

Re: Comment Letter, OTC Policy Special Studies  
Dear Jeanine Townsend,

Felicia Marcus / Francis Spivy-Weber / Tam Doduc / Steven Moore / Dorene D'Amamo  
State Water Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Board Members,

I am writing regarding the decision that the Water Board will be considering in the late Fall about requiring that PG&E's Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant fully comply with California's Once Through Cooling (OTC) policy. As a person who is concerned about protecting our marine resources and beautiful coast, I urge that Diablo Canyon be required to fully comply with the OTC policy and to install recirculating cooling towers as soon as possible.

As you know, expert evaluations before the Board's special Nuclear Review Committee have clearly concluded that cooling towers can and should be built at the Diablo Canyon plant site. Since Diablo Canyon causes nearly 80% of the damage done to the marine environment by all coastal power plants covered by the state's OTC policy, it is obvious that PG&E should be forced to comply. Otherwise the OTC policy will have been gutted and rendered meaningless.

With Diablo's antiquated Once Through Cooling system drawing in an estimated 2.5 billion gallons of water per day and discharging that water back into the ocean 20 degrees hotter—thereby killing more than one billion fish in early life stages—it is long overdue that the utility be required to use 21st Century technology to protect our marine environment.

With the state having passed OTC policy in 2010, I am concerned that this decision has already dragged out over four years, mainly due to PG&E lobbying. I urge the Board to now act decisively to require that cooling towers be built as soon as possible. Our marine and coastal environment should be treated as precious resources, that should not be held hostage by the utility's desires to maximize profits.

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Meghan Wilkinson  
2929 Verde Vista Drive, Unit E  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105