



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 5, 2018

Mr. Edward D. Halpin  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P. O. Box 56  
Mail Code 104/6  
Avila Beach, CA 93424

SUBJECT: HUMBOLDT BAY POWER PLANT UNIT 3 – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL SITE  
RELEASE FROM PART 50 LICENSE (CAC NO. L53153)

Dear Mr. Halpin:

By letter dated November 9, 2016, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16326A004), Pacific Gas and Electric Company requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) approval of the acceptability of the release of a portion of the Humboldt Bay Power Plant, Unit 3 (HBPP) site from the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50 license. The area to be released consists of approximately 30.4 acres, known as the Fisherman's Channel. You intend to transfer this property to the Humboldt Bay Harbor District. Your letter concluded that the requested action was in accordance with the criteria in Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 and consistent with the phased release approach described in Section 1.2 of the HBPP License Termination Plan.

The NRC staff has reviewed your proposed partial site release from the license, as specified in your November 9, 2016, letter, and finds the proposed release to be acceptable subject to the following comment:

Following removal from the license, in the unlikely event the released areas were to become radiologically contaminated as a result of later decommissioning activities at the HBPP, the contamination would be considered an off-site release, and subject to 10 CFR Part 20.

Based on the analysis in the enclosed safety evaluation, the proposed release of the 30.4 acres, known as the Fisherman's Channel and encompassing Final Status Survey areas OOL 10-11 and OOL 10-12, from the HBPP license is approved.

A copy of the staff's safety evaluation is enclosed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

John Tappert, Director  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. 50-133

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
Humboldt Bay Service List

SUBJECT: HUMBOLDT BAY POWER PLANT UNIT 3 – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL SITE  
RELEASE FROM PART 50 LICENSE (CAC NO. L53153) –  
DATED JANUARY 5, 2018

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**PKG:** ML17115A107    **LTR:** ML17115A108    **ENC:** ML17115A109

OFFICE	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	OGC	DUWP
NAME	JHickman	CHolston	BWatson	SClark	JTappert
ATE	4 / 25 /2017	4 / 25 /2017	4 / 28 /2017	12 / 12 /2017	01 / 05 /2018

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Humboldt Bay Power Plant, Unit 3 Service  
List

cc:

Mr. Edward D. Halpin  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P. O. Box 56  
Mail Code 104/6  
Avila Beach, CA 93424

James Becker  
Vice President - Diablo Canyon Operations  
and Station Director  
Diablo Canyon Power Plant  
PO Box 56  
Avila Beach, CA 93424

Paul J. Roller  
Director and Plant Manager  
Humboldt Bay Nuclear  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
1000 King Salmon Avenue  
Eureka, CA 95503

Jennifer K. Post  
Law Department  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale Street, B30A  
San Francisco, CA 94105-1814

Chairman, Humboldt County Board  
of Supervisors  
County Courthouse  
825 Fifth Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1600 East Lamar Boulevard  
Arlington, TX 76011-4511

California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness, Room 4102  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Redwood Alliance  
P.O. Box 293  
Arcata, CA 95521

Dr. Rich Ferguson, Energy Chair  
Sierra Club California  
1100 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 311  
Sacramento, CA 94814

Mr. Gary Butner, Acting Radiation Program  
Director  
Radiologic Health Branch  
Dept. of Health Services, MS-7610  
PO Box 997414  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

Stephen Hsu, M.S., Senior Health Physicist  
Radiological Assessment Unit  
Radioactive Material Licensing Section  
Radiologic Health Branch  
Dept. of Health Services, MS-7610  
PO Box 997414  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

Commissioner  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Deputy Attorney General  
State of California  
110 West A Street, Suite 700  
San Diego, CA 92101