



Fw: NO to Seismic Testing, NO to Fukushima-Diablo Nuclear Power Plant

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/26/2012 05:50 PM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

for posting please...

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/26/2012 05:50 PM -----

From: "Jacqueline Marcus" <jack@forpoetry.com>
To: <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, <pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us>, <jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/26/2012 01:06 PM
Subject: NO to Seismic Testing, NO to Fukushima-Diablo Nuclear Power Plant

Dear Supervisors,

Please read my Letter to the Editor. Thank You.

NO to Seismic Testing, NO to Fukushima-Diablo Nuclear Power Plant

By Jacqueline Marcus

PG&E's perilous seismic testing of high-energy air gun blasts will harm endangered whales, dolphins, migrating fish, sea otters and a diversity of sea-life off the central coast waters. PG&E is requesting the hazardous testing for one reason and one reason only: to renew their operational license for another twenty years. It has nothing whatsoever to do with public safety.

With global warming on the rise, we can expect more terrifying catastrophes such as Fukushima's 2011 three nuclear meltdowns. This emergency crisis began with a 9.0 earthquake followed by an unpredictable tsunami. We understand now, after Fukushima, that a 9.0 earthquake can occur at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, which was designed to sustain an 8.0 maximum earthquake disaster at best, but there is no scientific certainty that this aging plant can sustain even an 8.0 earthquake, but less one of greater magnitude.

Fact 1: Japan's 2011 Fukushima Daiichi is an ongoing nuclear catastrophe:

Three meltdowns with no solution nearly two years later on how to stop the nuclear radiation that is so immeasurably hot—mechanical robots melt within seconds of entrance of the demolished containment structures. But because this information is censored in the mainstream press, most people think it's over, problem solved. To make the point that it's *not* over, [36 percent of Fukushima children have abnormal thyroid growths](#) likely from radiation exposure, based on the "[Fukushima Prefecture Health Management Survey](#)." (1)

Fact 2: Fish off Japan's Coast Said to Contain Elevated Levels of Cesium:

New research to be published in the journal Science suggests that radioactive particles from

last year's nuclear disaster have accumulated on the sea floor and could contaminate sea life for decades. (2)

Fact 3: Japan's Fukushima Daiichi plant operators are having trouble storing a perpetual accumulation of radioactive cooling water from the plant's broken reactors:

The plant [currently holds](#) 200,000 tonnes of highly contaminated waste water, used to cool the broken reactors, but operator, Tokyo Electric Power Company, continues to struggle to find ways to store the toxic substance. TEPCO has said they are running out of room to build more storage tanks and the volume of water will more than triple within three years. "It's a time-pressing issue because the storage of contaminated water has its limits; there is only limited storage space..." (3)

These ominous facts, alone, speak volumes. Shut PG&E's Diablo Nuclear Power Plant down before it's too late and replace this potential nuclear bomb with safe, renewable energy instead. Given the latest technology, solar and wind can provide as much energy or more than nuclear, oil and coal combined.

Currently, there are plans for Saudi Arabia to be powered entirely by renewable clean energy while fossil fuels and nuclear dictate our U.S. Energy Policy.

In the session, *Reassessing Renewable Energies*, during last week's [Global Economic Symposium](#) in Rio de Janeiro, Prince Turki Al Faisal Al Saud of Saudi Arabia said, "I would like to see Saudi Arabia using 100 percent renewable energy within my lifetime." While the oil rich kingdom of Saudi Arabia announces to the world it's embracing the goal of 100 percent green energy, most politicians in America are afraid to make such a bold statement out of fear of losing [shocking sums of money that the fossil fuel industry](#) and wealthy individuals "donate" to sway elections and manipulate legislation, a force strangling our attempt to wean ourselves from nuclear and dirty energy and embrace a clean energy future. (4)

Can't happen? Think again: Consider the construction of the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS) — the largest concentrating solar power (CSP) plant in the world — has reached the midway point and remains on schedule to begin delivering what's due to be a net 370 MW of clean, renewable electricity to consumers in California come September, 2013. (5)

Yes it can.

Sources:

1. BusinessInsider.com:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/fukushima-children-have-abnormal-thyroid-growths-2012-7>

2. New York Times:

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/10/26/world/asia/fish-off-fukushima-japan-show-elevated-levels-of-caesium.html?_r=1&nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20121026

3. CommonDreams.org: <http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/10/25-6>
Fukushima Operators Struggle to Contain 'Outrageous Amount' of Radioactive Water

4. Paul E McGinniss, Eco-Watch:

<http://truth-out.org/buzzflash/commentary/item/17592-saudi-arabia-reveals-plans-to-be-powered-entirely-by-renewables-while-fossil-fuels-dictate-u-s-energy-policy>

5. Construction of World's Largest Concentrating Solar Power Plant Reaches Halfway Mark

<http://cleantechnica.com/2012/08/17/construction-of-worlds-largest-concentrating-solar-power-plant-reaches-halfway-mark/>

*Jacqueline Marcus taught ethics and political philosophy at Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, California. Her book of poems, *Close to the Shore*, was published by Michigan State University Press. She is the editor of ForPoetry.com, and a contributing political writer for Truthout.org.*



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:01 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:01 AM -----

From: Marcella Boteilho <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 09:45 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Greetings,

Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Supervisors,

In the early exhibits for the staff report on seismic testing, both Supervisor Frank Mecham (2010) and Supervisor Adam Hill (2011) signed letters asking for an expedited process for seismic testing -- due to the then recent discovery of the Shoreline Fault. These letters were written before the CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) process did it's job, identifying the environmental impacts of the project through the Environmental Impact Report and supporting studies.

Now that we all are aware of the serious risks to the marine environment and that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has deemed the power plant safe from the potential effects of the Shoreline Fault, it is perfectly reasonable to RECONSIDER the project in full.

Countless agencies, organizations and individuals are calling for a stop to the project. With your help it will be.

Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

Marcella Boteilho
Cambria, California

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/san-luis-obispo-county-board-of-supervisors-ask-the-coastal-commission-to-stop-seismic-testing-off-california>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:02 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:02 AM -----

From: Julie Towery <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 10:01 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

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Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

The sea, and the creatures within it, gives life and joy to all of us, and should be respected and cared for.

Julie Towery
San Luis Obispo, California

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/san-luis-obispo-county-board-of-supervisors-ask-the-coastal-commission-to-stop-seismic-testing-off-california>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Comments: Central Coastal Seismic Imaging Project

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder
Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

10/29/2012 10:20 AM

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:20 AM -----

From: Carol Georgi <cdgeorgi@hotmail.com>
To: Karl Kempton <nrview@thegrid.net>, David Georgi <dgeorgi@outlook.com>, Brad Snook <snookbw@yahoo.com>, andrew <sierraclub8@gmail.com>, Harvey Cohon <harveyandkathy@yahoo.com>, Mary Webb <maryewebb@charter.net>, Maryann Avila <witchetgl@aol.com>, Amanda Wallner <amanda.wallner@sierraclub.org>, Bill Denneen <bdenneen@slonet.org>, Charmaine Coimbra <neptune911@live.com>, Fred Collins <fcollins@northernchumash.org>, "christine.heinrichs@gmail.com" <christine.heinrichs@gmail.com>, David Levy <levy@dr52.fsnet.co.uk>, Diane Smith <celebratepaso@gmail.com>, PJ Webb <pjwebb@inreach.com>, Joey <talkaboutthebay@yahoo.com>, Julie Tacker <julietacker@charter.net>, Sandra Nielsen <gorenielsen@gmail.com>
Cc: adam hill <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, "pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us" <pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us>, "jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us" <jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us>, "fmecham@co.slo.ca.us" <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, "bgibson@co.slo.ca.us" <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, "cassidy.teufel@coastal.ca.gov" <cassidy.teufel@coastal.ca.gov>
Date: 10/26/2012 07:55 AM
Subject: FW: Comments: Central Coastal Seismic Imaging Project

Today, Oct. 26, is the last day to email comment letters with your concerns about the protection of sea otters to US Fish and Wildlife Service.

You may use any part of this letter in your letter.

Thank you,
Carol

From: cdgeorgi@hotmail.com
To: r8_sso-ihacomment@fws.gov
Subject: Comments: Central Coastal Seismic Imaging Project
Date: Fri, 26 Oct 2012 07:29:24 -0700

October 25, 2012
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Diane Noda, Field Supervisor
Electronic mail: R8_SSO-IHA_Comment@FWS.gov

They Can't Protect Themselves <http://oceanarmor.org>

**Re: Central Coastal Seismic Imaging Project
PG&E's request for Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) and
permit for incidental take of Sea Otters**

Dear Diane Noda,

The California Central Coast Marine Sanctuary Alliance sends this letter because we are seriously concerned for the welfare of Southern Sea Otters during PG&E's Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project. PG&E is not mandated to use high energy seismic testing; alternative technologies need to be considered. Please hear our concerns, read the documented studies, and make the choice of **no** permit to PG&E for IHA and take of sea otters.

We find the Sea otter study paid for by PG&E unacceptable with its treatment of sea otters because they are not being protected.

Evidently, the researchers will monitor how the sea otters may move away or experience injury or stress while trying to dive for food in the testing area.

We are surprised and seriously concerned that 60 sea otters have already been captured, tested, tagged, surgically implanted with two devices, and returned to the testing area for a dangerous experiment: "How they are going to react is the million-dollar question," said Tim Tinker, lead researcher for the tagging project with the U.S. Geological Survey. Read full article by David Sneed.

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/10/20/2268771/sea-otters-earthquake-tests.html>

A 2005 permit: #MA672624-16 USFWS was used for this recent harassment of 60 sea otters. This is a general permit reauthorized from 2005 for Sea Otter research and we do not understand how this permit can be used for this specific project. Does this permit authorize the surgical implants? Watch implanting procedure in this KSBY TV video.

http://www.ksby.com/videoplayer/?video_id=21629&categories=581%2C694

California did not mandate PG&E to use high intensity 250 decibels (dB) acoustic seismic technology. Alternative technologies to seismic airguns exist.

<http://www.oceanosfoundation.org/assets/Uploads/Airgun.pdf>

PG&E's proposed acoustic blasting will harm marine sanctuary

resources. The testing area has been approved eligible for marine sanctuary designation since 1990, and sits between the Channel Islands Sanctuary and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary. PG&E states in their EIR, "Sound will travel hundreds of miles and still be 120dB as far away as 58.95 miles according to PGE report." The damaging acoustic pressure waves will travel into both National Marine Sanctuaries and be 120dB or stronger. Here are the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary comments to the draft EIR:

[http://www.slc.ca.gov/division_pages/DEPM/DEPM_Programs_and_Reports/CCCSIP/FEIR_Comments/FEIR_RTCs_Agencies_\(01of13\)_MBNMS.pdf](http://www.slc.ca.gov/division_pages/DEPM/DEPM_Programs_and_Reports/CCCSIP/FEIR_Comments/FEIR_RTCs_Agencies_(01of13)_MBNMS.pdf)

PG&E's EIR does not explain how airguns can injure and kill mammals.

Sonic blasting with airguns creates acoustic shock waves that travel underwater in the ocean. When the wave reaches your skin, it would pass through you. Little of its power would be reflected because your body's density is similar to that of the water.

The shock wave would hit the air-filled pockets of your body and instantly compress the gases there, possibly resulting in blocked blood vessels, ruptured lungs, torn internal tissues and even brain hemorrhaging. Waves hitting the surface of the water or the bottom ground would bounce back, inflicting even more damage.

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/explosion-land-water1.htm>

Please read "Underwater Blast Injuries by Dr. P.G. Landsberg MD for more details of injury and death caused by acoustic shock waves.

<http://www.scuba-doc.com/uwblast.html>

PG&E's proposed seismic survey for box 4 uses arrays of 18 air guns pulled behind a boat following a grid pattern blasting 250 dB every 15 seconds around the clock for 12 days.

