

DIRECT ACTION

WEB
FEATURE

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Diablo Canyon 1979 Handbook

1979 marked California's first mass nonviolent direct action of the post-Vietnam era. Over 100 people were arrested protesting of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant, then under construction.

The 1979 protest drew attention to the project and set off a statewide organizing campaign. In 1981, Abalone Alliance, a network of affinity groups and community organizations, called a late-summer action that led to 2000 arrests.

Near the end of the action, whistle-blowers within PG&E alerted the media that earthquake safety plans were seriously flawed. This information delayed the plant's opening by several years. Diablo Canyon was finally licensed in 1984, after hundreds more citizen arrests, which have continued to this day.

This handbook (produced by Abalone Alliance and adapted from earlier Diablo and Seabrook publications) includes background, site, and organizing information that is still timely and valuable for a new generation of organizers. (Be sure to see the 1981 Diablo Canyon handbook, free at our website.)

Download more direct action handbooks at: DirectAction.org/handbook/

Photo: April 2011 protest at CPUC hearing on Diablo Canyon. By Luke Hauser.

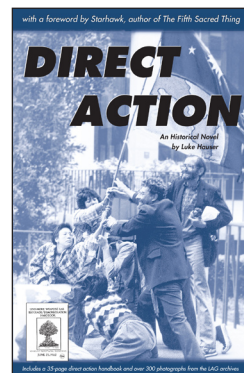


DIRECT ACTION

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Direct Action: An Historical Novel by Luke Hauser, is available as a free PDF download at our website — all 768 pages and 300+ pictures!

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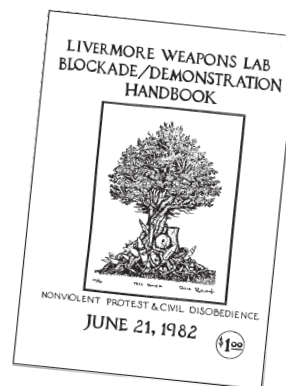


Handbooks - free online

PDFs of activist handbooks from **Diablo Canyon, Livermore Lab, the Pledge of Resistance, and more**

Handbooks contain site-specific information, plus a wealth of articles and tips for actions at any site. Pages are copyright-free and can be adapted for your organizing.

Visit www.DirectAction.org/handbook/



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MODESTO PEACE/LIFE CENTER

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(916) 752-3839

PEOPLE FOR A NUCLEAR FREE FUTURE

515 Broadway
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
408-425-1275

PEOPLE FOR A NUCLEAR FREE FUTURE

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PEOPLE GENERATING ENERGY

452 Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
805-543-8402

PEOPLE FOR SAFE ENERGY

c/o 2069 E. Harvey
Fresno, CA 93761
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Palo Alto, CA 94306
(415) 494-0355

SO NO MORE ATOMICS

138 South Main St.
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707-829-1864

STOP URANIUM NOW

P.O. Box 772
Ojai, CA 93023
(805) 646-3832

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c/o 6688 Picasso Rd. Apt. H
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805-643-2317

Direct Action Handbook



Blockade Diablo Canyon 1979

cover photo by Karen Spangenberg



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Abalone Alliance

INTRODUCTION

Concerned citizens will take action against the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant as part of the world-wide struggle against proliferation of destructive nuclear technology. The fact that federal government agencies, officials and courts have failed to put an end to this imminent danger leaves us no recourse but nonviolent direct action. We are taking action in self-defense, in defense of the people of California and for our children and grandchildren who will be burdened by the nuclear wastes generated by Diablo and other nuclear reactors.

In all conscience we cannot allow Diablo Canyon to go into operation - its radioactive poisons will bring about an ongoing destruction of life.

The costs and risks of Diablo Canyon and other nuclear power plants are many, and they are all intolerable:

- *Diablo Canyon was not built to withstand an earthquake as strong as the Hosgri fault might produce, and is therefore unsafe. Even President Carter says we should not build nuclear power plants on or near earthquake faults.

- *There is no solution to the problem of nuclear waste.

- *The precautions necessary to protect nuclear power plants and their wastes may threaten our basic civil liberties.

