2014 subject to its compliance with this condition. Since we limit 2015 and 2016 revenue increases based on the attrition mechanism we approve in Section 12, A4NR's proposal is moot as it relates to 2015 and 2016 costs.¹ [emphasis added]

A4NR requests that the CEC schedule an IEPR workshop for PG&E to explain the status of their compliance with the above referenced CPUC Decision, and for SCE to explain the status of fuel removal and decommissioning at SONGS.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Rochelle Becker
Executive Director

¹ Decision 14-08-032, DECISION AUTHORIZING PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S GENERAL RATE CASE REVENUE REQUIREMENT FOR 2014-2016, CPUC, August 14, 2014, pp. 412-413