4 impacts a minute, 40 impacts in 10 minutes, 240 impacts in 1 hour, 5760 impacts in 1 day (24 hours), and 69,120 in 12 days would mean sea otters could not dive to gather their food.

PG&E states in the EIR that fish and other marine life will survive

because they will leave the blasting area. This statement implies staying in the blast area will result in death, and ignores the shellfish, such as abalone and other marine life that cannot move quickly and leave. Thus, the marine life, including fish eggs, larvae, plankton, etc. will be destroyed within the blasting area.

PG&E plans to create a 160dB received sonic wave safety radius around the blasting area, including coming to the shoreline where people are recreating in the ocean. The US Navy determined a man's threshold is 145 dB before internal tissue damage occurs. Navy study:

<http://www.surtass-lfa-eis.com/DiverStudies/index.htm>

PG&E must consider public safety and more recent research showing 160 dB are not safe for most marine mammals.

Cummings found that harbor porpoises can only withstand up to 120dB and may not be able to get out of the bay inlet. Beluga whales are also are sensitive to more than 120dB.

Jim Cummings ☞ Executive Director, The Acoustic Ecology Institute, Santa Fe, New Mexico, US. E-mail: jim@acousticecology.org; Web: AcousticEcology.org

The January-February 2010 MPA News article

<http://depts.washington.edu/mpanews/MPA112.htm>

*"The 160-dB "safe" criterion noted in the article and widely used in mitigation plans likely represents roughly the sound level at which half the population will be expected to change its behavior in noticeable ways. Unfortunately, the correlation between sound level and behavioral disruption is not at all linear. **Many individuals (and some species, particularly harbor porpoises and beluga whales) respond with aversion or foraging disruptions at much lower levels, down to 120dB.** There will always be a subset of a population that is more sensitive to noise."*

Lindy Weilgart ☞ Research Associate, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. E-mail: Linda.Weilgart@dal.ca

The November-December 2009 MPA News article ([MPA News 11:3](#)) on

seismic surveys and MPAs resulted in a letter from Lindy Weilgart, PhD stating that “whale and fish disturbance is well documented at receive levels of 130 decibels (dB) and below—in contrast to the 160-dB threshold used at Endeavour, which is 1,000 times louder.”

“It is time to seriously research and promote more benign airgun alternatives such as, perhaps, controlled sources, passive seismic [the detection of natural low-frequency earth movements], electromagnetic surveys, etc. - especially in sensitive habitats.”

We find the CA State Lands Commission response to the welfare of the Southern Sea Otters unacceptable, and as written, will put about 702 (25% of state’s total) of the Southern Sea Otters in jeopardy from the proposed seismic tests, EIR page 4.4-23 states 702 sea otters in project area.

Sea otters have been protected by law since 1911 and are protected as a threatened species under the 1972 Endangered Species Act. There is a small population of sea otters along the coast of central California.

If the sea otters are to remain within the testing area, the question is:

What intensity (decibels – dB) of seismic testing can sea otters tolerate when diving for food

We find the following statement unacceptable and lacking knowledge and concern of sea otters diet and behavior.

“The NMSF Level A threshold for cetaceans (180dB) was used as the Level B threshold for sea otters. **Because sea otters have the ability to avoid immersion of their heads and ears,** this Level A noise level was considered to be appropriate for assessing the extent of disturbance (Level B harassment) to Southern sea otters due to noise.

The above response assumes sea otters can tolerate the 180 dB level because that is what they expect cetaceans to tolerate. Sea otters are not cetaceans, and their level of decibel tolerance is probably closer to that of humans when diving, about 140 dB or less.

We are concerned that your agency does not fully understand the impacts of acoustic pressure waves created by 18 airguns hitting mammals every 15 seconds day and night for 12 days. All parts of a

mammal's body will receive internal tissue damage, especially the torso and head, damage is not restricted to loss of hearing.

One only needs to learn about the sea otters diet and behavior to understand that leaving them within the high seismic testing zone will result in their death. Death will occur from the 250dB sonic blasts every 15 seconds, 24-hours a day for 42 days. Or death will occur from hyperthermia or starvation because of behavioral changes caused by the blasting.

Since the Southern Sea Otter's common habitat is within kelp forests, we urge you to also protect the kelp forests. We are also concerned about the female sea otters, many of which will be pregnant in December. Pregnant sea otters and pups need no high intensity seismic pressure waves hitting them every 15 seconds day and night for 12 days.

According to the Central Coastal CA Seismic Imaging Project EA # 3.6.4.1 Southern Sea Otter: Sea otters are most common in and around kelp beds and open water areas support substantially fewer adults. Kelp habitat provides territories and home range areas for male and females and sea otters will regularly be found in the same area over an extended period. Open water areas can and do have large numbers of otters on a regular basis, but the distributions can shift. It is believed that some of the highest densities continue to be found in open water habitat, such as Estero Bay, Monterey, and offshore of Pismo Beach (Figure 3-11) (M. Harris, pers. comm., 2011).

Death by Seismic Testing

Sea otters are not comparable to whales in determining the level of seismic blasts they can withstand. They should be exposed to no more intensity than would be recommended for humans.

Death by Hyperthermia

Sea otters need to eat about 25% of the weight in food each day in order to retain their body temperature as they have no blubber. Not

being able to dive to get their food due to intense seismic blasting will result in them not eating enough to maintain their body temperature.

Death by Starvation

Sea otters spend much of their lives in the water and can dive up to 330 feet when foraging for food. The reason they dive is that the food is on the bottom of the ocean. Therefore, the intensity of the seismic blasts will determine if the sea otters can tolerate diving for their food.

Sea otters eat many kinds of invertebrates, including clams, snails, sea stars, sea urchins, crabs, squid, octopuses and abalone. This food lies at the bottom of the ocean, where they also pick up a rock. They carry the food and the rock up to the surface. Then they use the rock or other objects to pry and to hammer them open.

