

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
HUMBOLDT BAY POWER PLANT, UNIT NO. 3

Quarterly Status Report

April 1, 1982

Since PGandE's last filing dated August 13, 1981, activities on Humboldt Bay, Unit 3, have been related to five items. Our activities on each of these items are discussed below:

1. Plant Operational Status

Humboldt Bay Unit 3 continues to be maintained in a cold shutdown condition. The reactor coolant system is filled with reactor coolant but depressurized. The reactor vessel head and shield plug are in place. The reactor core is loaded with 184 fuel assemblies, 44 of which are new fuel assemblies. 250 spent fuel assemblies continue to be stored in the spent fuel pool. There are 236 empty spaces remaining in the spent fuel pool.

Reactor control rods are fully inserted. The control rod drive system is de-energized and cannot be re-energized without the knowledge and consent of the shift foreman. In addition, the control rod hydraulic system is depressurized. This system would need to be filled and vented before control rods could be withdrawn. The emergency boration system, reactor clean up system, liquid radwaste processing system, refueling building ventilation system, nuclear instrumentation, and radiation monitoring systems are all maintained operational.

Surveillance testing is performed as required by the Technical Specifications. Fire protection, radiation protection, material accountability, radioactive waste management, training and quality assurance programs are being implemented and are audited by NRC's Region V inspectors.

PGandE has continued to comply with the shift manning requirements for the shutdown mode in accordance with the Humboldt Bay Technical Specifications. The current numbers of licensed operating personnel available to cover 4 shifts are the following:

5 Senior Operator Licenses, SOL (4 Shift foremen, 1 Relief Shift Supervisor)

9 Operator Licenses, OL (4 Control Operators, 4 Sr. Control Operators, 1 Sr. Control Operator in Training for a SOL)

In addition to the above, PGandE has 4 management personnel at the plant who hold a current SOL to supplement the operating staff if needed.

PGandE has continued to fully comply with the latest (Revision 2) Humboldt Bay Power Plant Security Plan dated November 16, 1976. This security plan has been approved by the NRC Staff as being adequate. Any further changes in the Plant Security Plan will be submitted to the NRC Staff in accordance with current regulations.

Reports regarding Unit 3 are routinely submitted to the NRC as required by the license and other regulations. These include: Monthly Operating Status Reports; Radioactive Effluent Release and Waste Disposal Reports; and Licensee Event Reports, if required.

Scheduled and unscheduled inspections of the plant have been conducted by the NRC's Inspection and Enforcement Region V Inspectors. Any violations and/or deviations have been resolved to the satisfaction of the NRC Staff.

No revisions or modifications in the Humboldt Bay Unit 3 design or operation have been made that would bear upon the bases on which the NRC Staff concluded that the plant, in its present shutdown condition, poses no risk to the health and safety of the public.

## 2. Monitoring of the NRC's Safety Goal Rulemaking

As noted in the Order, the NRC has published for comment a proposed policy statement on safety goals for nuclear power plants. A report discussing the development of the proposed policy statement has been published separately as NUREG-0880, Safety Goals for Nuclear Power Plants: A Discussion Paper. Public comments are due by May 18, 1982. PGandE assumes that the NRC will evaluate the public comments received and issue final policy recommendations later this year. PGandE will comply with Item 1 of the Order and intends to reach a decision regarding the disposition of Humboldt Bay, Unit 3, within six months of the issuance by the NRC of the final policy statement and its associated goals and guidelines.

## 3. Review of New NRC Requirements for Operating Nuclear Plants

PGandE is continuing to review NRC promulgated information such as I&E Circulars, Bulletins, Information Notices, NUREGs, and the Federal Register notices for regulations and guidance applicable to the Humboldt Bay plant in its current cold shutdown status. PGandE's review also considers the potential for significant safety problems associated with the plant for

all other operational modes and considers those actions which are necessary to comply with the intent of NRC requirements. Those applicable requirements which are not immediately acted upon are placed on a list of work items that must be satisfactorily resolved prior to restart of Unit 3.

#### 4. Evaluation of Decommissioning Alternatives

An evaluation of decommissioning alternatives has been completed. The evaluation includes an assessment of the technical feasibility, estimates of personnel radiation exposures, and cost estimates for the various decommissioning alternatives for the complete plant. The evaluation also provides cost estimates and personnel radiation exposure estimates and criteria for decontaminating only those portions of the steam plant which would be considered for use in the fossil fired steam system conversion alternatives.

The evaluation was undertaken to obtain a better understanding of the costs to PGandE of the decommissioning alternatives for the plant. Once the costs for other alternatives such as restarting or repowering the plant are quantified, a comprehensive economic evaluation of all of the alternatives still must be performed. The results of the economic evaluation will provide information needed for the decision that PGandE must reach within six months after issuance of the NRC's reactor safety policy statement.

#### 5. Evaluation of Steam Plant Conversion Alternatives

PGandE is evaluating various fossil fired steam system conversion alternatives. The conversion alternatives presume the decommissioning of the nuclear portion of Unit 3 while retaining the power generation portion of the plant available for continued use with a new steam supply source.

The alternative steam supply systems being evaluated include: a coal fired boiler; an oil/natural gas fired boiler; a biomass (wood chip) fired boiler; and a combined cycle waste heat boiler. The evaluations focus on engineering feasibility and trade-offs, fuel supply and transportation, pollution control requirements, cycle efficiencies, waste management, permit requirements, PGandE generation and transmission requirements, equipment capital costs, and operation and maintenance costs.