

# Mustang Daily

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# They Call It Diablo

*A Special Issue*



# Housing Help

Students who have been scouring town looking for the "perfect" apartment and can't find a place that charges \$60 a month, is a block from campus, and isn't ready to tumble down, should heed the words of Off-Campus Housing Coordinator Walter Lambert: "There is no reason to panic now. The time to panic is a week before registration."

Lambert makes a good point. Many of those who do the most kicking and screaming about the lack of housing are those who wait until the last moment to find a place to live. True, there isn't a wide range of places to select from but Lambert's recently created position has made what was an almost unbearable situation a little easier to live with.

In past years, students operated on a hit and miss basis, snatching up the latest edition of the newspaper and dashing off to grab that "just right" place, only to find that they were preceded by 20 other people.

Frustrations began to mount and despair was the name of the game.

Lambert's office has worked to eliminate some of that despair and frustration and bring a little order into the annual madness of house hunting.

Located behind the Santa Lucia Residence Hall, the housing office offers a card system listing spaces available. Those in search of housing can also leave a notice. Ideally, the two can be matched up with a little less running around on the students' part.

More than a referral service, the housing office acts to cut down on discrimination based on sex or religion. The office has no legal powers but its mere presence makes landlords think twice about trying to rip off students.

If nothing else, the creation of the Off-Campus Housing Coordinator has given countless students at least a ray of hope. And when you're looking for that "perfect" place, that means a lot.

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## About This Issue

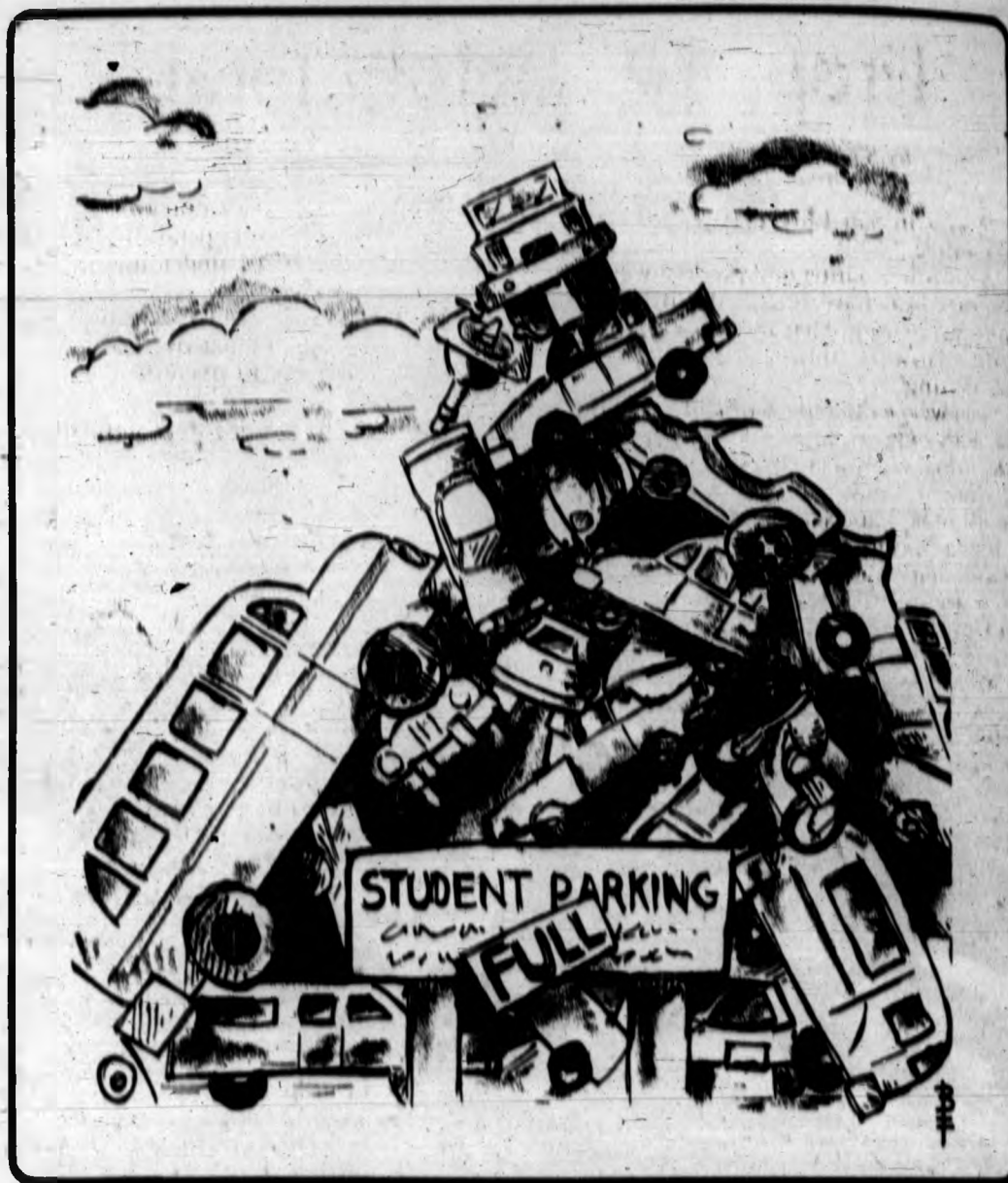
What's that you say — another barrage of nuclear power stories? Well, we at the Daily like to think in more positive terms. Under the guidance of Anne Zerlin (who is receiving Special Problems credit for her efforts), the Daily has produced a special 12-page edition devoted to nuclear power.

Sure, there's been a great deal said about nuclear power in the past. But we hope this package will give you a somewhat permanent record of the history, special problems

and pros and cons of nuclear power.

Nuclear power is an emotional issue and the Daily hopes you use the information within these pages to diffuse the issue. Proposition 13 — the Nuclear Safeguards Initiative — will be before the voters in another six days.

Hopefully the votes cast will be unemotional ones after today's special edition.



# California Showdown: Ford, Reagan Clash

When California Republicans choose between Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan on June 8, the winner — even if by only one vote — will get all 167 of the state's delegates. That's the biggest haul to be made this year and one that Reagan almost certainly has to have if he is to take the nomination from Ford.

No wonder, then, that the Reagan forces here went off like rockets the other day when State Sen. Robert S. Stevens, the Ford supporter, suddenly moved in the legislature to eliminate the winner-take-all rule. Piggy-backed to a Democratic bill, the Stevens amendment would have divided the delegation proportionate to the popular vote of the two contenders. Other Republican Senators quickly closed ranks to force withdrawal of the amendment.

They acted under some fierce prodding from Lyn Nofziger, Reagan's state manager; he believed the move was inspired by Stuart Spencer, the Californian who is No. 2 man at the President Ford Committee. But Stevens claims to have acted on his own, and to hear some Ford supporters tell it, they were as opposed to his amendment as Nofziger.

For one thing, a change in the rules this near the actual voting would have given Reagan reason to accuse the Ford campaign of unfair tactics, power politics and fear of losing here — which he had already started to do before that Stevens amendment was withdrawn. Perhaps more important, Ford leaders here think they have a good shot at defeating Reagan in his home

state, and they'd rather gamble on taking those 167 delegates away from him — probably a knockout blow — in a winner-take-all showdown.

Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego, Ford's Southern California chairman, believes for example that the President may actually have a small lead in the more liberal northern part of the state — as suggested by the warm reception he got there last week. Wilson's telephone canvassers are reporting that Ford has been recently picking up strength in the South, too. The

moment or event of significance beyond California." Translated, that means Ford needs to "do something presidential" to remind voters here that he is an incumbent President, not just a rather dull campaigner who is contending with this state's former governor for delegate votes.

It is not likely that Ford will have an opportunity to shoot up the Mayaguez again before June 8, but the Reagan forces here seem to fear some such heavy presidential bolt more than any particular cam-

it may have left him some residual problems. A two-term governor of a major state inevitably makes enemies and creates weaknesses for himself.

As governor, for one example, Reagan used federal revenue-sharing funds to pay the state portion of local education costs. As a presidential candidate, he opposes the general revenue-sharing program. Mayor Wilson has pointed out that to take away now the federal funds Reagan had used as governor would cause "an absolutely certain" property tax increase of 50 cents to a dollar in the combined city-county tax rate. Reagan used to campaign effectively against property tax increases in a state where they are already high.

Mervin Field, the California poll-taker, believes that voters here are only now beginning to focus on the primary as the candidates start to dominate the press and the news broadcasts. For that reason, he says, such familiar eastern figures as Jimmy Carter and even President Ford are not yet "well-known" here in the political sense. That's another opening advantage for Ronald Reagan that could yet be dissipated, depending on how California Republicans come to see Gerald Ford in the final days of this decisive campaign.

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Fair through Thursday with patchy low clouds and fog in the early morning hours. Highs today and tomorrow in the mid 60s to low 70s. Overnight lows in the low 40s.

## Letters

Mustang Daily welcomes letters from all viewpoints. Length of letters should be limited to 150 words-typed and double spaced. Letters will not be published

without a signature and student I.D. number. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Sorry, but no poetry is accepted. Bring letters to Graphic Arts, Room 226.



# Prop. 15: Safety First?

by STEVEN CHURM  
Daily Associate Editor

Spring in San Luis Obispo County has wilted.

A moistureless winter and the first waves of summer heat have turned the Irish Hills from green to golden brown and left the wild flowers more obscure than flourishing.

Yet, two eye-dazzling artificial hybrids are ignoring summer's calling and are sprouting vigorously on street corners, in apartment windows, office buildings and on all makes and shapes of car bumpers.

Their specifics: A white bordered, diamond shape poster with orange lettering on a deep purple background urging Yes on 15 or ominous black letters on a mustard yellow background calling for a NO on 15.

The message-bearing signs dotting the county's landscape however are just one part attached to the mushrooming debate on the merits of the Land Use and Nuclear Power Liability and Safeguards Act — better known as Proposition 15, the Nuclear Initiative.

Californians will go to the polls June 8 and vote either yes or no — on the controversial initiative that has drawn national attention because of the stringent safety regulations, the act if passed, will place on the operation of existing and future nuclear power plants in this state.

Proposition 15 — called the Nuclear Shutdown Initiative by its opponents and the Nuclear Safeguards Initiative by its backers — places the task of tightening nuclear safety measures in the hands of the state legislature. The "Yes On 15" committee leaders say the measure would give control of nuclear safeguards — radioactive waste storage, accident evacuation plans, liability and emergency safety systems — in those areas directly affected by the existence of operating atomic plants, Californians.

The initiative would require:

— The reduction to 80 per cent of the nuclear power plants licensed operating power by June 1977, unless the federal limit of \$400 million on liability is not removed or the operating utility companies waive the liability limits and adopt full compensation for damage to property and human life in the event of a major nuclear accident.

— Nuclear safety systems, including the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS),

be proven safe by June 1981 through actual testing of systems similar to those in nuclear plants or face a reduction of a 60 per cent of their licensed operating power, (if not already reduced under the above provision).

— Permanent safe storage within five years of passage for radioactive wastes or again face a 60 per cent operating reduction.

— The governor to publish an annually updated plan for evacuation of people near each nuclear power plant.

The initiative also requires the appropriation of \$800,000 from the state legislature general fund to finance a 15 member advisory group to oversee the implementation of the act.

The advisory group would hold public hearings on the safety issues and make a report on its findings to the state legislature by June 1979. The Legislature in turn would be required by the initiative to hold further public hearings and must then determine by a two thirds vote of each house if "it is reasonable to expect that provisions of the initiative can be met by June 1981," according to the California Voters Pamphlet.

Opponents have charged Prop. 15 is an attempt to virtually shutdown the nuclear power industry, because compliance with the proposed safety requirements are "impossible at this time."

Opponents of Prop. 15 have also argued passage of the initiative will be costly to the consumer. The cost may exceed two billion dollars or approximately \$20 per month for increased fuel costs for a family of four over the next 20 years according to Dr. Walter Meyer, professor of nuclear engineering at the University of Missouri.

But backers of the initiative state this is a small price to pay to avoid a major nuclear accident that could kill 45,000 people, injure 100,000 and cause upwards of \$17 billion in property damage, according to the California Voter's Pamphlet.

In fact both committee's — Yes and No on 15 — have mounted expensive radioactive campaigns, increased television spots and stuffed mailboxes beyond capacity with nuclear literature — exposing the high stakes riding on the Prop. 15 vote outcome.

Maybe that's why late spring is blooming on street corners — at least until June 8.

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## Cal Poly's Reactor Generates Interest For Future Scientist

Cal Poly is one of three colleges in California that has its own nuclear reactor for instructional purposes.

As part of the course offered by the mechanical engineering department, students have an opportunity to work with a Aerojet General Nuclear 201 reactor that generates on one tenth of a watt.

Students study neutron levels and the reactor safety system.

University of California Santa Barbara has a reactor of the same size

while University of California Berkeley has a larger reactor.

Cal Poly's reactor came on campus four years ago. It went into operation this fall on the same day as the Nuclear Forum.

The reactor is used by students concentrating in nuclear energy, about 10 students total.

Non-mechanical engineering majors can work with the reactor in a general ed. course offered by the Department, ME 310.

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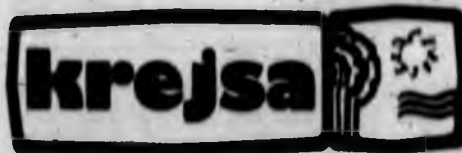
**"I will continue to speak out for those issues which favor human values over bureaucratic and technological values..."**



Supervisor Richard Krejsa has a proven record. During the past four years he has demonstrated his integrity in working for quality of life and economy in government.

**"I will continue to endorse those practices which simplify government and make it less costly."**

**RE-ELECT SUPERVISOR RICHARD KREJSA**  
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Printed by the Committee to Re-elect Dr. Richard J. Krejsa Supervisor, District 5  
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by BETSY SUSMAN  
Daily Staff Writer

# Harnessing Nuclear Energy

When the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was created from a crude nuclear pile under the football stands at the University of Chicago on Dec. 2, 1942, scientists hailed the coming of the atomic age.

They envisioned man taming the atom for use in all areas of life. Nuclear reactions had the potential to destroy life via atomic bombs and to improve the quality of life by creating efficient sources of power.

In the first two decades of nuclear history the emphasis in research was on destroying life. During World War II, Pres. Harry Truman authorized the creation of the Manhattan Engineering District, also known as the Manhattan Project. The project, under the supervision of Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves and the Army Corps of Engineers, was established for the sole purpose of developing the atomic bomb.