We respectfully ask you to deny the IHA and permit to PG&E for the proposed seismic tests

Not rushing forward with these high intensity seismic tests will give the peer group and PG&E time to review and evaluate the land tests and the low level ocean tests. After this review, scientists can learn what alternative technology can be used to protect our marine life ocean resources, especially sea otters.

Our ocean life and marine food supply are too valuable to recklessly destroy. Please apply the Precautionary Principle as you make your decisions.

If you choose to permit the seismic testing, you must take the necessary steps to protect the sea otters, even if it means removing them from the project area and requiring PG&E to pay for the necessary removal and relocation.

We are concerned with your monitoring plans that allow the high intensity seismic decibels to be increased if the sea otters appear undisturbed, and we are concerned with your lack of post-activity monitoring plans. Tissue damage to mammals may not be noticed immediately, and the bodies may wash ashore during the weeks

following the seismic testing. For example, during and in the weeks following the low energy seismic testing, many birds died, and many mammal's bodies washed ashore---dolphins, seals, sea otters.

However, no monitoring was in place to collect data.

Leaving the otters for a science experiment does not protect the sea otters of California. Southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris nereis*), also known as California sea otters, were listed as threatened in 1977 under the Endangered Species Act. Reduced range and population size, vulnerability to oil spills, and oil spill risk from coastal tanker traffic were the primary reasons for listing. As a consequence of their threatened status, southern sea otters are also recognized as depleted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Under state law, southern sea otters are "fully protected" mammals.

http://www.fws.gov/ventura/species_information/so_sea_otter/index.html

Thank you for considering these comments,
Sincerely,

Carol Georgi, Coordinator
California Central Coast Marine Sanctuary Alliance
Email- cdgeorgi@hotmail.com

Address: P.O. Box 13222
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406---3222

<http://themsa.org/themsa/Welcome.html>

Maps (by Karl Kempton, former Energy Planner of San Luis Obispo County)



to uswfs-ms sea otter .doc track 4 160db-1.jpg



October 25, 2012

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Diane Noda, Field Supervisor
Electronic mail: R8_SSO-IHA_Comment@FWS.gov



They Can't Protect Themselves <http://oceanarmor.org>

Re: Central Coastal Seismic Imaging Project

PG&E's request for Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) and permit for incidental take of Sea Otters

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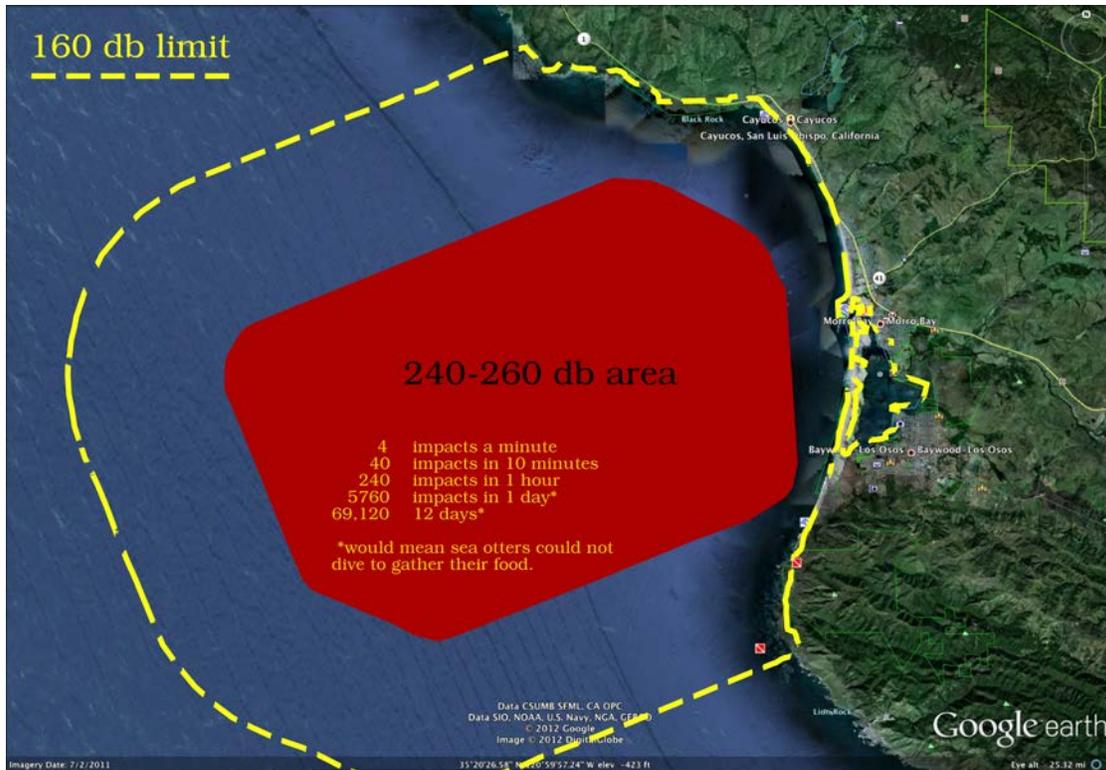
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Jim Cummings Executive Director, The Acoustic Ecology Institute, Santa Fe, New Mexico, US. E-mail: jim@acousticecology.org; Web: AcousticEcology.org

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Lindy Weilgart Research Associate, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. E-mail: Linda.Weilgart@dal.ca

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below—in contrast to the 160-dB threshold used at Endeavour, which is 1,000 times louder.”

“It is time to seriously research and promote more benign airgun alternatives such as, perhaps, controlled sources, passive seismic [the detection of natural low-frequency earth movements], electromagnetic surveys, etc. - especially in sensitive habitats.”

We find the CA State Lands Commission response to the welfare of the Southern Sea Otters unacceptable, and as written, will put about 702 (25% of state’s total) of the Southern Sea Otters in jeopardy from the proposed seismic tests, EIR page 4.4-23 states 702 sea otters in project area.

Sea otters have been protected by law since 1911 and are protected as a threatened species under the 1972 Endangered Species Act. There is a small population of sea otters along the coast of central California.

