

50-275,323

November 22, 1981

Mr. Nunzio Palladino, Chair
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

'81 NOV 27 P3:53

DEC 2 1981

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Palladino,

It is with great joy that I send my congratulations to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the suspension of the low power testing license for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant near San Luis Obispo, California.

Since its inception, the nuclear industry has been plagued with errors and accidents. In recent years, public concern about the viability and necessity of nuclear power plants as an energy source has generated a series of unanswered questions:

- 1) What is to be done with the waste?
Why wasn't the waste problem worked out before the first plant was built?
- 2) Why haven't complete decommissioning costs been figured into the cost of building each and every plant?
- 3) Who really knows how to decommission today's commercial reactors?
- 4) Who's really willing to accept the burden of responsibility for colossal mistakes at TMI, Brown's Ferry, Fermi in Detroit, and now, Diablo Canyon?
Who should pay for these mistakes?
- 5) Why does the Price-Anderson Act fail so miserably to adequately cover estimated costs for a nuclear accident?
- 6) Why are evacuation plans so poor and, more often, nonexistent, for communities near reactors?
- 7) And why, after 30 years of pursuing nuclear energy by virtue of federal subsidy and finding many more problems than solutions is the federal government and the nuclear industry still intent upon nuclear development? Why is it so difficult to admit that the use of nuclear energy is not, in fact, the energy source we once thought it was? How long can we continue to jeopardize the safety, health, and well-being of every human being on this planet?
- 8) And why do we continue to support in this country and abroad a technology so inextricably tied to the development of nuclear weapons designed to kill and destroy while relatively benign sources of energy such as solar,

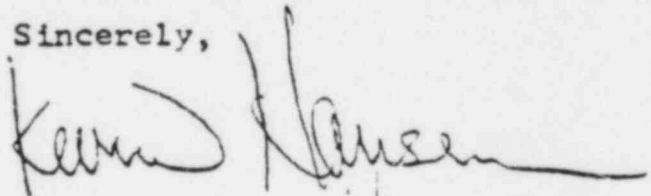
biomass, ocean thermal energy conversion, wind, geothermal, hydro, and conservation receive microscopic support?

As Pacific Gas and Electric Company is now faced with the stark (and perhaps, embarrassing) reality that Diablo Canyon Power Plant is not necessarily destined to be a nuclear facility, I strongly suggest conversion plans be effected immediately to save the enormous investment in this plant. The conversion to other fuels such as natural gas, oil, or coal would be far short of ideal due to inherent problems with fossil fuels but could serve to utilize the plant in a far less dangerous manner and help to restore the increasing lack of confidence in the public utility.

As a concerned citizen, I commend you on your exercise of responsibility in the public's behalf. I send the sincerest wishes for a continuing trend to systematically shut down and decommission every nuclear reactor in this country at the earliest possible date and to cease immediately all export of nuclear energy technology and materials.

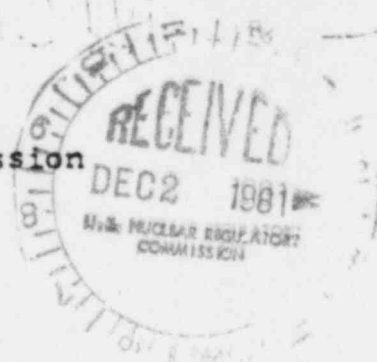
For a safe and sane future,

Sincerely,



Kevin Hansen

cc: President Ronald Reagan
Sen. Alan Cranston
Sen. S.I. Hayakawa
California Public Utilities Commission
Congressman Clausen, California



D503
1/10