Facilities were built to research and develop a bomb for the United States before another country could do so. The first nuclear laboratory, a secret facility, was built in Los Alamos, New Mexico.

A community grew around the laboratory and today it is an incorporated city of about

16,000. The laboratory is now operated by the University of California.

The arms race under the Manhattan Project ended when the first atomic bomb was successfully exploded in Alamogordo, N.M., on July 16, 1945.

Truman authorized an atomic bombing after August 3, 1945.

There was (and still is) much controversy over the use of the atomic bomb. There was no tradition or code of ethics to follow. Scientists warned of the effects of an atomic bomb and others questioned the actual military need. (Japan was on the verge of surrender anyway). Nevertheless, on August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

The bomb exploded at 2,000 feet, destroying 4.7 square miles of the city and leaving 71,000 persons dead or missing. On August 9, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, causing similar damage. The most important legacy of the bombs was not the immediate damage, but the psychological and

genetic damage passed on to future generations.

In 1946, Truman signed the Atomic Energy Act which created the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). According to the government manual, the purpose of the

president designated one commissioner as chairman. The AEC was to be an independent civilian agency reporting to the president and Congress.

The cold war and arms race paranoia of the 1950's

AEC began to encourage research for peaceful application of nuclear power. The actual research was done by private industries with government subsidies. A member of the AEC at that time said:

NUCLEAR REACTORS IN U.S. 1975



AEC was:

"To make the maximum contribution to general welfare, common defense and security; to promote world peace; increase the standard of living and strengthen competition in free enterprise. The commission has the responsibility to protect the health and safety of the public and to regulate control and use of source, by products and special nuclear materials."

The AEC had five commissioners appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the senate. The

meant that most of the AEC's interest in nuclear research was still directed toward bombs. In 1953, Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower gave his famous "Atoms For Peace" speech in which he called for an international pool of nuclear materials and technical knowledge to be used for peaceful gains.

The Atomic Energy Act of 1946 was revised in 1954 to encourage development of peaceful uses for nuclear technology. The act allowed for private ownership (under governmental licensing) of atomic piles and other facilities for producing and developing nuclear products.

With this attitude, the

"Industry was required to make little or no financial investment and took no large risks of financial loss."

As an added incentive for private industry, the normal patent procedures were dismissed. Any equipment developed could be used and marketed without waiting for the usual lengthy patent approval.

The first nuclear power plant to produce electrical energy was working in 1957 near Pittsburgh, PA. It was owned by the AEC. The second plant (the first to be privately owned) reached full

power in 1960 near Chicago, Ill.

The government, through the AEC, encouraged development of nuclear power as intensely as the earlier bomb research. Nuclear energy was viewed as a panacea to relieve any future problems of fossil fuel shortages. The industry has said it is the only feasible energy alternative and threatens the country with possible oil embargoes, high energy costs and unemployment if nuclear power is not utilized.

As the public became more aware of exactly what nuclear power was, a certain amount of doubt arose. People questioned spending so much money on only one energy alternative. They questioned the methods of production, the safety of the plants, the disposal of wastes and the environmental impact.

The skepticism has become great enough in recent years to bring about such things as the current Proposition 13, in which the people of California will decide the future of nuclear energy in their state. (Of the 60 plants currently operating in the U.S., 5 are in California).

The AEC had been under fire for many years. Environmentalists criticized the commission as being sympathetic to the nuclear industry and an industry spokesman said the commission lacked direction and coordination of its various agencies.

There was also some argument as to whether or not a government regulatory agency should have been responsible for encouraging the development of the industry it was supposed to regulate.

As the pressure mounted and instances of improper management of the industry were revealed, Pres. Ford abolished the AEC in early 1975.

The research and development activities of the AEC were taken over by the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA). The regulatory duties were delegated to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Of the 61 administrators on the AEC, almost half (28) were carried over to high-ranking positions in the NRC and ERDA. The change could have been merely cosmetic and such a division could be criticized as simply increasing governmental bureaucracy, but the purpose of the split was to avoid the earlier charges of conflicting interests.

Although nuclear energy is supposedly one of the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, it has caused a heated social war. Use of nuclear power in the future is probably inevitable and it continues to cause controversy.

Nuclear industries are being developed throughout the world (there are 70 in various stages of construction in the U.S. today.) There is some question as to whether or not any country is technically or ethically developed enough to deal with and use such knowledge safely.

Perhaps the question is not "will nuclear power be used in the future," but "how conscientiously?"

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# Diablo: A Continuing Controversy

by BETSY SUSMAN  
Daily Staff Writer

Diablo Canyon, once one of the few undeveloped examples of beautiful California coastline, is now the site of a controversial nuclear power plant.

Construction of the power

leakage, the possibility of sabotage and the effects on local environments.

A problem related specifically to Diablo is the possibility of an earthquake. The plant was designed to withstand an earthquake of 8.5 on the Richter scale along the San Andreas fault 48

fault is believed to link up with the San Simeon fault and to be active.

An article in the Telegram Tribune states the utility did no offshore studies prior to construction, but built the plant on the assumption that a quake of 6.75 could occur beneath the plant.

deemed necessary by the NRC.

Even if the plant is licensed by the NRC, PG&E is not home free.

According to sources at the Diablo nuclear information center, passage of Proposition 13 will bring about a complete shutdown of Diablo.

Under the provisions of Prop. 13, nuclear power plants in California would have to be approved by two-thirds of each house in the legislature. Opponents of 13 feel it will be impossible to prove to so many politicians that the operating features and disposal systems of a given plant are safe.

If approval is not given within five years after the bill passes, the plants must be shut down.

Diablo is now in a pre-operational phase. Fuel is being stored at the site, and tests are being conducted. The turbine generator for unit one was recently activated and produced electricity for 10 minutes. The test involved no nuclear reactions.

Information on Diablo, and nuclear power plants in general, is available from many sources. Public libraries have copies of NRC and Atomic Energy Commission reports, as well as other data from various public and private studies. Other information can be obtained from industry sources such as the Diablo information center.

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plant was started in 1968 by the Pacific Gas and Electric. PG&E bought 150 acres of land and leased an additional 585 acres from the Robert Murie Ranch in the Diablo Canyon area.

The canyon has historical significance as well as aesthetic value. During early construction of the power plant, excavation revealed the area had been occupied by Chumash Indians for over 9000 years before European exploration. Under Spanish domination in the 1800s, the canyon became part of a number of land grants.

Diablo Canyon was chosen for PG&E's power plant after protests from environmentalists concerning the original site. The plant was to be built on the Nipomo Dunes, but opposition from the Sierra Club and other groups led to a compromise — Diablo Canyon.

Unit one of the plant was scheduled for completion this winter and the second unit was to be finished in 1977. Estimated cost of the project was \$985 million.

As of last week, unit one was 97 per cent complete and unit two was only 78 per cent ready. A spokesman for PG&E said the delay in completion was due to such factors as weather, labor, availability of parts and design changes during construction.

According to a PG&E information booklet, nuclear power plants aid in conservation of scarce fossil fuels:

"The nuclear reactor fuel replaces the use of 12 million barrels of oil per unit each year, or 75 billion cubic feet of gas, or three million tons of coal."

In addition, PG&E points out that nuclear power is clean and lowers the cost of electrical power. The Diablo plant also will create 150 jobs.

Local opposition to the plant is still strong.

