

From: Hall, Thomas A.
Sent: 1/20/2011 1:49:59 PM
To: Hall, Thomas A. (thomas.hall@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: DRA Requests Rehearing for PG&E's Oakley Power Plant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

-

Media Contacts:

Cheryl Cox, Policy Advisor, 415-703-2495, cxc@cpuc.ca.gov
Tom Hall, Information Officer, 415-730-2964, tbh@cpuc.ca.gov
DRA Press Room: <http://www.dra.ca.gov/DRA/News/>

DRA Requests Rehearing for PG&E's Oakley Power Plant

SAN FRANCISCO, January 20, 2011 – The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), an independent consumer advocacy division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), on Wednesday submitted an application for rehearing for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) \$1.5 billion power plant in Oakley, Calif., on grounds that due process was not given to the public when the CPUC approved the project in December.

The CPUC initially denied PG&E's proposal for the 586-megawatt project in July 2010 because it represented an unnecessary burden for ratepayers. But the utility pushed its proposed online date for the plant from 2014 to 2016, and re-submitted the project. Before the CPUC's decision, DRA advised that PG&E had discarded the CPUC's own conditions for reconsideration and in approving the project the CPUC ran the risk of ignoring due process requirements.

Despite DRA's lobbying efforts on behalf of ratepayers, the CPUC approved the Oakley project by a 4-1 vote in December. On Wednesday, DRA submitted its application for rehearing, which requests that PG&E be forced to re-submit the Oakley project via the CPUC's established application process so that interested parties have the opportunity to conduct a complete evaluation of project as proposed with the date change. .

“The CPUC’s process has been circumvented to get the Oakley project back on the table” said David Ashuckian, DRA’s deputy director for energy. “Given that PG&E ratepayers will be on the hook for \$1.5 billion for a project that isn’t needed, the Oakley plant deserves a full public airing. That is what DRA is requesting.”

DRA’s [application for rehearing](#) is available on its website. For more information on DRA, please visit www.dra.ca.gov.

###

Tom Hall
Information Officer
California Public Utilities Commission
thomas.hall@cpuc.ca.gov
916-928-2274 (desk) | 415-730-2964 (cell)
180 Promenade Circle; Sacramento, CA
Visit the CPUC on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)