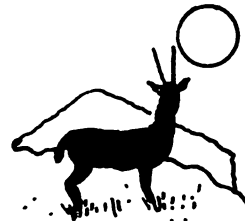
- *The concentration of power and wealth in a few hands is an inevitable consequence of nuclear power and is incompatible with democracy.

- *The proliferation of nuclear power leads to the proliferation of nuclear weapons which could lead to the annihilation of us all.

- *The price of nuclear power is too great. We cannot continue to pay through taxes and electric rates and price of nuclear power. We cannot afford to support an industry that creates only a handful of jobs in relation to massive investments, and that has no future.

The truth about nuclear power must be brought to the people, and the people will act to prevent further destruction of life. We must turn to methods of conservation and other appropriate forms of energy which will meet our power needs; in so doing we will have both economic well-being and human growth instead of economic stagnation and human destruction.

At our previous occupations of Diablo, we maintained total nonviolence. We will continue to adhere to nonviolent direct action as we return to Diablo Canyon. It is our opposition to violence -- including the monstrous violence embodied in a nuclear power reactor -- that causes us to blockade the Diablo Canyon plant as part of the ongoing campaign to stop nuclear power in California. We invite everyone to join us in the protection of our future.



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This handbook was produced by Liz Walker of the American Friends Service Committee: 2160 Lake St. San Francisco, CA 94121. Thanks to all who helped.

History of Blockades

Discover your history! When we take action, we are moving forward in great company.

Nonviolence has been an effective force for social change in America. Nonviolent philosophy and tactics have been instrumental in movements to protect civil liberties, in civil rights struggles to overturn segregation and racism, in continuing labor struggles to build unions and promote workers' rights, in women's suffrage efforts winning women the right to vote, in environmental actions in defense of whales and other wildlife and natural resources, in campaigns against sexism and patriarchy, and in the anti-war movement as a means of mobilizing public opinion and accelerating American withdrawal from participation in Vietnam and earlier wars.

Rocky Flats

On April 29 & 30, 1978 in Rocky Flats, Colorado, 5,000 people gathered in a legal demonstration against the nuclear weapons facility there, protesting the 25-year-old plant's production of plutonium triggers for hydrogen bombs. Following this, approximately 140 people non-violently blockaded the railroad which brought materials into the plant. After remaining on the tracks for six days, 28 people were arrested, many of them returning to again obstruct the tracks. Actions at Rocky Flats have continued since.

Baltimore Harbor

In Baltimore Harbor, on July 14, 1971, seven people were arrested when, in several small boats, they attempted to blockade the docking of an incoming Pakistani freighter. This was part of a larger campaign organized in opposition to continued U.S. support of the Khan dictatorship and to draw public attention to the tremendous suffering of the Bengali people. In a subsequent action on August 17 a small flotilla set out into Philadelphia Harbor to prevent a Pakistani freighter, the *Al Ahmadi*, from docking. When the police intervened, the blockade was prevented, picketing and leafletting of the longshoremen was intensified, pleading that they refuse to load the ship. Not a single longshoreman crossed the continual picket line, and the next day the *Al Ahmadi* sailed away empty.

Germany

Why, Germany. Twenty-eight thousand people occupied the site of a proposed nuclear reactor site near this little town in West Germany. The occupation lasted nine months with thirty-five villages each taking responsibility for one week. The government finally agreed to stop construction of the plant until the "pro-nuclear" and "anti-nuclear" scientists agree there is a safe means of disposal for the nuclear wastes.

Japan

In August of 1974, more than 300 small fishing boats surrounded the nuclear ship, *Mutsu*, in northern Japan to prevent it from putting out to sea. Finally, a typhoon blew the blockade away and the atomic ship staggered out to sea where it immediately began leaking inordinate amounts of radiation. Meanwhile the Mutsu fishing fleet reformed its blockade and, to the infinite embarrassment of the Japanese government, the boat drifted helplessly for almost two months while ports all over Japan refused it entry. Finally, the Mutsu was allowed back into the Bay on condition it never fire its reactors in the vicinity again.