Environmental concerns regarding nuclear power plants include such matters as the plants' safety in normal operation and in an emergency, safe disposal of waste products, radiation

miles from Diablo, a 7.25 quake along the Nacimiento fault 20 miles away and a shock of 7.5 along the offshore extension of the Santa Ynez fault 50 miles south.

What PG&E did not know before construction began was that the Hosgri fault runs offshore about 2.5 miles from Diablo Canyon. This

The discovery of the Hosgri fault and the possibility of a serious earthquake have caused the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to postpone licensing the plant for operation. Hearings will be held in June to decide the issue.

A spokesman for Diablo Canyon said PG&E will make any structural changes

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# Diablo: Is A Hard Rain Ready, Set, And Where To Go And



Richard Krejsa:

'...rather  
frightening.'

One who travels the county in search of the truth about local government's ability to cope with a nuclear accident will find that all roads lead directly or indirectly to George Silva's office, which is tucked away in the basement of the courthouse annex.

That's because Silva is the "Man with the Plan"—the nuclear emergency response plan.

In the old days of air raid drills and fallout shelters, Silva's job was called Civil Defense, but please don't make that mistake now, even though you see boxes with the familiar CD emblem stacked in the corner.

Now his job is called Civil Disaster, in recognition of the broader scope of his planning responsibilities, which include conventional disasters (fire, flood, earthquake) as well as the unconventional disaster known as a nuclear emergency.

Silva works hard and generally seems to have the respect of county officials who have worked with him on the nuclear emergency response plan.

One thing he doesn't have is the freedom

to work full-time on the nuclear plan, which is still incomplete after gestating for about 9 months.

That's because the county hasn't seen fit to fund his position on a full-time basis.

Until two months ago, Silva was doubling as civil disaster coordinator and animal regulation manager.

He is hopeful that his position will be funded full-time in the near future, but the local political climate doesn't look too favorable. Last week the Board of Supervisors cut his requested \$17,000 civil disaster budget down to \$9,000.

Undaunted, Silva intends to pursue the possibility of securing federal matching funds that would enable the county to expand the civil disaster position into a full-time job.

In a sense, he is engaged in a race against time to have the plan completed, including evacuation routes, before Diablo Canyon is licensed to operate.

Silva once asked a gaggle of state and federal officials at a statewide conference whether a nuclear power plant could be

licensed to operate before local government had their emergency response plan ready, and he says he was never given a straight answer.

But he got a definite impression that the division of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that approves operating licenses is not the same division that approves emergency plans. Silva declines to draw a conclusion from that impression, but it does contribute to his sense of urgency about completing the plan.

After completion, the plan must be approved by the Board of Supervisors, the state Office of Emergency Services, and the federal government.

And even then it will be only a paper plan, as Supervisor Richard Krejsa points out, until it is tested and the people who are responsible for implementing it are trained in their respective duties.

"Many of the people who would be involved are not adequately prepared to meet a nuclear emergency," Krejsa says.

"I think there's a difference between having a plan that says what agencies

## Odds On A-Plant Disaster

What are chances of a devastating nuclear accident occurring at Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant?

Jimmy the Greek probably hasn't figured it out yet, but the federal government says the odds of a serious accident are one in a billion per reactor year.

The feds can also give you odds on the number of fatalities expected to occur annually among the 15 million people who now live within 20 miles of U.S. reactor sites.

According to the Rasmussen report, which was commissioned by the now-defunct Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and released in 1974, we can expect 6 injuries and three-tenths of a fatality annually as a direct result of nuclear accidents at power plants.

(Inquiries about how it is possible to have three-tenths of a fatality may be addressed to Professor Norman C. Rasmussen at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who directed the 1974 study.)

The report, also known as WASH-1400, concludes that the realistic risk of death from nuclear plants appears to be even smaller than previously estimated, and far smaller than the risk of death from auto accidents, plane crashes, tornadoes or lightning.

In fact, the report says the odds against an individual's death being caused by a nuclear plant accident are 500 million to one, while the odds against an individual's death in an automobile accident are only 1,000 to one.

But if you're thinking of abandoning your car and huddling in the shadow of Diablo Canyon for safety, the same report states:

"In addition to fatalities and property damage, a number of other health effects can be caused by nuclear accidents."

"These include injuries and long-term health effects such as cancers, genetic effects and thyroid gland illnesses."

The report minimizes the importance of these side-effects by stating they would be relatively "insignificant" compared to "the 8 million injuries caused annually by other accidents," or the normal amount of cancers and genetic defects that occur every year.

Although billed as an "independent study," the work on WASH-1400 was done principally at AEC headquarters by 60 people from government, industry and universities, according to the report summary.

The summary says "about 10" of the people who worked on the study were AEC employees.

The study team arrived at its conclusions after feeding data about such things as weather conditions, magnitude of radia-

tive releases and population variables into a digital computer.

The resulting report covers only present types of nuclear power plants which use reactors of the pressurized water or boiling water type. It does not estimate the risks involved in other designs being considered by industry, including the controversial breeder reactor.

(Development of the breeder reactor, which would generate some of its own fuel supply in the form of plutonium, was made a national priority during the Nixon administration. If breeder reactors do go on line in the near future, it is estimated they would produce hundreds of tons of plutonium in the next 20 years.)

Critics of the Rasmussen report say the omission of breeder reactors is a serious flaw in the study, because of the extreme toxicity and long half-life of plutonium, and difficulties in trying to keep it out of the environment.

Critics also say the report is misleading because the study team based its calculations on an estimated 100 plants in operation, although the nuclear industry plans to have an estimated 1,000 plants in operation by 2,000 A.D.

The report also does not include estimates of the possible hazard that could be created through deliberate sabotage of nuclear plants.

Last week all 58 nuclear power plants in the U.S. were placed on low-level alert by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

See A-Plant page 8



Bert Townsend:

'Social costs  
would be...  
alarming



Gerald Erikson:

Monitoring  
For  
Radiation

## Sierra Vista PG&E Treats

Sierra Vista Hospital no longer has Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) contaminated accident victims at its nuclear power plant, according to C administrator.

The hospital decided eight months ago to stop accepting patients from the confirmed Sierra Vista's workers contaminated persons from the radiologist Gerry Main.

Main, who is chief of Sierra Vista department and the author of the accident plan, says the agreement was made.

"We don't think we're capable of contaminated patients here,"

Main also said, "We have many non-contaminated patients who do work out a decontamination center."

Main says he has offered to decontamination center at the plant.

The cancellation of the agreement means that Sierra Vista would not accept contaminated workers who become contaminated while working at the plant.

In terms of handling patients if there was an accident involving overturned containing metal materials, for example, we would not accept them,"

"We do feel a responsibility to come up in the community and help them," Main adds.

When asked if Sierra Vista was contaminated with radioactive workers,

"I don't know what one did contaminated with plutonium has done."



# Gonna Fall ?

By Anne Zerrien

## What To Do If And When It Does

might do in the event of an accident, as compared to spending the money to train personnel to do the things that have to be done.

"In that sense, we are not adequately prepared to meet a nuclear emergency, were it to happen right now."

Krejsa says the fact that the county is not prepared to deal with a nuclear emergency is "rather frightening."

"If there's an accident," Krejsa says, "there's a two-hour period if the wind happens to be blowing the right way, to evacuate or notify the people."

"If it happens, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors has the responsibility to push the button and declare an emergency."

"Had I had to push the button while I was chairman, I hate to think what the response would have been."

The man who would have to push the button if an accident happened in the near future is the current chairman, Hans Heilmann.

