

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

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|---|---|--|---------------------|
| (1) DEPARTMENT Administrative Office | (2) MEETING DATE 6/2/2015 | (3) CONTACT/PHONE Dan Buckshi, 805/781-5011 Ron Alsop, 805/781-5454 Nikki Schmidt, 805/781-5496 | |
| (4) SUBJECT Submittal of a letter of support for AB 361 (Achadjian) - California Emergency Services Act: Nuclear Power Plants. All Districts. | | | |
| (5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve the letter of support for AB 361 (Achadjian) - California Emergency Services Act: Nuclear Power Plants. | | | |
| (6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A | (7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00 | (8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00 | (9) BUDGETED? No |
| (10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___) | | | |
| (11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support | | | |
| (12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) | | (13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | |
| (14) LOCATION MAP N/A | (15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? N/A | (16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____ | |
| (17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW | | | |
| (18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts | | | |

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dan Buckshi, County Administrator

DATE: 6/2/2015

SUBJECT: Submittal of a letter of support for AB 361 (Achadjian) - California Emergency Services Act: Nuclear Power Plants. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the letter of support for AB 361 (Achadjian) - California Emergency Services Act: Nuclear Power Plants.

DISCUSSION

Due to Federal regulations the County and other local agencies maintain an extensive emergency preparedness program related to the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Costs related to such nuclear power plant preparedness efforts are offset through State legislation that requires such expenses to be borne by utilities operating nuclear power plants with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts or more. In our case, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) bills PG&E for such costs and in turn Cal OES reimburses the County. This funding process has been in place for over thirty years.

California has codified the requirement of utilities to fund such offsite emergency preparedness for nuclear power plant emergencies. Built into current and past legislation is a sunset clause that allows and requires the ordinance to be revisited every ten years. Having the sunset clause in place allows for a process for any needed changes to the legislation be addressed on a regular basis. The last legislative update was carried by then Assembly Member Sam Blakeslee, working at least initially with the 2007 legislative year. The resulting approved legislation was Assembly Bill 292. The current sunset date is July 1, 2019 (that is the date the legislation will become inoperative; the actual date in the legislation that the law will be repealed is January 1, 2020).

Assembly Member Katcho Achadjian has introduced legislation (AB 361) with Coauthor Senator Bill Monning that extends the funding process to align with the end of the current operating license for Diablo Canyon. Specifically, AB 361 would extend until July 1, 2025 the requirement of utilities to fund such offsite emergency preparedness for nuclear power plant emergencies. During the May 5, 2015 Board of Supervisors' meeting staff received direction from the Board to develop a letter of support for AB 361.

This continuing funding obligation would ensure continued offsite emergency planning related to potential nuclear power plant emergencies. Having such extensive plans for Diablo Canyon also benefits other areas of emergency management throughout the county. The County Office of Emergency Services (County OES) is the lead agency that coordinates nuclear power plant emergency planning with County departments, local jurisdictions, and locally-based State agencies. These include various County departments, the incorporated cities within the Diablo Canyon Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ), school districts and certain special districts such as Port San Luis, the SLO Regional Transit Authority, County Office of Education, and other agencies. Funding is also shared with Santa Barbara County and the City of Santa Maria.

The process is that Cal OES bills PG&E and the State then passes the funds to County OES. In turn funds are then passed to the above noted local entities by County OES. There is a detailed budget approval and administrative process in place to do so.

It should be emphasized that these funds pay only for local agency offsite emergency planning direct costs. Emergency planning and readiness costs for systems such as the Early Warning System sirens are a cost PG&E pays for directly, not through this funding process.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The County Administrative Office, including County OES have met or otherwise worked with Cal OES, PG&E, Assembly Member Achadjian's staff and Senator Monning's staff related to this issue.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amount of funding for the offsite emergency planning efforts is set in the legislation. For fiscal year 2014-15 up to \$1,948,000 is available from the State fund for reimbursement to the County and other local agencies for Diablo Canyon related emergency planning costs. Of that amount \$1,818,474 was budgeted by various County departments for FY 2014-15. Of that amount, \$1,303,681 was budgeted for County OES.

Included within the \$1,303,681 for the County OES budget is \$330,000 to pass thru to non-County jurisdictions such as cities, special districts, schools, and others for their costs related to NPP planning and preparedness. Amounts that pass thru vary depending on claims made from outside agencies. These pass thru funds have no operational impact on the OES budget, either as an expense or as a savings. This leaves \$973,681 budgeted as direct operational costs (all costs other than pass thru funding) for County OES. The direct operational costs of \$973,681 total 76% of the County OES operational costs of \$1,272,401 for FY 2014-15.

The remaining \$514,793 in NPP funds budgeted for the County is dispersed among 14 other departments for their various roles and responsibilities related to Diablo Canyon emergency preparedness. As with non-County jurisdictions, County OES coordinates with these County departments on an ongoing basis to ensure overall consistency and emergency planning readiness.

RESULTS

Having the funds available to offset nuclear power plant emergency planning and preparedness costs for offsite local agencies helps ensure that the extensive Federal regulations related to such preparedness efforts can be met. As a result of these regulations, the County and other agencies maintain an extensive emergency preparedness program related to Diablo Canyon. Having such extensive plans for Diablo Canyon also benefits other areas of emergency management throughout the County. This in turn helps involved County departments with meeting the communitywide goal of a safe community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. AB 361 (Achadjian) letter of support