Diablo Canyon Fact Sheet

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, the nation's second largest privately owned utility, has completed the construction of a nuclear power plant at Diablo Canyon, with two reactors of over 1,000 megawatts each. If allowed to operate, only about a third of the heat created by these units would be turned into electricity. The rest is waste heat - thermal pollution - lost into the air and water.

The plant is located on the Pacific Coast near San Luis Obispo. It is also 2½ miles from the San Simeon - Hosgri fault zone, which could have an earthquake 8 to 10 times stronger than the plant was designed to withstand. None of the power generated at Diablo would be used in San Luis Obispo county - it's intended for Northern California and the San Joaquin Valley. PG&E was unable to build a nuke in Northern California because of environmentalist pressure. (One site PG&E chose was in Bodega Bay, 1000 feet from the San Andreas fault.)

The cost of the plant has risen to \$1.4 billion, from an original estimate of \$350 million, a 400% cost overrun.

PG&E has allowed room on the site to build four more reactors at some later date.

Excessive amounts of copper were discharged into Diablo Cove in 1974 during the testing of the cooling system of Unit 1. Great damage to the eco-system was done, including the killing of thousands of abalone. It's unknown just how damaging to the oceanic eco-system the operation of the plant would be.

If hot nuclear fuel is not kept properly cooled while in the reactor or after it leaves the reactor, a tremendous steam and chemical explosion or a melt-down could result. This could cause the fuel and its waste products to escape into the surrounding environment. While the fissioning fuel cannot explode by chain reaction like an atomic bomb, it contains as much long-lived poisonous radioactivity as would be released by the explosion of one thousand Hiroshima-sized bombs.

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board submitted their findings and recommendations to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on April 10. Now it is up to the NRC to decide whether or not to grant Diablo Canyon a license. Their policy is usually to issue a decision in 60 to 90 days. That means a license could be granted as early as June 10. PG&E has said that they will put Diablo Canyon into operation as soon as possible after a license is granted.

We must be ready to act soon!

History of the Resistance to Diablo

Legal intervention begins

The Scenic Shoreline Preservation Conference of Santa Barbara was the original legal intervenor against the Diablo Canyon plant. One of their witnesses, geologist Ralph Vrana of San Luis Obispo, suspected the presence of an earthquake fault several miles off the coast from the Diablo site. His warnings were unheeded and the Atomic Energy Commission refused to act on the intervenor's request that a thorough search for faults be done before construction on the plant proceeded.

A fault is discovered

The United States Geological Survey announced in 1973 that indeed a fault, named the Hosgri after its discoverers, was present 2½ miles off the coast from the Diablo site. The USGS then commissioned the Chairman of the Department of Geology at UCLA, Dr. Clarence Hall, to investigate the fault. His findings appeared in the December 26, 1975 issue of *Scenic* magazine. He found that the Hosgri fault is a major one in the entire Pacific coast fault formation and that it parallels the feared San Andreas fault. The USGS then reported that the Hosgri fault is active; that it was very likely the location of a large 1927 earthquake; and that the fault is capable of a quake larger than PG&E claimed the Diablo plant could withstand when PG&E designed and built it.

Since November 1973, the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace has been the primary intervenor at Diablo. In early 1974, they petitioned the AEC to halt construction of Diablo until results of further studies of the Hosgri fault were known and the implications of those results could be determined and applied. PG&E opposed the request, and the AEC denied it. Construction went ahead as though the fault weren't there.

Government tries to "cover up" the fault

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, successor to the Atomic Energy Commission, continued the pro-industry bias of the AEC. The Los Angeles Times (6/29/77) obtained private memoranda written by NRC staff, one of which indicated NRC reluctance to deny PG&E a license "because of the large financial loss involved and the severe impact such action would have on the nuclear industry." The NRC's actions included trying to make the USGS reduce its estimation of the earthquake danger (the USGS wouldn't budge); sharply upgrading the NRC view of how great an earthquake shock the Diablo plant might be able to resist; and devising a plan, still legally pending, by which PG&E could seek an unprecedented "interim" license that might be easier to approve than the normal full-term license.

