
PG&E Comments on SWRCB Draft OTC Policy



September 16, 2009

General Comments

- Improvements:
 - Coordination with Energy Agencies to better inform the policy & ensure grid reliability
 - Specific treatment of nuclear plants that acknowledges their differences
- Still needed:
 - Real alternatives to closed cycle cooling where it is found infeasible
 - More schedule flexibility in recognition of unique nature of electric system and procurement

General Comments

- Defining Best Technology Available
 - Tetra Tech study not adequate to find cooling towers feasible
 - No effective technology would achieve the Track 2 standard
- Compliance Schedule
 - Timeframes to permit/build new generation and transmission are overly optimistic
 - SWRCB should rely only on Energy Agencies on issues of compliance schedule flexibility related to grid and local reliability
 - Compliance schedule should be revisited as necessary rather than every two years
 - Recognition that air credits/permits are unavailable in many areas

Nuclear-specific Issues

- Nuclear Safety Exemption
 - The NRC has no process for this determination short of a (costly and time-consuming) license amendment.
- Required Additional Feasibility Studies may not be necessary
 - PG&E and SCE have both undertaken detailed cost and feasibility studies
 - Peer review these studies before initiating others
- If SWRCB finds additional studies are needed
 - Consultant should be selected by the Energy Agencies
 - Ensure that consultant has nuclear engineering expertise
- Nuclear Review Committee
 - CPUC representative should replace SACCWIS representative
 - Representatives should have nuclear expertise

Cost Benefit Variance

- Critical Addition to Draft Policy
 - Essential to weigh the costs of compliance with the benefits achieved
 - Consideration should be given to developing additional findings to support the variance, as well as to breadth of its applicability
- Develop Guidance for Regional Board Implementation
 - Definitions of cost, benefit, and wholly disproportionate are not fully developed
 - Clarity is needed to ensure consistent implementation
- Habitat Production Foregone
 - Methodology does not have a significant track record
 - Multiple levels of assumptions can create very broad ranges of “answers”
 - Consider initiating peer review or using existing approaches

Diablo Canyon – Rendering of Retrofit



Diablo Canyon – Rendering of Retrofit



Diablo Canyon – Cooling Tower Retrofit

- Adverse Environmental Impacts
 - 12-15 MMT of GHG Emissions for Replacement Power
 - 282,000 tons/year of GHG for Lost Generation
 - 4.5 million Gallons of Diesel Burned During Retrofit
 - Thermal Discharge Limit Challenges – Off-shore Diffuser to Deal with Warmer, Saltier Discharge
 - Significant Visible Plumes—visible from San Luis Obispo 18% of the year
 - Salt Drift -- 7,600 Tons/Year

Diablo Canyon – Retrofit Cost Estimate

In Millions by Category of Work:

\$325	Site Work – excavation, retaining walls
\$316	Demolition, replacement of buildings, roads, parking
\$298	Recirculating water/make-up water pumps, tunnels
\$269	Permitting, engineering, project management, security
\$242	Cooling Towers
\$199	Electrical systems, process/instrumentation, utility relocation
\$189	Worker transportation, commute wages, parking
\$131	Upgrades – condensers, sewage treatment, SCW
\$ 56	Blowdown water treatment, mixing station, diffuser
\$ 50	Plant shutdown and start-up

\$2,075 Total Direct Costs

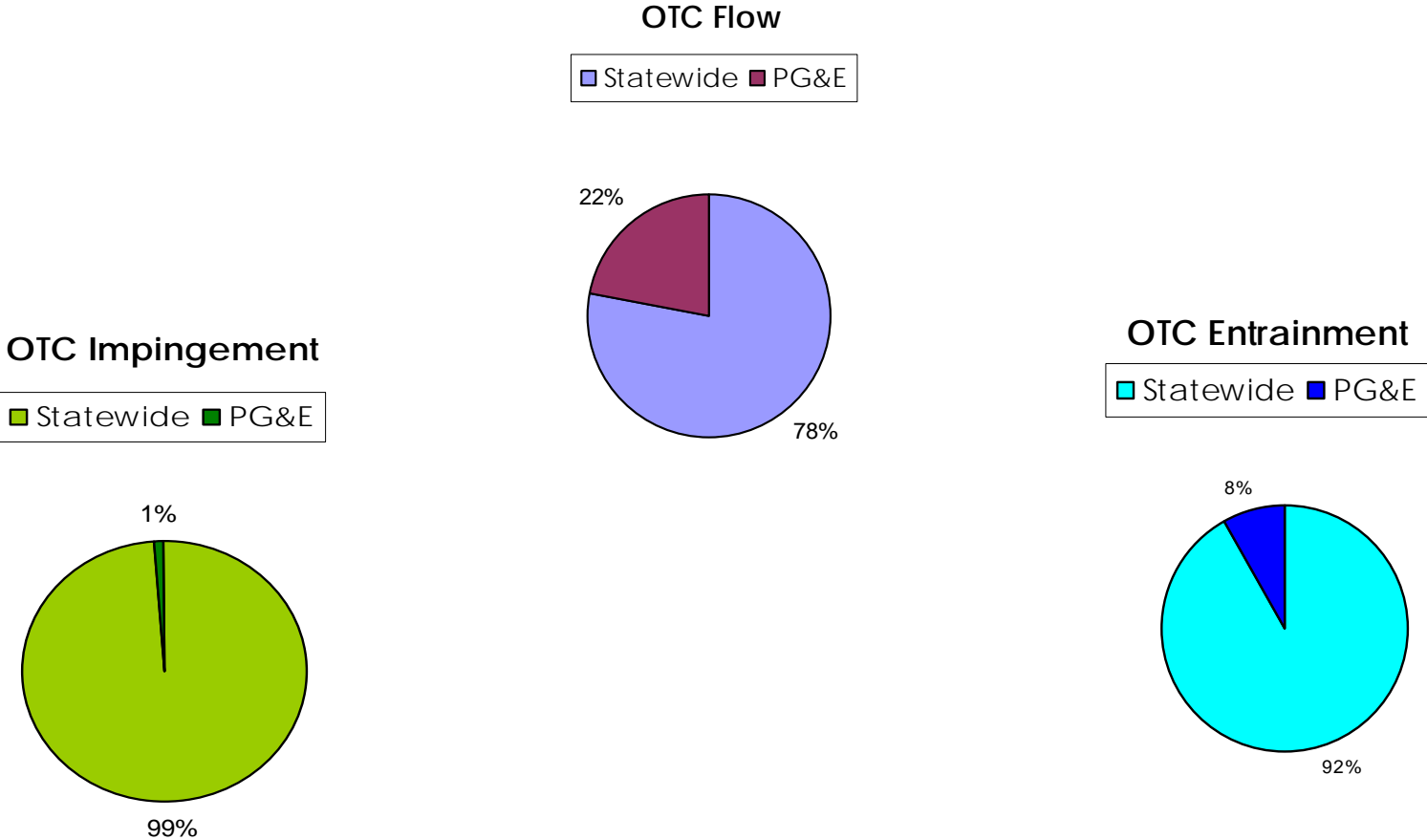
\$ 614 Project Indirect Costs and Contingency

\$2,689 Total Capital Costs

\$1,800 Replacement Power (at \$70 MWh)

\$4,500 TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Diablo Canyon – Percentage of flow vs. impact



Data taken from SWRCB’s Substitute Environmental Document.