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For Immediate Release

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### **State Lands Commission Defers Final Vote on PG&E's Seismic Imaging Plan Amid Concerns from Local Citizens, Fishermen, and Environmentalists**

**San Luis Obispo, CA** – Concerned citizens, fishermen, and environmentalists filled a remote meeting room in Morro Bay to comment on Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) controversial Central Coastal California Seismic Imaging Project (Project) before the State Lands Commission today. The three-member State Lands Commission voted to approve the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Project, but has deferred their decision on the Project permit until Monday, August 20.

PG&E is hoping to begin the Project this fall, which would emit high volume blasts into the ocean between September and December of this year off the central coast of California from Cambria to Point Sal.

"The people of California deserve to know the real risks related to Diablo Canyon, which is why Sierra Club has supported the concept of seismic testing for the power plant. But PG&E should not be allowed to put expediency over the environment if there are better options," said Andrew Christie, director of Sierra Club Santa Lucia Chapter.

PG&E is required to update its seismic imaging data for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. Environmentalists have been advocating for alternate configurations of the survey to minimize harm to marine life, including fish.

"The community has spoken," said Amanda Wallner, organizer for Sierra Club California. "We hope the Commission uses this additional time to address the questions and concerns raised today. PG&E should be required to find a way to better balance our healthy marine environment with its seismic imaging project."

Some of the potential impacts of seismic imaging projects include whale and dolphin strandings, damage to Marine Protected Areas, and the killing of fish and larvae.

An outpouring of requests for the meeting to be moved to the Central Coast led the Commission to include remote access from Morro Bay to the Sacramento hearing room.

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