In his absence or unavailability, the

responsibility would pass to County Administrative Officer Willard Waggoner, in his capacity as director of emergency services.

In either case, primary responsibility for coordinating emergency operations would rest with Waggoner and his staff.

Heilmann, like many county officials, has had no special training in coping with nuclear disasters.

Regarding the probable need for funds to provide training and equipment to enable such agencies as the Health Department and the Sheriff's Department to cope with a nuclear disaster, Heilmann says:

"If it is indicated by the guidelines that we will get that this is necessary, we will certainly make the funds available."

Heilmann sees no cause for alarm in the fact that the county is not yet ready to cope with a nuclear accident, because Diablo Canyon is not in operation yet.

"I think we are as prepared as we need to be at this time," Heilmann says.

"Although fuel has been shipped to the Diablo plant, I don't think there's been any

special hazard above what we've always had. There's been fuel shipped through our county and through the state to other areas, and there's been no special precautions necessary, as we understand it."

Heilmann feels the Diablo Canyon plant is good for the county, partly because of the tax revenues generated by the plant and its appurtenances.

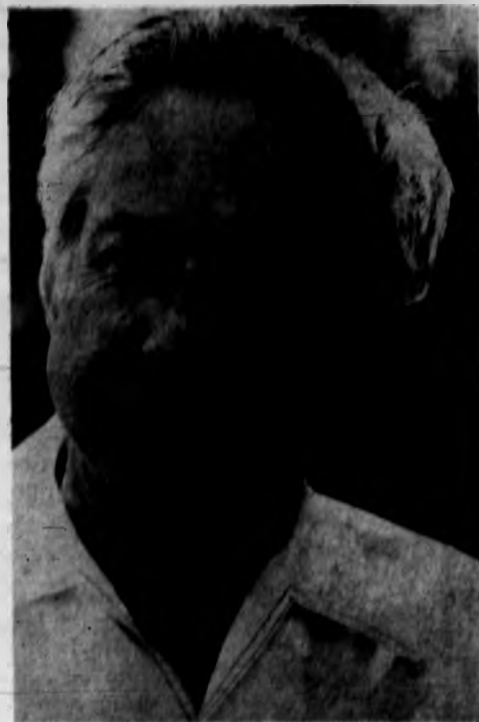
According to Assistant Assessor Norman Rich, Diablo paid a total of 7.66 million dollars this fiscal year in local taxes, with the lion's share of that going to a number of local school districts.

Other sources in the tax assessor's office say PG&E is the biggest taxpayer in the county, having paid an approximate total of ten million dollars this fiscal year on all facilities and appurtenances.

"I have no fear of Diablo Canyon at all," Heilmann says.

"I would feel safer living within 500 feet of Diablo Canyon than I would anywhere

See Mishap page 8



Mayor Schwartz:

'We are...

unprepared.'

### Cancels tment Pact

er has an agreement with  
ay (PG&E) to treat radioac-  
tivity from Diablo Canyon  
to Glenn Carlson, hospital

months ago to rescind a 1973  
agreement with PG&E which  
allowed the hospital to treat radioactively  
waste from the plant, according to

Dr. Vista's nuclear medicine  
department. The hospital's radiation  
department was terminated because  
of handling radioactively

verbal agreement to handle  
the waste. And we're trying to  
get down there."

to help PG&E set up a  
plant.

ment with PG&E does not  
allow the hospital to treat other patients  
with radioactivity, Main says.

here from the community,  
highway because a truck  
carrying isotopes or military  
equipment treat the patients," Main

to handle all problems that  
will do the best we possibly

would treat patients con-  
taining radioactive materials, Main said:  
What do if someone came in  
there isn't much that can be

## No City Safety Plans

The city of San Luis Obispo presently has no emergency response plan to cope with a nuclear accident, according to Deputy Director of Civil Defense Tom Harding.

Harding believes the city will be covered by the county's nuclear emergency response plan.

George Silva, the county's disaster coordinator, says the county nuclear plan does not directly cover the city of San Luis Obispo, although an agreement could be worked out between the city and county to coordinate the response to nuclear emergencies.

"Legally, it's their responsibility, though," Silva says.

"As long as there is a functioning city government, the county could not step in and assume jurisdiction. They would have to ask for assistance and then it would be provided," he adds.

Mayor Kenneth Schwartz would have the responsibility of declaring a state of emergency in the event of a nuclear disaster that affected the city of San Luis Obispo.

Under those circumstances, the mayor would assume extraordinary powers to direct the use of city resources, in coping with the emergency.

Mayor Schwartz isn't sure what his next step ought to be, however.

"That's one of the things that perturbs us right now," Schwartz says.

"We have not yet received sufficient information to determine what our response is going to be."

"That's one of the reasons why our council reacted the way it did when we heard the solid waste management plan," Schwartz says, referring to a letter the city

sent to the County Board of Supervisors.

The letter urged the Board to seek an avenue for local input into the handling and transportation of radioactive wastes from Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

"We don't know as yet the directions that the solid waste radioactive materials are going to be transported. We don't know whether they're going to come by rail through our city, or by rail south," Schwartz says.

"We don't know whether they're going to come by highway through our community or what."

These uncertainties hamper city planning efforts, Schwartz says.

Another problem the city faces is a lack of radiological expertise, Schwartz feels.

"Let's presume that an accident did occur...At this moment I have really no appreciation of the magnitude of the accident in terms of its potential danger," Schwartz says.

"We all have some appreciation in this modern day and age that radioactive materials are very, very dangerous, but exactly what danger is involved in disposing of the spent material from Diablo Canyon is not really clear (to me)."

"And as much as I don't like saying so, we are at this moment unprepared," Schwartz says.

Schwartz blames the federal government for reserving to itself all of the responsibilities dealing with approval of installations, waste removal and processing of the wastes.

"The only thing that is a little catch in the plan is that if an emergency occurs in our community or any other community, obviously it is the local people who are going to have to become involved," Schwartz says.

The only formal governmental action the city has taken to date to become more involved in the decision-making process regarding Diablo Canyon was the sending of the letter to the board of supervisors," Schwartz says.

Councilman Keith Gurnee says the city's general plan doesn't deal adequately with the possibility of nuclear accidents.

He feels that the city has done next to nothing to involve itself in the nuclear decision-making process.

"I think everybody should know the posture of local governments here," Gurnee says.

"The County Board of Supervisors, just about every City Council I can think of, the Telegram-Tribune, chambers of commerce, and everything, not only consented to have that thing here, but urged it," Gurnee says, referring to the Diablo Canyon plant.

Gurnee feels local governments and the business community have "a right and an obligation" to become involved in safety issues affecting the Diablo Canyon plant.



Willard Waggoner:

Emergency  
Services  
Director

George Silva:

Creator  
Of  
The  
Plan





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# Mishap: What The County Will Do

Continued from page 7

within five miles of the center of Los Angeles."

Heilmann is not particularly bothered by the fact the county has no control over shipping of radioactive wastes, yet must assume responsibility for emergency operations in the event of a radioactive transportation accident.

He feels the federal government and PG&E will take all precautions necessary to prevent transportation accidents from happening.

His faith is not completely shared by Environmental Sanitarian Bert Townsend, who worked on the preliminary version of the county's solid waste management plan as a representative of the county Health Department.

Townsend says the possibility of a transportation accident is remote, but not impossible, especially when the wastes are shipped by truck. He feels a highway accident could subject the casks containing radioactive wastes to a combination of stresses that they are not designed to withstand, involving simultaneous impact and temperatures substantially higher than the casks are built to resist.