If the sea otters are to remain within the testing area, the question is: **What intensity (decibels – dB) of seismic testing can sea otters tolerate when diving for food**

We find the following statement unacceptable and lacking knowledge and concern of sea otters diet and behavior.

“The NMSF Level A threshold for cetaceans (180dB) was used as the Level B threshold for sea otters. **Because sea otters have the ability to avoid immersion of their heads and ears, this Level A noise level was considered to be appropriate for assessing the extent of disturbance (Level B harassment) to Southern sea otters due to noise.**

The above response assumes sea otters can tolerate the 180 dB level because that is what they expect cetaceans to tolerate. Sea otters are not cetaceans, and their level of decibel tolerance is

probably closer to that of humans when diving, about 140 dB or less.

We are concerned that your agency does not fully understand the impacts of acoustic pressure waves created by 18 airguns hitting mammals every 15 seconds day and night for 12 days. All parts of a mammal's body will receive internal tissue damage, especially the torso and head, damage is not restricted to loss of hearing.

One only needs to learn about the sea otters diet and behavior to understand that leaving them within the high seismic testing zone will result in their death. Death will occur from the 250dB sonic blasts every 15 seconds, 24-hours a day for 42 days. Or death will occur from hyperthermia or starvation because of behavioral changes caused by the blasting.

Since the Southern Sea Otter's common habitat is within kelp forests, we urge you to also protect the kelp forests. We are also concerned about the female sea otters, many of which will be pregnant in December. Pregnant sea otters and pups need no high intensity seismic pressure waves hitting them every 15 seconds day and night for 12 days.

According to the Central Coastal CA Seismic Imaging Project EA # 3.6.4.1 Southern Sea Otter: Sea otters are most common in and around kelp beds and open water areas support substantially fewer adults. Kelp habitat provides territories and home range areas for male and females and sea otters will regularly be found in the same area over an extended period. Open water areas can and do have large numbers of otters on a regular basis, but the distributions can shift. It is believed that some of the highest densities continue to be found in open water habitat, such as Estero Bay, Monterey, and offshore of Pismo Beach (Figure 3-11) (M. Harris, pers. comm., 2011).

Death by Seismic Testing

Sea otters are not comparable to whales in determining the level of seismic blasts they can withstand. They should be exposed to no more intensity than would be recommended for humans.

Death by Hyperthermia

Sea otters need to eat about 25% of the weight in food each day in order to retain their body temperature as they have no blubber. Not being able to dive to get their food due to intense seismic blasting will result in them not eating enough to maintain their body temperature.

Death by Starvation

Sea otters spend much of their lives in the water and can dive up to 330 feet when foraging for food. The reason they dive is that the food is on the bottom of the ocean. Therefore, the intensity of the seismic blasts will determine if the sea otters can tolerate diving for their food.

Sea otters eat many kinds of invertebrates, including clams, snails, sea stars, sea urchins, crabs, squid, octopuses and abalone. This food lies at the bottom of the ocean, where they also pick up a rock. They carry the food and the rock up to the surface. Then they use the rock or other objects to pry and to hammer them open.

We respectfully ask you to deny the IHA and permit to PG&E for the proposed seismic tests

Not rushing forward with these high intensity seismic tests will give the peer group and PG&E time to review and evaluate the land tests and the low level ocean tests. After this review, scientists can learn what alternative technology can be used to protect our marine life ocean resources, especially sea otters.

Our ocean life and marine food supply are too valuable to recklessly destroy. Please apply the Precautionary Principle as you make your decisions.

If you choose to permit the seismic testing, you must take the necessary steps to protect the sea otters, even if it means removing them from the project area and requiring PG&E to pay for the necessary removal and relocation.

We are concerned with your monitoring plans that allow the high intensity seismic decibels to be increased if the sea otters appear undisturbed, and we are concerned with your lack of post-activity monitoring plans. Tissue damage to mammals may not be noticed immediately, and the bodies may wash ashore during the weeks following the seismic testing. For example, during and in the weeks following the low energy seismic testing, many birds died, and many mammal's bodies washed ashore---dolphins, seals, sea otters. However, no monitoring was in place to collect data.

Leaving the otters for a science experiment does not protect the sea otters of California. Southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris nereis*), also known as California sea otters, were listed as threatened in 1977 under the Endangered Species Act. Reduced range and population size, vulnerability to oil spills, and oil spill risk from coastal tanker traffic were the primary reasons for listing. As a consequence of their

threatened status, southern sea otters are also recognized as depleted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Under state law, southern sea otters are “fully protected” mammals. http://www.fws.gov/ventura/species_information/so_sea_otter/index.html

