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Subject: DRA Applauds CPUC Denial of PG&E's Proposed \$1.5 Billion Gas-Fired Power Plant in Oakley

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DRA Applauds CPUC Denial of PG&E's Proposed \$1.5 Billion Gas-Fired Power Plant in Oakley

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29, 2010 – The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), an independent consumer advocacy division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), applauds the CPUC's decision today to deny Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) application to purchase and own a proposed \$1.5 billion gas-fired power plant in the city of Oakley.

The CPUC voted unanimously today to deny the construction of the Oakley power plant. PG&E had applied to build the new 586-megawatt Oakley power plant despite the proposal pushing PG&E over its cap on new capacity as authorized by the CPUC in 2007. In addition, analysis showed that due to the worsening economy PG&E's need for new power has not increased as rapidly as expected and that the Oakley power plant is not needed until at least 2018.

“The Commissioners made it clear in their public comments and their votes that the record did not support PG&E's claims, and that procuring more electric capacity than needed at a time

when demand is down would have done more harm than good to PG&E’s ratepayers,” said DRA Director Dana Appling. “This decision undeniably affirms that enough is enough, as it was shown that PG&E’s service territory already enjoys a 40 percent electricity reserve margin, over double what is required of PG&E in order to maintain safe and reliable electric service.”

For more information on DRA, please visit www.dra.ca.gov.

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