A hypothetical example cited by Townsend is that of a fiery collision between a truck carrying wastes and a tanker truck carrying inflammable liquids.

The solid waste management plan says that local jurisdictions should appraise waste handling methods, partly because wastes may be stored in the county for long-term periods before being shipped out by truck and train.

Townsend agrees with that basic recommendation.

He also feels that adequate local consideration of possible radioactive hazards connected with Diablo Canyon is impeded by political considerations.

"There is a considerable political pressure in this whole county not even to recognize problems with nuclear power. This isn't necessarily a governmental political position but a political position in general."

"Several of the things we talked about putting in the solid waste plan regarding nuclear waste were labelled as political and alarmist, and as a result some of them were taken out."

Townsend says the ability of the county to deal effectively with a nuclear emergency depends on the magnitude of the disaster.

"There most definitely has to be a limit to where we are ineffective, and at which the social costs would be just unbelievably alarming, would wipe out the whole community," Townsend says.

"That is of course the scientifically recognized possibility that a reactor meltdown could occur."

"Such an accident, as I understand it, would have catastrophic effects upon the community, perhaps make it uninhabitable for a great number of years."

"Certainly we have no resources to deal with such an emergency. I don't know how it could be cleaned up," Townsend says.

Townsend says the county may be able to cope with small accidents involving nuclear materials outside of the plant itself, although he feels a transportation accident involving the dispersal of radioactive wastes would "tax our capabilities right up to the limits."

The first line of defense in a waste transportation accident would be to try to isolate the area and keep people away from the hazardous material, Townsend says.

Townsend says the Health Department does have a few people who are trained to test people for radioactive contamination, and does have some radiological measuring instruments.

The Health Department would not have to cope singlehandedly with evacuations or testing people for contamination.

If a nuclear accident occurs, the Sheriff's Department will be on the front lines along with health officials.

Sheriff John Pierce has doubts about the county's overall ability to cope effectively with any kind of emergency, including a nuclear disaster.

"As far as I'm concerned, nobody in the county emergency office has done anything; the county is not capable of responding to any kind of emergency," Pierce says.

Sheriff Pierce feels the county should be doing more to prepare for disasters, rather than expecting the Sheriff's Department to shoulder a disproportionate share of the responsibility.

Lieutenant Leroy Mosinski, who worked with George Silva on the Sheriff's Department portion of the emergency response plan, has praise for Silva's efforts, but notes the relationship between the lack of funds for a full-time position and the fact that the plan is not completed yet.

Mosinski has a pretty good idea of what the Sheriff's Department would have to do to evacuate plant personnel from Diablo, and he has a basic knowledge of radioactivity monitoring techniques.

After he takes a course to brush up on the subject, he plans to begin training other Sheriff's Department personnel in the hazards of radiation and techniques of monitoring for it.

"I know you can't see it, taste it or smell it, but I have a geiger counter and I can measure it. Anyone who is NOT scared of it has got to be either dumb or dead..."

San Luis Obispo General Hospital has the capability of giving limited treatment to the victims of radiation from a nuclear disaster, according to county Health Officer Howard Kusumoto.

"I'm not going to say glibly that we have everything ready," Dr. Kusumoto says. "We are being forced to be prepared because of the situation in society in general," he adds.

Treatment that General Hospital can provide includes initial decontamination and first aid at the scene of an accident or evacuation camp, and final treatment for mild cases, according to Kusumoto.

These would be handled by a radiation specialist in the hospital's burn unit.

## A-Plant Disaster: Odds Vary

Continued from page 6

because of undisclosed information relating to plant safety.

Diablo Canyon has had a number of bomb threats lately, and the Los Angeles Times reports at least 175 threats of violence and "assorted small bombings and arson" at nuclear facilities since 1969.

The Rasmussen report is much more optimistic in its estimate of the worst possible nuclear plant accident than a similar study done in 1957, known as the Brookhaven report, or WASH-740.

The Brookhaven report estimated a serious accident could cause 3,400 deaths and 43,000 illnesses, while the Rasmussen report cuts these figures down to 93 deaths and 200 illnesses.

The Rasmussen report assumes official government control of the plant in the event of a disaster.

The Brookhaven report, however, assumed that the plant would be in private hands, and that the government would have to take over in the event of a disaster.

"Such nuclear power plants have evacuation plans prepared and store their fissioning fuel before radioactive wastes will be released to the environment, it seems likely that evacuation would be effective in the case of nuclear accidents."

The Environmental Protection Agency says that AEC is "overly optimistic" in

assuming that people could be evacuated from an exposure area.

(It should be noted that responsibility for drawing up evacuation plans in San Luis Obispo county rests with the office of the Civil Disaster Coordinator, a position funded on a half-time basis by the Board of Supervisors.)

Disaster Coordinator George Silva is working on a nuclear emergency response plan, but has not yet begun work on evacuation plans.)

The Environmental Protection Agency says the actual number of deaths and injuries from a nuclear plant accident could be "about 10 times higher" than estimated by the Rasmussen report, which would put the total at 930 deaths and 2,000 injuries.

In contrast, the U.S. Dept. of Commerce estimates that a nuclear accident could cause 100 deaths and 1,000 injuries.

The U.S. Dept. of Energy estimates that a nuclear accident could cause 100 deaths and 1,000 injuries.

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The U.S. Dept. of Energy estimates that a nuclear accident could cause 100 deaths and 1,000 injuries.



# Sam Lovejoy's Nuclear War

by ANNE ZERRIEN  
Daily Staff Writer

Sam Lovejoy came to town for a few days last March to give heart to the people who are worried about the risks of nuclear technology.

Sam is a kind of folk hero to the anti-nuclear forces in the country, because he tweaked the nose of the nuclear giant and got away with it.

He seems like an ordinary freak, with perhaps a New England twist to his personality, and he claims a lifelong appreciation for the benefits of technology.

He might not have gotten involved in the anti-nuclear battle at all if someone hadn't decided to build a plant almost in his backyard.

To hear Sam tell it, he was just living on the farm, minding his own business and growing organic food, searching (with other members of his commune) for the good life, when his dreams of peace and good health were rudely shattered by the appearance of the tower.

The tower rose 500 feet above the Montague Plains, not too far from where Sam and his friends live, near the town of Montague, Massachusetts. By night its mercury vapor lamps reportedly sent strobe-like messages pulsating into the darkness, lighting up the sky for miles in all directions.

But it wasn't the tower itself that disturbed Sam so much—it was what the tower forbade.

Property of Northeast Utilities Company (NU), the

tower was designed to collect environmental data in advance of NU's construction of the largest nuclear reactors built so far in this country, a pair of reactors weighing in at 2,900 megawatts.

You could say that Sam had already made up his mind about nuclear power plants before the tower appeared.

Having read about the development of nuclear power, Sam knew the federal government had never found a safe, foolproof storage site for nuclear wastes which have been accumulating in this country from the weapons program for the past thirty years.

He also knew that nuclear power plants generate such wastes, including some of the most toxic and enduring substances known to humanity — Plutonium 239, Strontium 90 and Cesium 137.

The effects of these fission by-products on human beings are well known to scientists.

Depending on the degree of exposure they can cause rapid death, slower death preceded by radiation sickness, or a postponed death caused eventually by cancer or leukemia.

