Diablo Canyon Engagement Panel
Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How does the panel represent the community?
A. The panel is comprised of representatives from the local community who broadly reflect the diverse community stakeholder viewpoints in proximity to DCPP. Panel members are unpaid volunteers who are highly engaged and well-informed leaders in the community. A formation committee that included representatives from the local community assisted PG&E in the selection process. Elected officials, PG&E employees and their immediate family members were not eligible for panel membership.

Q. How were the members selected?
A. After an in-depth review of 105 talented applicants, a formation committee that included representatives from the local community assisted PG&E in the selection of 11 panelists. Panel members were selected to broadly reflect the diverse community viewpoints in proximity to DCPP.

Q. How was the formation committee selected and what was the role of its members?
A. The local community leaders who participated in the formation committee were selected by PG&E to represent a broad range of perspectives. In conjunction with PG&E, the formation committee developed panel selection criteria, reviewed applications and participated in a facilitated process to reach consensus on a slate of panel-member recommendations for PG&E’s final decision.

Q. Can there be a seat on the panel for my organization or interest group?
A. There are no designated seats for any organization or interest group on the panel. Panel members were selected from a pool of 105 public applicants to reflect the broad and diverse viewpoints in proximity to DCPP.

Q. What is the panel’s function?
A. The panel was convened by PG&E as a volunteer-based, non-regulatory body to enhance and foster open communication, public involvement and education on DCPP decommissioning plans and activities. Panel meetings serve as an opportunity for two-way communication, in which local community members provide direct input to PG&E, and subject matter experts provide the opportunity for the panel and the public to learn about DCPP decommissioning. PG&E considers the panel’s input while ensuring that DCPP decommissioning plans remain in full compliance with regulatory guidelines and ensure the protection of PG&E assets.

Q. How will issues be settled if the panel and PG&E disagree?
A. PG&E considers panel input while ensuring that DCPP decommissioning plans remain in compliance with regulatory guidelines and protect PG&E assets. The panel functions solely in an informational capacity and provides public input to help inform and strengthen plans. PG&E retains complete discretion to accept, modify or decline any recommendations made by the panel, as PG&E is responsible for ensuring the health and safety of the public and is the financial and land steward of DCPP assets. Final
decisions regarding DCPP decommissioning are made by PG&E and the appropriate regulatory agencies.

Q. How are panel ideas incorporated into decommissioning planning?

A. The panel provides recommendations to PG&E for consideration. Recommendations are considered by PG&E and DCPP Decommissioning leadership and responses regarding the disposition of recommendations will be provided back to the panel.

Q. How often does the panel meet? Are the meetings open to the public?

A. Panel meetings are held monthly as PG&E prepares for the Nuclear Decommissioning Cost Triennial Proceeding (NDCTP) filing with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in 2018-2019. Meetings are held at a local venue and are open to the public. Selected meetings will provide opportunity for public comment.

Q. What’s the projected duration of the panel?

A. PG&E is seeking community input as it prepares the DCPP decommissioning plans and a cost estimate that will be filed with the California Public Utilities Commission in the next Nuclear Decommissioning Cost Triennial Proceeding (NDCTP) in 2018-2019. Regular panel meetings will occur through the NDCTP filing and subsequent CPUC hearing process, and may be extended at PG&E’s discretion to meet regulatory and project needs.

Q. Is the panel mandated by regulation or a condition of a permit?

A. The panel is neither mandated by DCPP’s regulators nor a condition of its permits. In public testimony, PG&E has agreed to assemble and convene an external stakeholder group in order for PG&E to engage in open and transparent dialogue with the community on matters surrounding the decommissioning of DCPP. Moreover, PG&E is strongly committed to involving the local community in decommissioning and future land use plans.

Q. Are panel members paid by PG&E?

A. Panel members serve on a volunteer basis only.

Q. Why aren’t PG&E employees and their immediate family members eligible for panel membership?

A. We value the feedback of our employees and will provide them with many opportunities to engage in the decommissioning process. The key purpose of the panel is to provide direct input to PG&E on behalf of the local community on DCPP decommissioning plans and activities. This panel is focused on representing community interests, and providing an opportunity for the panel and the community to learn about the various aspects of DCPP decommissioning. PG&E employees and their immediate family members are welcome to participate in public panel meetings.

Q. What if the members of the panel do not agree with one another?

A. Panel members do not need to reach consensus in order for recommendations to be heard by PG&E representatives that will be present at panel meetings.

Q. What is the authority of the group?

A. The panel functions solely in an informational capacity and will provide public input to inform and strengthen plans. PG&E retains complete discretion to accept, modify or decline any recommendations made by the panel, as PG&E is responsible for ensuring the health and safety of the public and is the
financial and land steward of Diablo Canyon assets. Final decisions regarding DCPP decommissioning will be made by PG&E and the appropriate regulatory agencies.

Q. What is the duration of a panelist’s commitment?

A. Each member of the panel serves a two-year term (following the initial staggering of terms). The inaugural panel, formed in May 2018, has staggered terms as assigned by the membership at its first meeting through a facilitated process. Membership will be renewed at PG&E’s discretion.

Q. Does PG&E have plans to turn Wild Cherry Canyon into a housing development?

A. No. HomeFed is the lease holder of the Wild Cherry Canyon land. As such HomeFed, who has long term development rights well into the next century, is the entity that could contemplate development of the land, which would require government approval. PG&E inherited this lease arrangement when we purchased the land many years ago. For PG&E’s part, we will not make any commitments on the disposition or post-retirement use of any of the lands that surround Diablo Canyon Power Plant, including as the fee title owner of the Wild Cherry Canyon parcels, until a public stakeholder process makes recommendations to PG&E, which will help inform our filings with regulators on future land use.

Q. Who is on the formation committee?

A. The formation committee included six local community leaders representing a spectrum of backgrounds and opinions and representatives from PG&E. Community members included:

- Dee Lacey, Co-Owner, Lacey Livestock; Gubernatorial appointee to the State Fair Board; Heritage Oaks Bank Board of Directors; former Paso Robles School Board Member; former Cuesta College Trustee
- Katcho Achadjian, Owner, local gas stations; former San Luis Obispo County Supervisor; former California Coastal Commissioner; former California State Assembly Member
- Ermina Karim, President and CEO, San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce
- Rochelle Becker, Executive Director Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility
- Jeff Thomas, Business Manager, Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 403
- Ken Thompson, Diablo Canyon Liaison, Avila Valley Advisory Committee

PG&E representatives included:

- Tom Jones, Director of Strategic Initiatives
- Stephanie Isaacson, Director of Community Relations