Thank you for considering these comments,

Sincerely,

Carol Georgi, Coordinator

California Central Coast Marine Sanctuary Alliance

Email- cdgeorgi@hotmail.com

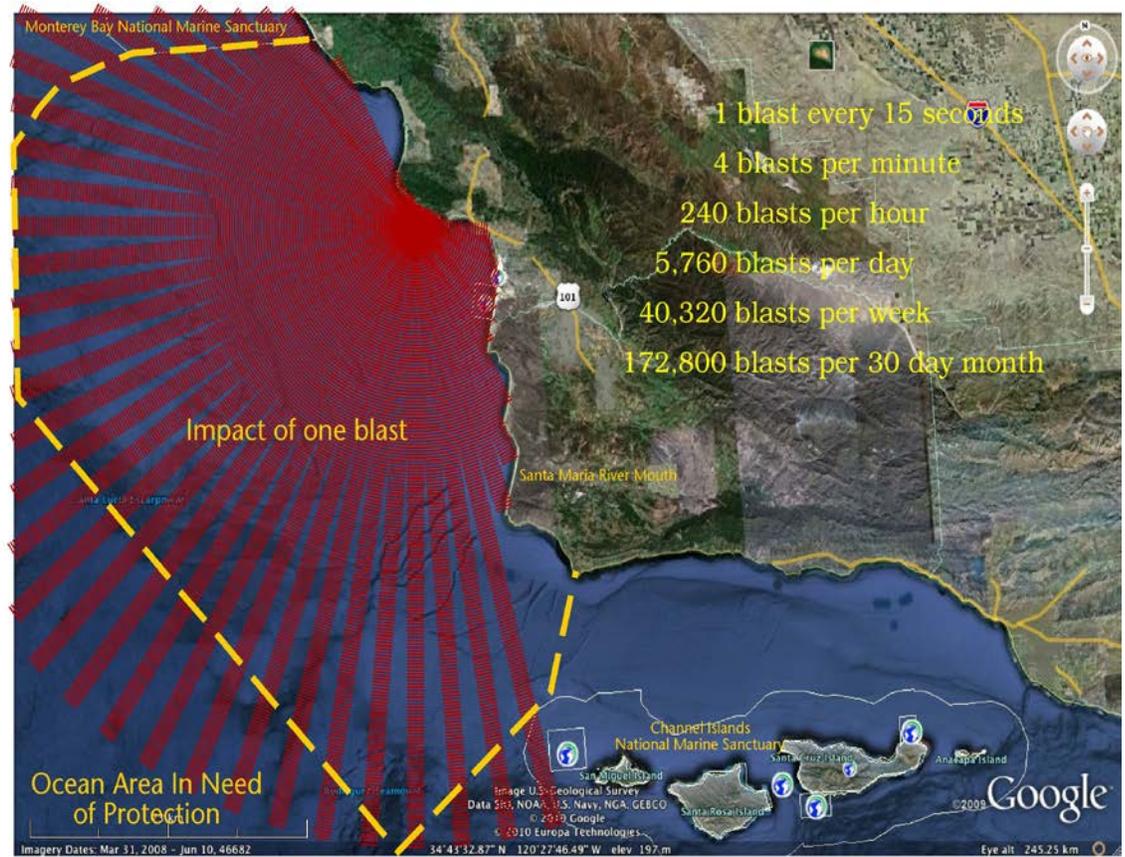
Address: P.O. Box 13222

San Luis Obispo, CA 93406---3222

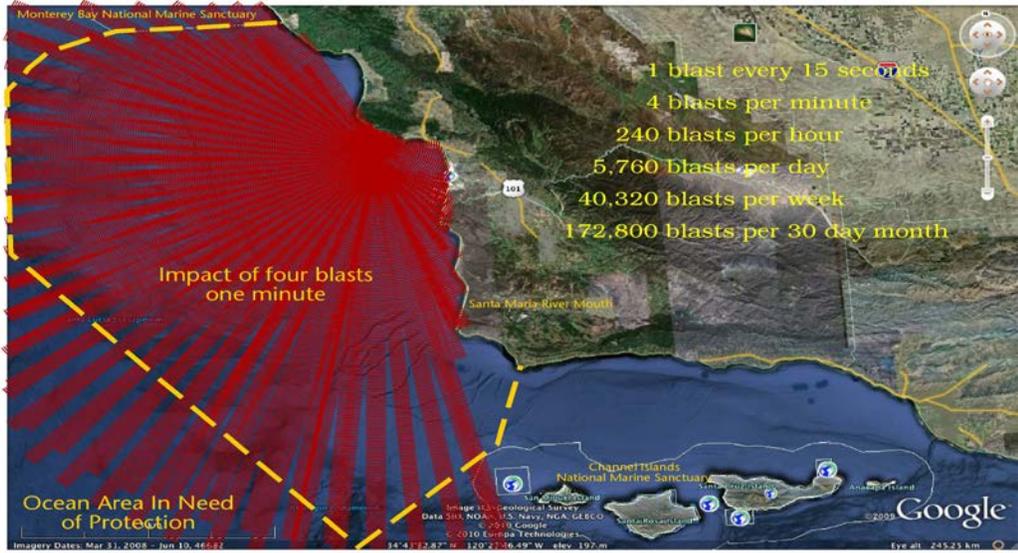
<http://themsa.org/themsa/Welcome.html>

Maps (by Karl Kempton, former Energy Planner of San Luis Obispo County) show combined effect of constant blasting

Impact of one blast



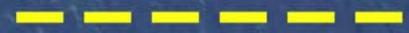
Impact of 4 blasts in one minute



Impact of 40 blasts in 10 minutes



160 db limit



240-260 db area

4	impacts a minute
40	impacts in 10 minutes
240	impacts in 1 hour
5760	impacts in 1 day*
69,120	12 days*

*would mean sea otters could not dive to gather their food.

Data CSUMB SFML, CA OPC
 Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
 © 2012 Google
 Image © 2012 DigitalGlobe

Google earth
 Eye alt 25.32 mi



To: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder/ClerkRec/COSLO@Wings,
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: This Might Get Your Attention: YouTube on PG&E Testing
From: James Patterson/BOS/COSLO - Monday 10/29/2012 10:22 AM
Sent by: Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:21 AM -----

From: Pam Arment <pjarment@yahoo.com>
To: "fmecham@co.slo.ca.us" <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, "bgibson@co.slo.ca.us" <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, "ahill@co.slo.ca.us" <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, "pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us" <pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us>, "jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us" <jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/25/2012 08:44 PM
Subject: This Might Get Your Attention: YouTube on PG&E Testing

Dear Supervisors,

Please take a look at the show regarding PG&E high energy testing. www.youtube.com/shewmuze

The longer version is airing on Channel 2.

This piece will soon be seen far and wide. It's 60 Minutes type material and reveals State Senator Sam Blakeslee's patented technology, the great harm done by that technology, and the growing opposition to this test. I assume that later the purchase by PG&E of an oil/gas exploration company from BP for \$400 million will be revealed. I'm confident there will be more national media attention after the Presidential election.

With all the opposition from NRDC, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, and dozens of environmental groups, along with recent information from the NRC and the USGS, only Supervisor Bruce Gibson and Senator Sam Blakeslee actually want this particular test and technology. Congresswoman Lois Capps has changed her opinion now according to a recent Tribune article.

There have been at least seven dead dolphins, a couple of dead sea otters along with some dead sea lions spotted in the last few weeks from pre-testing or low energy testing.