First Sit-in

In February of 1976, eight people from the Continental Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice held a sit-in at the front gate of Diablo to express their opposition to nuclear power. All were arrested, three later had the charges dropped, and the others were sentenced to 5 days in jail or \$125 fine.

Support

Direct action demonstrators, who are likely to be jailed and away from their homes for a considerable period of time, need both moral and physical support.

Many people agonize over the question of whether to be a support person or a blockader. Both roles are very important. In making the decision, one should consider how being a supporter vs. being a blockader affects one's family, job, and other commitments, as well as one's legal status (eg. if one is on probation, a non-US citizen, etc.)

THE ORGANIZATION OF SUPPORT

Support for a direct action is much more than simply providing assistance to one's affinity group. Once the action has begun, the supporters become the staff personnel that keep track of its progress, facilitate communications, and make ongoing decisions regarding support activities. Supporters will have to work on three levels of organization: affinity groups, regional groupings of affinity groups, and "core" support. These are briefly explained below, and a support handbook will go into more detail. In addition, look for specifics under Support Activities.

On the affinity group level, it is important to divide up tasks according to how much time each support person can give.

Regional groups representing 10 affinity groups will need to set up and staff a regional center for use during the action. San Luis Obispo will provide buildings for this purpose near the support headquarters.

Core support consists of functions which must be performed to support the direct action as a whole and which can't be performed on an affinity group basis. Duties of core support include staffing a headquarters office which coordinates information flow, keeping track of demonstrators that are arrested, and some community outreach. Santa Barbara will staff core support, but will need help from volunteers around the state.

Points to Remember

All blockaders will belong to an affinity group and will have received non-violence training prior to the action.

Blockaders should plan to spend a *minimum of 5 days* in San Luis Obispo for the action and its immediate aftermath. The Abalone Alliance requests a *30 day time commitment*. However, we recognize that individual circumstances vary and any level of support and participation is welcomed.

Blockaders will not break through police lines. When continued forward motion will result in a physical confrontation with officials, participants will sit or remain still and evaluate options.

Dogs and cats will not be permitted.

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Code of Discipline

The purpose of this code is to build trust and a common foundation, for safety and to set the tone of our actions.

1. Our attitude will be one of openness, friendliness, and respect towards all people we encounter.
2. We will use no violence, verbal or physical, toward any person.
3. We will not damage any property.
4. We will not bring or use any drugs or alcohol other than for medicinal purposes.
5. We will not run.
6. We will carry no weapons.

Decision Making/Consensus

Consensus is a process in which decisions are made by the mutual consent of the participants. It is a direct outgrowth of nonviolence, which affirms respect for the individual within a group, and creates a spirit of trust and cooperation. Agreement is reached through a process of gathering information and viewpoints, discussion, persuasion, a combination or synthesis of proposals and/or the development of totally new ones. The goal is to reach a decision with which everyone can agree. Consensus at its best relies upon persuasion rather than pressure for reaching group unity.

Points to include in the process.....

- Choose a facilitator, notekeeper and timekeeper (three separate roles)
- Go over agenda and proposed times.
- State issue or question to be resolved.
- Share opinions, options.
- Restate proposal with most support.
- Ask for objections (person objecting can't tolerate proposal).
- Ask for reservations (person is concerned about proposal, thinks it may not be the best choice, wants small changes.)
- Ask for amendments (small changes to meet reservations.)
- Paraphrase decision reached.
- Decide who will implement decision, and how.
- Evaluate the meeting.

It often takes more time to carry out this form of decision-making than other methods, and sometimes requires a great deal of patience. However, the conclusions which are reached are likely to reflect the full group's concerns more accurately. Everyone has a stake in implementing a decision, because all have participated in its formation. Participants have more energy for working on projects with which they are fully in agreement.

It's important to realize that consensus does not necessarily mean complete unanimity. If no successful accommodation is made to a person's objections after a reasonable group effort, it is the individual's obligation to examine whether she or he feels strongly enough to maintain the objection.

It not, she or he consents to "stand aside" and let the proposal pass, or "block consensus" thereby stopping the proposal. Individuals should be responsible to their own deepest feelings, but also respect the overall needs of the group. "Blocking consensus" is not a matter to be taken lightly.