They can also cause genetic damage, which would probably not become apparent until future generations of children are born to suffer the consequences.

As Sam saw it, nuclear power plants and healthy living are simply not compati-



ble. Something had to be done.

About 2 a.m. on George Washington's birthday, Feb. 22, 1974, Sam Lovejoy toppled the tower.

Dressed in dark clothing, he sneaked across the snow-encrusted Montague Plains, scaled an eight-foot-high cyclone fence and loosened the turnbuckles that held three sets of steel cables taut around the tower.

Sam says he thought he would be discovered when the first cable snapped loose and whipped around the tower with a loud TWAAANNNNG! that echoed in the stillness of night.

But nobody came, so he worked on the other turnbuckles until that glorious moment when the tower came crashing down.

Even now, when Sam tells the story two years later, there are many in his audiences who savor that one heady moment — vicariously they are the ones, alone in the New England night, who watch the symbolical

monster come crashing down into the snow, reduced to twisted and mangled pieces of wreckage.

Sam's next step after felling the tower was taken to insure that his act of civil disobedience, performed in the spirit of Yankee individualism articulated by Thoreau, would not be misconstrued as a mere act of vandalism.

He hitched a ride to the police station in Montague and turned himself in.

He also handed the sergeant on duty a four page letter explaining his action and claiming full responsibility.

The letter said in part: "With the obvious danger of a nuclear power plant, with the biological finality of atomic radiation (and other, equally ominous problems), a clear duty was mine to secure for my community the welfare and safety which the government not only refused to provide, but has conspired to destroy."

"Do we citizens allow the disunited and unconfident scientists to plop down heaps of high and low level radiation in our midst? We have not yet delved into all the repercussions of our actions, yet we seek to proliferate the construction of obviously lethal experiments in ever increasing numbers of backyards?"

In closing Sam had written:

"It is my firm conviction that if a jury of twelve impartial scientists was em-

See Sam Lovejoy page 10

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## THE FACTS ON PROPOSITION 15:

### It's Bad Law...

- Puts energy policy into the hands of a minority of our elected state representatives. The initiative would give a one-third minority in either house of our legislature control over the state's energy future.
- written to achieve a hidden result  
Though backers of Proposition 15 use the political slogan, "nuclear safeguards initiative," this measure would actually shut down all California nuclear plants by making continued operation contingent upon a series of unachievable and undesirable conditions.  
For example, one of these conditions would require that the U.S. Congress within just one year repeal key provisions of a nuclear insurance law which in December 1975 they overwhelmingly voted to extend for 10 years! Such action by Congress is virtually impossible, and contrary to public interest.
- an abuse of the initiative  
An abuse of the initiative. The initiative process was adopted so that the people could enact laws that a corrupt or indifferent State Legislature refused to enact. However, the people behind Prop. 15 made no effort to have their law introduced in the Legislature because they knew it could not survive legislative debate. Prop. 15 should be rejected as an example to others who would exploit the initiative process for their own, covert purposes.

### It's Bad Economics...

- would sharply increase utility bills  
Oil-generated electricity costs about twice as much as nuclear-generated electricity. In the first 3 quarters of 1975, nuclear power produced 8.5 % of all U.S. electricity and saved consumers 1.3 billion dollars.
- cost per family put at \$7,500 by U.S. research agency  
The shutdown of existing power plants and abandonment of plants under construction would create a substantial energy gap. This could only be solved by a crash program of constructing oil and coal-fired plants. Meeting California's rigid air quality requirements with plants will be costly.  
The shutdown and abandonment of nuclear energy will cost the typical California family \$7,500 in increased prices of energy, goods and services over the next 20 years. The total cost to all Californians shown in a recent U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration study is a staggering \$40 billion.
- would set up another costly but useless bureaucracy  
The nuclear shutdown initiative commits \$800,000 of your tax money to an advisory group - required to be two-thirds non-expert in nuclear science. This nonexpert group would duplicate functions of the new Energy Commission as well as the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

### It's Bad Energy Policy

- would disregard nuclear safety record  
The U.S. nuclear energy industry has a perfect safety record. There has never been a single radiation injury or death from the operation of any licensed U.S. nuclear power plant. No other energy industry can approach this record.  
Electric economy would become dependent on imported coal. The long-term result of the initiative would be reliance on coal to fill the role long planned for nuclear power.  
Twenty years from now, more than 1,400 carloads of coal would be delivered and burned just in Northern California each day.
- alternate sources unavailable  
Those who favor shutting down nuclear plants claim that the resulting energy gap can be filled by "strict conservation measures" plus energy from the sun, geothermal, tidal and wind power. There is agreement among experts that none of these new alternate energy sources can possibly be available in sufficient amount for at least 15 to 25 years...even if we invest all possible resources in their development.
- Would cause electricity shortages. The initial 40 percent cut in existing capacity forced by the initiative within one year after passage would wipe out 1,400,000 kilowatts of electric capacity in Northern California alone - enough to provide for the electric needs of all of Alameda County.

## VOTE INTELLIGENTLY ON JUNE 8th - NO ON PROPOSITION 15

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# Mother's For Peace, Not 'Crazy Housewives'

by ELENA-MARIE KOSTER  
Daily Staff Writer

"Everything we object to boils down to one word: radioactive," Liz Apfelberg, past president of Mothers For Peace says.

Mothers For Peace is the only organization given the right to become an intervenor for the licensing process for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant.

"Its involvement in the Diablo Canyon project came after about one year of reading literature, attending hearings, inviting speakers and taking nuclear plant tours."

"The groups studies led them to these conclusions:  
—The natural background radiation on the earth is potentially dangerous, any amount in addition is harmful (opinion of many scientists).  
—Small amounts of radiation given off routinely in normal operation of a plant would increase cancer, leukemia, genetic mutations and shorten the life span of a world wide basis (Environmental Protection Agency).  
—A danger of an accident releasing huge amounts of

radiation into the environment exists (documented cases of incidents).

—Possibility of radiation contaminating the food chain. (EPA sights cheese contaminated in Wisconsin, peppers in New Jersey, cranberries in Massachusetts and 100 square miles of milk and vegetables in England).

Annually one-third of the fuel, highly radioactive, is removed and stored in water to be "cooked" before being sent to a reprocessing center. There are no such centers in the U.S. The tanks the fuel is stored in are not inspected to see if they meet standards. Transporting the fuel would endanger the people and areas along the travel routes.

—Potential danger of sabotage should not be ignored.

—Pipes in the water cooling system might not withstand the shock of an earthquake.

—The Diablo Canyon plant is designed and being built to standards set ten years ago.

"After we had explored the situation we decided to become intervenors in the

licensing process," Apfelberg says.

An intervenor is someone who has legal status approved by the Atomic Safety Licensing Board to become part of the licensing process.

To obtain this status they had to apply to the board showing legal questions on the safety of the construction. When the board feels the questions are justified they will grant permission to be an intervenor in the licensing proceedings, as they did for the Mothers For Peace.

"When the hearings start later this year we will be there, hopefully with attorneys. In the mean time we will be preparing motions, contacting expert witnesses," Apfelberg says.

A successful motion made Pacific Gas and Electric change storage plans for fuel brought into the county before the opening of the plant.

Every piece of correspondence to any commission must be followed by duplicate copies to PG&E, the Atomic Safety Licensing Board, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the California Public Utilities

Commission, and any other state or federal commission that the action concerns.

The membership is not all mothers and not all women.

