

Radioactive Wastes:

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is a costly hoax; it re-
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provides a false sense of

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ns are likely to occur if
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e and a nuclear accident

◆ **T**he dangers of nuclear energy do not begin or end at the reactor site. The nuclear industry mines, mills, enriches and ships radioactive materials, and attempts to dispose of lethal radioactive wastes.

Throughout the country, radioactive waste is rapidly piling up because there are no reprocessing or high level waste storage facilities for commercial reactors. There is no safe and comprehensive solution to the disposal of nuclear waste. Many cities and states now refuse to provide nuclear dumpsites or allow the transportation of any commercial radioactive wastes through their borders.

The wastes that would be produced at Diablo Canyon include such long-lived and extremely toxic elements as plutonium, strontium, and cesium.

Diablo Canyon is capable of producing 37 tons of nuclear waste materials annually. Such wastes must be isolated from any human contact for hundreds of thousands of years.

Earthquake Danger:

◆ **P**erhaps the most alarming aspect of Diablo Canyon's history is the debate over seismic safety. In 1973 the United States Geological Survey scientists confirmed the existence of the Hosgri fault only 2½ miles offshore from the plant site. Documents show that both PG&E and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) had been aware of the existence of the fault but kept it secret. Seismologists have testified repeatedly before the NRC that the Hosgri fault is active and is the largest branch of the massive San Andreas fault, which runs half the length of California. Expert testimony has indicated that the Hosgri fault may be capable of producing an earthquake of a magnitude of 8.0 on the Richter scale. Since this discovery, PG&E has modified the power plant and claims it will withstand an earthquake of 7.5 on the Richter scale.