Can you please advise me if PG&E has the proper permits to conduct the low-energy testing being done now?

Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,
Pam Arment



To: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder/ClerkRec/COSLO@Wings,
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Discussion Item 22
From: James Patterson/BOS/COSLO - Monday 10/29/2012 10:23 AM
Sent by: Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:23 AM -----

From: Nancy Graves <nancygraves@hotmail.com>
To: <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, bruce gibson <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, adam hill <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, <pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us>, "jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us" <jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/29/2012 10:12 AM
Subject: Discussion Item 22

By now I'm sure you have been flooded with email regarding the PG&E Seismic Testing. I have been following this item closely for the last several months and it becomes more disturbing the more I learn.

I realize that your power on this issue is only to make recommendation.

It will be on the Coastal Commission agenda Nov 14th, Item #W13b. The Commission's jurisdiction on this issue is limited to Protection of Marine Resources (Section 30230 of the Coastal Act) and Federal Consistency. It is being handled by the Ocean and Energy Resources Division, Cassidy Teufel, Staff Analyst.

The Staff report and recommendation has not been issued as yet. But I believe staff will recommend against this project based on the unavoidable impacts to Marine Resources and applying precautionary principles due to the unknown damage this project could cause.

Your recommendation against this "ill conceived" project will be an important voice in the Commission's regulatory decision.

Thank you for saving the California Coast, one step at a time,

Nancy Graves
Board Member, Coastwalk
San Luis Obispo



Fw: Seismic study discussion at BoS tomorrow - October 30, 2012

Amber Wilson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:54 AM

Amber Wilson

Secretary/Board of Supervisors
San Luis Obispo County
805.781.4335
abwilson@co.slo.ca.us

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:54 AM -----

From: "Sue Luft" <aslft@wildblue.net>
To: "Amber Wilson" <abwilson@co.slo.ca.us>
Cc: "Jim Patterson - Supervisor" <jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us>, "Bruce Gibson - Supervisor" <bgibson@co.slo.ca.us>, "Adam Hill - Supervisor" <ahill@co.slo.ca.us>, "Frank Mecham - Supervisor" <fmecham@co.slo.ca.us>, "Paul Teixeira - Supervisor" <pteixeira@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 10/29/2012 10:23 AM
Subject: Seismic study discussion at BoS tomorrow - October 30, 2012

Dear Supervisors,

We have just begun to review the enormous amount of comments and expert testimony regarding the impacts on marine life and our local fisheries of the proposed seismic studies. It is clear that these impacts are unacceptable.

PG&E can evaluate the risks of earthquakes and aftershocks to the Diablo Canyon facility by making some worst case assumptions. They can develop scenarios and analyze their impacts without performing the proposed seismic studies.

Our coastal resources are too precious. Please express to the Coastal Commission and others the concern of our county residents that these studies pose an unacceptable risk.

Thank you for providing this opportunity for the public to weigh in on this issue.

Sue & Karl Luft
4561 Almond Drive
Templeton, CA 93465



Seismic Testing Petitions

Amber Wilson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 09:25 AM

Amber Wilson

Secretary/Board of Supervisors
San Luis Obispo County
805.781.4335
abwilson@co.slo.ca.us



- October 29 Seismic Petition 1.pdf

From: taylor.de.ville
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/29/2012 03:11 AM

taylor de ville gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"I've always felt a strong connection to animals and the thought of more animals getting unnecessarily harmed is excruciating "

18566 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project

The goal of the seismic imaging project is to attempt to measure the three major earthquake fault lines which run along our coast. The existence of these fault lines, especially after the continuing disaster at Fukushima, Japan, call into question the advisability of maintaining the Diablo Canyon nuclear power facility, operating near Avila.

The proposed testing will do nothing to prevent an earthquake on any of these fault lines. The tests will instead produce a large amount of data about dangers that we cannot avoid when these earthquakes occur.

Here is how the environmental impact report for the project describes it:

"The offshore component of the Project would consist of operating a geophysical survey 29 vessel, its associated survey equipment, and support/monitoring vessels The survey would be conducted along the central coast from approximately Cambria to Guadalupe (including marine protected areas around Cambria and elsewhere). ... 18 active air guns ... would discharge once every 15 to 20 seconds."

In other words, huge underwater canons would blast ear-shattering sounds under the water in an area from Guadalupe to Marin County. (These same measures are used to search for offshore oil reserves — coincidence?)

The environmental impact report indicates these tests would kill or injure marine mammals, including seals, dolphins, whales and otters. They could make them go deaf which would mean a lingering death. Already depleted fishing resources would be impacted. Seabirds would be affected as well, with little or no way of mitigating the impacts. Migratory birds would be affected as the tests would go on 24 hours a day and lights at night would be required. Air quality would be impacted and the project would contribute to climate change.

The ocean is our most precious resource. If the life of the ocean does not matter then neither do our lives. Some few persons stand to make lots of money from this

outrageous project. PG&E will pass on the costs to us, the consumers. We and all life in the ocean and the land around us stand to lose. And for what?

The project will not prevent the next earthquake. And if it happens and Diablo crashes, so do we. Think of the economic impact of such a disaster. A recent issue of The Economist has on its front cover a statement that says the dream of nuclear power has become a nightmare. It is time to put our resources into safe energy and abandon nuclear power.

Sincerely,

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/halt-the-central-coastal-california-seismic-imaging-project>. To respond, [click here](#)

From: [Michael Hauschild](#)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/28/2012 07:18 PM

Michael Hauschild gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"Enough info has been gathered. Who wants the project ? If it is international oil companies then forget it."

18561 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: [Mimi Whitney](#)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/28/2012 06:37 AM

Mimi Whitney gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"We should be thinking ahead towards closing Diablo and relying on alternative energy NOT how to keep Diablo in business."