Not everyone has an "equal voice" under consensus. Individuals who have a greater involvement in the matter under discussion will have more developed viewpoints, and will usually have stronger concerns. It is important also to avoid patterns of domination and passivity.

Consensus decision-making places strong demands on its participants. There must be a respect and consideration of and by all members of the group. There must be a sense of common searching, rather than individual assertion. There must be sensitivity and openness to the ideas and feelings with one's own. Finally there must be a sense of dedication to pursuit of truth, no matter where that might lead.

When these guidelines are ignored, the consensus process can be frustrating, divisive, and totally ineffective. If they are followed, it can be energizing, unifying, and marvelously productive. It's up to you!

Decision-Making for Blockaders. . . .

During a direct action, when demonstrators and supporters are under a great amount of physical and emotional stress, the meeting process will inevitably reflect this stress. People will not be thinking clearly, tempers will be short, and either in actuality or at least in appearance, decisions will have to be made extremely quickly. Under such circumstances it will be more difficult for the group to reach consensus. Members will have to make a special effort to center themselves for the task at hand, by reaffirming their purpose, by breathing exercises, and by demonstrating their love for each other.

Consensus works best in small groups which have friendship ties or work ties. As a group gets larger, the role of facilitator and a structured agenda become more important. One way of using the best aspects of small group process while making decisions in a large group is to use a "spokes council". This is the decision-making process that will be used by participants in the action.

SPOKES COUNCIL. . .

It works like this: each affinity group (AG) selects a spokesperson (spoke) to carry its concerns to a council of spokes. This body represents all affinity groups in a wave. Waves are composed of several affinity groups who blockade together. While the council meets and deliberates, non-spokes may look on, but don't comment. After hearing all of the spokes' concerns, a new proposal may be synthesized, which incorporates all of the desires of the different groups. If not, the spokes go back to their affinity groups to report what has happened and try to reach agreement or present a new proposal, which in turn goes back to the spokes council. This method of decision-making keeps most in-depth discussion

on the main group level, but keeps the advantages of hearing all concerns before consensus is reached.

It is *very important to break into affinity groups* for any decision to be reached and for feelings to be adequately dealt with.

IN JAIL.....

Affinity groups will probably be split up by sex in jail. Therefore it is important to regroup if necessary and form AGs of at least 5 people. In jail a modified consensus procedure will be used to reach decisions: A single individual won't be able to block consensus for the entire group. Rather an entire AG must agree to block consensus, before a proposal is blocked for the whole group.

Scenario

The following scenario shows the chronological sequence of events for the action to proceed if the plant is licensed.

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission issues a license to PG&E. This may happen as early as June 10. We can expect fuel loading to begin within a day or two.
2. Diablo Project Office starts the Alert System. Affinity groups (AG) will receive word through their trainers that the action is beginning. Each AG will then send word through their trainers action is beginning. Each AG will then send word to their trainer of how soon they can come to San Luis Obispo. Trainers in turn will tell the Diablo Project Office.
3. Groups, probably those geographically closest to the site, will begin to arrive and wait for a minimum number to begin the blockade.
4. Everyone should come to the Diablo Project Office at 452 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo for last-minute briefing. People from out of state will have a more in-depth orientation at this time.
5. Blockaders will be transported to advance staging area of the blockade site.
6. Other affinity groups arrive, receive briefing, and go to the advance staging area.
7. If the land blockade is breached and workers get in to load fuel rods, then the sea blockade will begin.

REMEMBER

1. Affinity groups may blockade in front of gate or on any point on the road going into the plant, but not on public roads.
2. Waves of AGs will begin to blockade, regardless of whether or not the first waves have been arrested. We will try to maintain a continuous blockade.
3. Affinity groups may choose to use inanimate objects, such as literature tables, balloons, ropes, etc. as part of their blockade action, if they are in keeping with the code of discipline. AG's should also carefully consider what effect these objects will have on the public image of the action. Final AG plans must be submitted to trainers and need to be approved by the statewide blockade committee.

