Abalone Alliance Story Continued

July 1984 AA helps plan large teach-in and civil disobedience of the patriarchy at Bohemian Grove. 50 are arrested.

August 12, 1984 One week after the NRC grants a full-power operating license for unit 1, a protest is held at Diablo Canyon. At the same time, Mothers for Peace gains an injunction against the reactor's operation until November.

September 1984 to April 1986 The Alliance, seeing that licensing is inevitable, prepares a ratepayers' protest for when the reactor goes on line. Intense electoral work on Jackson and Freeze campaigns and a generalized perception that nuclear power is dead bring financial stress to the Alliance, causing the loss of its newspaper, It's About Times, and elimination of salaries for staff at the two state-wide offices and commensurate downturn in anti-nuclear power activity. Volunteer staff continue operating the Alliance statewide office as a clearinghouse for nuclear power and alternatives and participates in the massive PUC hearings over who would pay for Diablo Canyon.

April 25, 1986 The last legal attempts to force seismic hearings on Diablo Canyon fail due to the decision of Federal District Court Judge, Robert Bork.

April 26, 1986 Chernobyl reactor in the Soviet Union blows its containment vessel, bringing about the most serious accident in industrial history. Information begins to spread about a serious accident potential at Rancho Seco.

August 10-11 1986 Alliance groups hold a rally, teach-in and civil disobedience in Sacramento to protest the reopening of the Rancho Seco reactor. Twenty-one people are arrested.

September 1986 to December 1986 Nuclear Free California, an Abalone group, starts a statewide petition drive to pressure lawmakers into phasing out nuclear power in California. Another affiliate, the Redwood Alliance and the state-wide office actively participate in Diablo Canyon's decommissioning/rate hearings before the PUC.

October 21, 1986 The 5-year lawsuit by the Pacific Legal Foundation goes all the way to the U.S. Supreme court before being settled in favor of the Alliance.

April 26-27, 1987 400 people march to the gates of Diablo Canyon in conjunction with 40 other groups across the U.S. to commemorate the 1st anniversary of Chernobyl. 15 people are arrested for stepping across a blue line into PG&E property.

October 13, 1987 The judge in charge of the case prosecuting the people involved in the 1981 blockade of Diablo Canyon finally issues his decision granting defendants the right to use the rarely allowed "Defense of Necessity". The state immediately drops charges against all arrested rather than allow our expert witnesses the the chance to legally present the technical flaws at Diablo Canyon and the specific dangers of operating a nuclear facility on an active fault line as the primary reason for being arrested.

January 1988 The State-wide office discovers that 90% of the East-Bay's drinking water is in the evacuation zone of Rancho Seco. A two step campaign is set in motion to notify East-Bay cities of this, forcing local emergency planners to notify the public of this danger as required by law.

June 7, 1988 Sacramento citizens fail to close Rancho Seco by popular referendum. The measure loses by less than 2% of the vote.

June 27, 1988 In a dramatic reversal in the Diablo Rate Case, the PUC proposes a settlement scuttling an 80% disallowance proposed by their own staff for PG&E's disasterous construction of Diablo Canyon.

December 19, 1988 The PUC decides in favor of giving PG&E California's first ever free market contract to a utility for Diablo Canyon. This is done over opposition by the Alliance and other concerned groups. If the reactors can be made to operate for 30 years, they will drive utility rates sky high, while giving PG&E $47 to $53 billion in ratepayers' money.

January 28, 1989 AA begins working with the national Greens on creating a green energy policy platform and creation of a computerized Green energy network.

June 8, 1989 Rancho Seco is finally closed by popular vote. The first nuclear power facility in U.S. history to be shut down due to a popular vote.

August 1990 The Alliance sets off statewide alert opposing plans to build a nuclear waste dump at Ward Valley near Needles Ca.

November 17, 1990 Individuals representing California groups form Don't Waste California to work on nuclear issues such as the Needles dump and the NRC attempt to deregulate nuclear waste (BRC).