

## HAZARDS AND THREATS

### Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) Generating Stations

#### Quick Facts about Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant

- Located on Avila Beach property in San Luis Obispo County.
- Operated by Pacific Gas and Electric.
- Features two Westinghouse-designed four-loop pressurized-water nuclear reactors.
- Originally designed to withstand a 6.75 magnitude earthquake from four faults, including nearby San Andreas and Hosgri Faults, but was later upgraded to withstand a 7.5 magnitude earthquake.
- Considered much less vulnerable to a tsunami because the NPP sits atop of bluff measuring 85 feet above sea level.
- Plant is located in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV.
- The NPP has a redundant seismic monitoring and a safety system designed to shut down in the event of significant ground motion.

**NOTE:** Seismologists say Subduction Faults like the ones located in Japan are capable of delivering more powerful jolts and more likely to displace ocean water, causing a Tsunami as compared to the Strike/Slip Faults like the ones located near Diablo Canyon NPP.

#### **Emergency Classifications**

(Source: PG&E “Emergency Planning...Diablo Canyon Power Plant...Protecting Public Health & Safety)

Nuclear power plant emergencies are classified into one of four classifications described below. At each level, PG&E would notify local, State and Federal officials. These officials would take actions as outlined in their emergency plans.

- **Unusual Event**
  - A minor, unplanned event has occurred. No threat to public health and safety.
- **Alert**
  - A plant safety system has been damaged or may have been damaged. No threat to public health and safety.

- **Site Area Emergency**

- A radiological release may be expected to occur or has occurred. The release would not be expected to exceed federal exposure limits beyond the plant site boundary, an area about 1,000 yards from the plant.

- **General Emergency**

- A significant release of radioactivity has occurred or may occur. Protective actions may be required in several of the Protective Action Zones.

**What to do if Diablo Canyon NPP Sirens System Sound  
(The following is being provided for information purposes only)**

**If you hear a loud and steady sire for three to five minutes**

- Go indoors and tune to a local radio or television station. Stay tuned and listen for important information and instructions. San Luis Obispo County will use the Emergency Alerts System (EAS) to provide the public with information via local radio and television stations.
- If you are able, go to your neighbors and make sure they are aware of any emergency warning and related emergency actions.
- If you are at sea, tune to Marine Channel 16 for emergency information.
- Only call 805-543-2444 if you urgently need information or transportation assistance during an evacuation. The San Luis Obispo Office of Emergency Services activates this phone line only when there is an emergency that affects large numbers of people in the county.

**Do Not**

- Do not call 911. It is an emergency line for people who need urgent medical, fire, or police help. Using 911 for information ties up the system and may delay help for someone who needs it.
- Do not leave the area unless you are told to do so over the Emergency Alert System (EAS).
- Do not use your telephone unless you need to call for help.
- Do not call local police, fire or sheriff's offices unless you need their immediate help during an emergency. Please leave telephone lines open and emergency personnel available for people who need immediate lifesaving help.

## How to Get More Information

- **Pacific Gas and Electric Company**  
4325 South Higuera Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
805-546-5292  
[www.pge.com](http://www.pge.com)
- **San Luis Obispo Office of Emergency Services**  
County Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2790  
805-781-5011  
[www.slocounty.ca.gov/oes](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/oes)
- **California Emergency Management Agency**  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, CA 95665  
916-845-8400  
[www.calema.ca.gov](http://www.calema.ca.gov)
- **San Luis Obispo County Health Agency**  
Division of Environmental Health  
2156 Sierra Way  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
805-781-5544