Goals of the Action

1. The blockade is not merely symbolic but is intended to actually obstruct the operation of the plant, and will be sustained for as long as necessary. The goal of the *land blockade* is to prevent workers from coming onto the site to load the fuel rods and to conduct crucial tests.

The goal to the *sea blockade* is to obstruct the intake and discharge structures of the plant cooling system so that PG&E can't operate without endangering the sea blockaders.

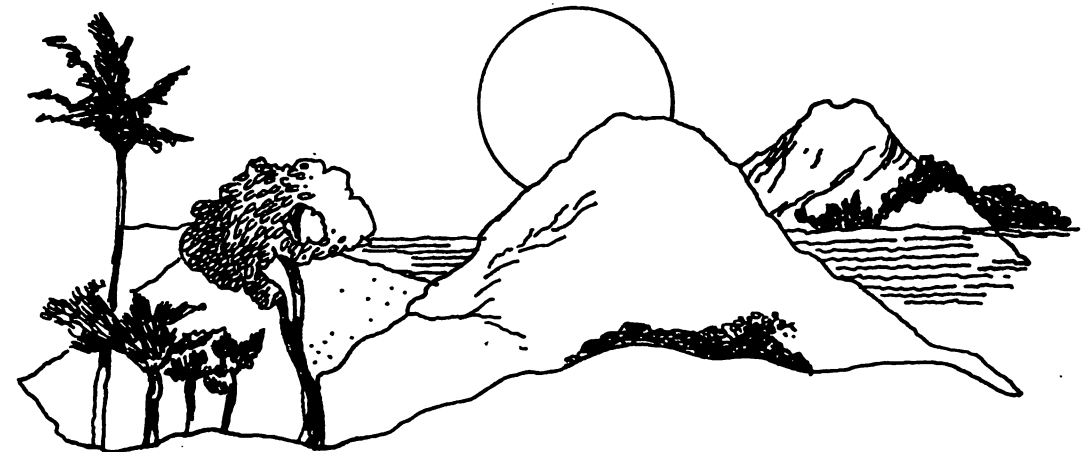
2. Increase the public's awareness of:

- a) the serious dangers and drawbacks inherent in nuclear power, and
- b) the specific dangers of the Diablo Canyon plant.

3. Express the depth of commitment of many concerned Californians who say No to nuclear power and Yes to a sane energy path.

4. Assert the right and capability of everyday citizens to participate in the formation of our energy future in the face of the intransigence and irresponsibility of utility companies and the federal energy bureaucracy.

5. Assure that Diablo Canyon never operates as a nuclear reactor.



Sea Blockade

People who consider taking part in the sea blockade should realize that there is some risk involved, and carefully weigh their own abilities in a boat and in rough water. Each sea blockader must be able to swim 10 laps in a 25 yard pool and tread water for half an hour (without gear).

Affinity groups will need to go through in-water training to prepare themselves. They will also need to provide suitable equipment for each person.

There will be one or more large boats provided to take people to the cove near Diablo Canyon. Rafts or smaller boats will then be used to ferry people nearer to the shore, probably inside the breakwater near the intake pipes of the plant. CB radios will help to keep communication going between the boats and rafts. It is very important for "parent" boats to keep lists of all people on small boats and their medical needs.

Affinity groups taking part in the sea blockade should have an even number of people, so that they can pair off as "buddies". There should be no more than 8 people in each sea blockade AG.

1. ^{early} IN-WATER TRAINING

Special training sessions will be set up in each region for affinity groups who plan to take part in the sea blockade. A qualified senior lifesaver will lead the group in exercises at a swimming pool while blockaders are wearing full wetsuit gear. Some exercises may include role plays of a panic situation, life-saving techniques, and methods for getting in and out of boats with gear on. There should also be a talk on safety and weather conditions.

In addition, ocean training sessions of 3 or 4 hours are recommended to get experience for swimming in ocean water, through kelp beds, etc. To set up one of these sessions, ask your trainer for the contact person in San Luis Obispo.

EQUIPMENT

Each sea blockader must obtain and use the following equipment:

- *full-body wetsuit, including booties, gloves and hood.
- *fins
- *divers' buoyancy compensator vests. There are different types. We recommend the CO2 cartridge type.