18553 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: [Andreas Hoenigschmid](mailto:Andreas.Hoenigschmid@no-reply@change.org)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/27/2012 12:14 PM

Andreas Hoenigschmid gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"no underwater blasts in a whale region"

18544 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: [Maya Jamal](#)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/27/2012 09:18 AM

Maya Jamal gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"I have read the research & seen the damage that seismic testing creates for marine life & humans! Save the Whales!"

18541 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: [Sharon Munn](#)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/26/2012 10:43 PM

Sharon Munn gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"I'm not ready to expire yet~!"

18537 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Sincerely,

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From: [Katie Clifford](#)
Reply To: no-reply@change.org
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us
Subject: Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project
Date: 10/26/2012 08:57 PM

Katie Clifford gave the following reason for signing this petition:

"I grew up there & have lived in Hawaii for almost half my life. I was a Flight Attendant based in Honolulu & we traveled to Japan extensively. I know all about Diablo Canyon and Fukushima. The truth is always withheld from the public. We are trying to preserve Marine Life in Hawaii as it is. Do you think they care about what kind of residual effects that happen to our beloved Marine Life? No, they don't. It seems they want the prediction of "California falling into the ocean" to happen sooner than later, let alone the damage & murder done to ALL Marine Life. Come on everyone, let's band together & spread the word to protect our habitat, marine life, & ourselves for generations to come. It's not going to be around much longer if this proposed testing is allowed. Do they want to predict when a huge earthquake will come? I think we already have a pretty good idea about that since we grew up with Earthquake Emergency Drills in school. It's bad enough that they had to build a containment right on the fault lines. Idiots. Anything for a buck. Well, the buck stops here. Please do not allow this to happen. Please spread the word on this important subject. Haven't we seen enough destruction & devastation from other Nuclear Power Plant disasters? Have we not learned anything? Absolutely disgusting to me. "

18536 other people have also signed the following message:

Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: NOAA Fisheries, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, National Science Foundation, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Halt the Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project

The goal of the seismic imaging project is to attempt to measure the three major earthquake fault lines which run along our coast. The existence of these fault lines, especially after the continuing disaster at Fukushima, Japan, call into question the advisability of maintaining the Diablo Canyon nuclear power facility, operating near Avila.

The proposed testing will do nothing to prevent an earthquake on any of these fault lines. The tests will instead produce a large amount of data about dangers that we cannot avoid when these earthquakes occur.

Here is how the environmental impact report for the project describes it:

"The offshore component of the Project would consist of operating a geophysical survey 29 vessel, its associated survey equipment, and support/monitoring vessels The survey would be conducted along the central coast from approximately Cambria to Guadalupe (including marine protected areas around Cambria and elsewhere). ... 18 active air guns ... would discharge once every 15 to 20 seconds."

In other words, huge underwater canons would blast ear-shattering sounds under the water in an area from Guadalupe to Marin County. (These same measures are used to search for offshore oil reserves — coincidence?)

The environmental impact report indicates these tests would kill or injure marine mammals, including seals, dolphins, whales and otters. They could make them go deaf which would mean a lingering death. Already depleted fishing resources would be impacted. Seabirds would be affected as well, with little or no way of mitigating the impacts. Migratory birds would be affected as the tests would go on 24 hours a day and lights at night would be required. Air quality would be impacted and the project would contribute to climate change.

The ocean is our most precious resource. If the life of the ocean does not matter then neither do our lives. Some few persons stand to make lots of money from this outrageous project. PG&E will pass on the costs to us, the consumers. We and all life in the ocean and the land around us stand to lose. And for what?

The project will not prevent the next earthquake. And if it happens and Diablo crashes, so do we. Think of the economic impact of such a disaster. A recent issue of The Economist has on its front cover a statement that says the dream of nuclear power has become a nightmare. It is time to put our resources into safe energy and abandon nuclear power.

Sincerely,

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/halt-the-central-coastal-california-seismic-imaging-project>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 09:31 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

Cc: Amber Wilson

for posting...

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 09:31 AM -----

From: Nancy Bernard <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 09:28 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Greetings,

Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Supervisors,

In the early exhibits for the staff report on seismic testing, both Supervisor Frank Mecham (2010) and Supervisor Adam Hill (2011) signed letters asking for an expedited process for seismic testing -- due to the then recent discovery of the Shoreline Fault. These letters were written before the CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) process did it's job, identifying the environmental impacts of the project through the Environmental Impact Report and supporting studies.

Now that we all are aware of the serious risks to the marine environment and that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has deemed the power plant safe from the potential effects of the Shoreline Fault, it is perfectly reasonable to RECONSIDER the project in full.

Countless agencies, organizations and individuals are calling for a stop to the project. With your help it will be.

Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

Nancy Bernard

San Luis obispo, California

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/san-luis-obispo-county-board-of-supervisors-ask-the-coastal-commission-to-stop-seismic-testing-off-california>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:00 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 09:59 AM -----

From: Francesca Henderson <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 09:45 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Greetings,

Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

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Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

A healthy ocean is vital for this planet to survive. If this is such an issue of public safety, the plant should be shutdown, energy costs should go up for the consumer to really teach people about the true costs of using so much energy.

Francesca Henderson
Morro Bay, California

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/san-luis-obispo-county-board-of-supervisors-ask-the-coastal-commission-to-stop-seismic-testing-off-california>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:00 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:00 AM -----

From: Niel Dilworth <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 09:59 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

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Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

There has got to be a better way to ensure that the plant is safe.

Niel Dilworth
San Luis Obispo, California

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/san-luis-obispo-county-board-of-supervisors-ask-the-coastal-commission-to-stop-seismic-testing-off-california>. To respond, [click here](#)



Fw: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

James Patterson to: cr_board_clerk Clerk Recorder

10/29/2012 10:00 AM

Sent by: **Amy Gilman**

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 10/29/2012 10:00 AM -----

From: Mary Ditchie <mail@change.org>
To: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 10/29/2012 09:45 AM
Subject: Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

Greetings,

Ask the Coastal Commission to Stop Seismic Testing off California

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Thank you,

Julie Tacker (On facebook: Stop the Diablo Canyon Seismic Testing)

Mary Ditchie
San Luis Obispo, California

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