"Our membership ranges from high school students to elderly adults. Men can be in Mothers For Peace. To belong all you have to do is come to the meetings," Apfelberg said.

Mothers For Peace is a San Luis Obispo County based group, inspired by national organizations such as Another Mother For Peace and Women's International League For Peace and Freedom.

Diablo is just one of the projects that the seven year old group is involved with, according to Apfelberg.

"Originally the group was formed by women who were opposed to the Viet Nam war specifically and the use of war in general as a way to solve problems," she says.

"We are not just a bunch of crazy housewives with nothing better to do. I have a bachelor's degree and a master's, and I've taught in the science field. Most of the members have at least a

bachelor's and many have teaching experience in the high school and college levels," Apfelberg says.

"Even if we didn't have degrees we would be well educated in at least the subject of nuclear power. We have read and studied the subject for some time. All of the literature the government puts out is read carefully. Often the government documents contradict what the officials say in public," Apfelberg says.

Apfelberg says Mothers For Peace has not been warmly received by Congressman Takoon. They do have a good working relationship with PG&E.

Syl Gutwell, District manager of Los Padres division for PG&E says the two groups had a cordial relationship.

"I think they are entitled to their opinion, and we will respect their opinion. They are a sincere group. We don't agree with their view, neither do other groups, such as Project Survival. But we respect Mother's For Peace and we hope they respect us," he says.

## County Chases Isotopes

by MIKE McCLANAHAN and ANNE ZERRIEN

The air you breathe is being monitored for radioactivity by the State Department of Public Health, as part of a program to ascertain the natural levels of radiation in the county.

Knowing the natural levels makes it easier to detect abnormal radioactivity that might result from a malfunction at Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

The state health department also conducts the monitoring program to fulfill an agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). That agreement requires the state Bureau of Radiological Health to check up on PG&E's in-plant and environmental monitoring data.

Since state officials can't come down from Sacramento to conduct the monitoring, the county health department does the legwork and mails the results to Sacramento for analysis and comparison with PG&E's data.

Ironically, the local official in charge of the radiological surveillance program has had little training in radiological matters.

Gerald Erickson, county health inspector, is more comfortable inspecting retail markets, restaurants and

small water systems for health hazards than he is at playing nuclear detective.

"Primarily all I'm doing is collecting samples and running maintenance on the equipment," Erickson says.

"The state is responsible for doing the testing and everything else, because we're just not equipped or trained to handle it."

The county health department has no way of knowing independently of the state or PG&E what the actual radiation levels in the county are at any given time, because of the county's lack of radiological expertise.

Consequently, the county health department would be dependent on PG&E for notification if radiation levels changed drastically.

"The only way we would find out is if PG&E would contact the state or the county administrator's office," Erickson says.

"We've got no control over that."

In addition to air monitoring, the state health department monitors ocean food chains, by studying radiation levels in abalone and kelp beds in Morro Bay and Diablo Cove.

PG&E also measures radiation levels in milk from two county dairies, one in Guadalupe, the other at Cal Poly.

## Sam Lovejoy's War

Continued from page 9

panelled, and following normal legal procedures they were given all the pertinent data and arguments; then this jury would never give a unanimous vote for the deployment of nuclear reactors amongst the civilian population.

"Rather, I believe they would call for the complete shutdown of all commercially-operated nuclear plants."

"Through positive action and a sense of moral outrage, I seek to test my convictions."

At his arraignment that morning Sam pleaded "not guilty" to the charge of "willful and malicious destruction of personal property," and was released on his own recognizance.

Seven months later, Sam acted as his own lawyer in a jury trial. Legend has it that the jury was swayed by Sam's testimony into sympathizing with his motives, but they were never to vote on the essential issues Sam brought up.

The judge instructed the jury to find Sam "not guilty" on a technicality, because the charge lodged against him had been falsely written —

the tower was not actually personal property but real property.

So Sam is free to tell his tale of how he tweaked the nose of the nuclear giant and got away with it, and it gives hope and comfort to people who oppose nuclear power plants.

The tower he toppled was sold cheap, reportedly to another freak who hauled it away to build two small towers for wind-driven generators.

Two weeks after the tower fell, its replacement was erected on the Montague Plains. But construction on the Montague nuclear plant was delayed for two years and has not started yet, according to Raye Fleming of the SLO Mothers For Peace.

A film has been made about Sam's exploits, titled "Sam Lovejoy's Nuclear War." Especially interesting are the interviews with townspeople and jurors who describe their reactions to Sam's nefarious deed.

His crude but effective action had the ultimate result of causing his fellow citizens to seriously consider the pros and cons of having a nuclear power plant in their community.

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# Skateboarder Is A World Champ

by ELENA KOSTER  
Daily Staff Writer

Professional skateboarders aren't all that common. Cal Poly can boast of having one in its architectural design program.

Jeff Emrick started skateboarding like any other kid eight years ago. Now he is part of a three member team of trimerunners that perform in skateboarding contests across the state.

"Cattamerran, riding two people together, was something my friend and I tried and perfected about two and a half years ago. About six months after we started we saw other people doing it, too. But the art of trimerunning, three people riding together, was an invention of ours," Emrick said.

Under the name of the Rhino Racing Team, Emrick and friends Mitch Mitchell and Rick Winne, entertained for a full house in San Francisco's Cow Palace last month. In their exhibition they set two new world records for indoor skateboarding.

The team set a speed record of 41 mph and a long dis-

tance jump record of 25 feet.

The performance got them good publicity including national television companies NBC, CBS, and coverage on ABC's Wide World of Sports.

This sort of publicity with the title of world record holders can only help them, as they plan to spend the summer selling themselves as a side show for commercially sponsored skateboarding contests.

"Skateboard contests are very repetitious. Acts like ours are needed to break the monotony. Our act is designed for excitement. We are kind of the clown act," Emrick said.

The three men have a skateboard manufacturing business on the side; the boards being designed by Emrick himself.

"We are making the strongest, most indestructible skateboards," Emrick said. "Prices start at \$50 and range up to \$75. You really wouldn't want to spend much less for a skateboard. The boards priced at \$20 are dangerous. They don't have the control, they stop on rocks, they don't last. It would be wiser to spend more

and have a skateboard you can enjoy for three years."

The Rhino Racing Team can't see the present skateboarding fad lasting more than 10 years. It plans to cash in on the fad while it is still strong.

Emrick personifies the fad. He claims he lives on a skateboard.

"I never walk further than from my dorm room in Sierra Madre to Vista Grande cafeteria. In the morning I start off blindly for class, and the wind I hit when I ride the skateboard wakes me up," he said.

"Half of your life you're going downhill. For the other half get a motorized skateboard. I'm working on one of those right now," he said.

"I've managed to inspire a lot of the people on my floor to ride skateboards with some regularity. Trimerun-

ning and cattamerrunning are good places to start if you want to get into skateboarding.

"It's exciting, and with relatively little practice someone can get good at it. It is probably one of the safest methods of skateboarding. It is easier to balance, and if you fall you are close to the ground," he said.

Emrick doesn't plan to let skateboarding take over his life. He plans to complete his schooling, no matter how profitable this fad gets. Emrick started his freshman year at Cal Poly this year, at the age of 20.

Next year when the team is still together and performing, he will be spending his weekends traveling with The Rhino Racing Team to perform, and will return for a five day week of the Cal Poly grind.



Daily photos

by

Joseph Kwan

## Announcements

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