CONSENSUS ON A BOAT

Each boat of any sort must have a competent captain or skipper. What he or she says concerning navigation, operating the boat, and safety measures must be respected as final.

Logistics

TRANSPORTATION

Affinity groups should try to carpool down to the action. Once there, transportation will be arranged to get to the site. Support people will be needed to shuttle people back and forth.

LODGING

This is being arranged by the San Luis Obispo group. An exact location will be given to blockaders at the briefing in SLO. People will probably camp together at one location. Plan to bring camping gear and warm clothes.

CHILDCARE

Parents are encouraged to arrange childcare in their local communities with their affinity group. If blockading parents wish to bring children, they should also bring a friend to assist in a cooperative daycare arrangement.

A cooperative childcare system for support people will be set up during the action. ^{ply} more information, contact Dorothea Minermullen at: 851 Cole St., San Francisco, CA 94117 415-564-1802

Media

Good relations with people who represent the media are an integral part of the success of nuclear resistance. The media will have received press releases regarding our action and its purposes.

A special service area for media people will be arranged for the action, and spokespeople there are prepared to answer questions and locate further information. Any participant, however, may be approached by a reporter (or camera) during the action. Don't be shy or coy, and avoid using rhetoric. Explain your position simply, clearly, and politely, being aware that broadcast time is limited - so be sure to communicate the essence of your opposition to Diablo. If you're asked questions you feel unable to answer, refer the reporter to the media spokespeople.

Take the time to write letters to your hometown newspapers explaining what we are doing and why. Send copies of any news clipping concerning the event to the Abalone Alliance, Information Service, 944 Market St., Rm 307, San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 495-6577.

It's important, for our communication with those we're trying to reach, that we know what we're talking about. Find out and have a grasp of the basic facts: about Diablo, about nuclear power and its hazards, and how nuclear power and nuclear weapons are linked.

Please do not speculate about how many participants are expected.

First-aid/Medical.

Everyone planning to transform/blockade Diablo should be in the best possible emotional and physical health. Known health problems should be under control.

People requiring medications or having chronic health problems such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, or heart problems, must carefully consider whether or not to participate. You must ask yourself how well your disability is controlled and remember that these conditions are all aggravated by emotional stress and fatigue. If you decide to participate it is imperative that you discuss your condition with your affinity group. They must know how to help you avoid problems, what symptoms to watch for, and know precisely what to do in case you have an insulin reaction, seizure, or asthma attack.

It is recommended that everyone have had a tetanus shot within the last ten years.

Wide-brimmed hats are recommended for the daytime sun, and warm clothes are very important, for it gets quite cool in the evening. Avoid nylon underclothes, as tear gas combines with the chemicals in them to produce burns. Don't wear earrings, necklaces, or hard contact lenses. Persons with chronic illnesses should wear medical tag bracelets identifying the problem.

1. early affinity groups need to select one among them to be trained in first aid. Good training can be obtained free from the local Red Cross. The primary role of the affinity group medical person is to meet whatever needs he or she can, and determine when a problem is serious enough to refer to the more centralized medical service facilities.

There will be doctors and nurses ready to handle any medical emergencies.

Wear heavy-duty shoes - if you go limp under arrest, sandals can be torturous.

And, be sure to eat a nutritious breakfast the day of the action.

The following items are suggested for a good first-aid kit. An air-tight container (like tupperware) is recommended.

2 rolls of 3-inch gauze	safety pins
5 4x4 gauze compresses	tylenol or aspirin
sterile vaseline gauze	liquid soap
1 roll of 2-inch adhesive tape	Fels Naptha soap
1 large box of band-aids	triangular cloth for sling
Q-tips	insect repellent
squeeze bottle of water	antiseptic (Hydrogen Peroxide or Betadine, or equivalent)
tweezers	Boric acid
scissors (blunt-ended)	Calamine lotion
clean, dry cloths	Kaopectate
flashlight or pen light	antihistamines
Ace bandage	sun-screen lotion
moleskin	

It's especially important for affinity groups to provide their own first-aid kit this year, since Abalone Alliance medical supplies will be limited.

Some Remedies.

Headache: No matter what the ads say, aspirin (two 5-grain tablets) remains the best drug-type remedy for all headaches short of migraine and concussion. Take tylenol (more expensive) only if you tend toward stomach problems.

Sun Stroke: (hot, dry skin; rapid, strong pulse) Lie down, head elevated, in a shady place. Loosen clothing, cool skin with wet rags.

Heat exhaustion: (cold, moist skin; weak pulse) Lie down, head low, keep warm, give hot fruit juices, coffee, tea, soup, salt and water.

Nosebleed: Pinch nostrils firmly shut and apply pressure over the bridge of the nose. It is best to lie down on the side so that the blood can be spit up. Wait patiently. Go to the medical area if 15 minutes of constant pressure produces no results. Be aware that walking will aggravate blood loss.

Vomiting: Those who know they sometimes vomit under stress can purchase Dramamine at the drug store and carry one or two to take beforehand. Test it first to be sure it doesn't make you too drowsy.

Convulsions: This is characterized by a period of extreme muscular stiffness followed by twitching movements. Though they look frightening, convulsions that are brief cause no threat to life unless something from the environment causes injury when the person is thrashing about. Get the person to a safe place on the ground, preferably on the side so there is no chance of the airway being obstructed. It's important that the person not bite his or her tongue, so place a soft cloth between the teeth. Loosen clothing around the neck. Don't try to prevent movement. Following the seizure, immediately bring the person to the medical area.

Poison oak: Very common in the area. Wash the irritated area with Fels Naptha soap and water. Calamine lotion can reduce the itching.

SEA BLOCKADE

Sea/Motion sickness.....

If you think you are susceptible to this, consider taking Dramamine (available without prescription) or Compazine (prescription required). For best results take the first dose at least an hour before starting. Also do not eat heavy meals before getting on the boat. Try to focus on the horizon, and breathe deeply.

Hypothermia

If you have to abandon ship, or fall into the water and the rescue is not quick, you risk hypothermia (loss of body heat). This can occur wherever the water temperature is lower than 72 degrees F.

Wetsuits for blockaders are a must. For others on the boats, be sure to wear plenty of warm, loose, clothing, and a waterproof outer garment. The best position to increase survival time is to huddle with several other people, or if alone, draw knees and arms to chest and float. Either position increases survival time 50% more than floating on your back.

What to Bring Food

Food self-sufficiency is probably the most efficient way of meeting our group needs. Each affinity group should come with at least one or two days' worth of food and one gallon of water, in a plastic container, for each person. Food should be easy to pack and require minimal preparation.

This suggested list would minimize the amount of litter generated and should provide necessary basic nutrition needs:

hard-boiled eggs, cheese, raisins, granola, spinach, peanut butter, oranges, bread.

It would be advisable for everyone to avoid throw-away plastic or styrofoam containers, and that any tin cans or plastic bags be recycled. Since water will be scarce, dehydrated foods are not recommended. Be aware that salt and sugar increase thirst.

Note: People with special dietary needs should come prepared. If you are thinking of fasting, remember that water will be scarce and that tension and stress may be high. You may have to make quick decisions in tight situations. Unless you are experienced in fasting, and know you can function well, it is not recommended.

People may also consider bringing extra food with them, or have support people ready to provide it, in case we are allowed to stay on the site.

Gear

Personal items to bring include: a change of clothes, warm jacket or coat for cool evenings, wide-brimmed hat for daytime sun, pack, sleeping bag, flashlight with extra batteries in a plastic container, matches (in a waterproof container), 2 days of food, utensils - with a cutting knife - and personal medications (see Handbook medical section). Soap, towel, and toilet paper are also good ideas.

Please mark all your clothing and camping gear with your name, address and phone number, and do not bring along expensive, extraneous gear that might be lost or broken.

Each group can probably get by sharing the following equipment among members:

tenting or plastic sheeting
thick plastic groundcloth
small camp shovel
rope or twine
toilet paper
cooking utensils (pans, dishes, napkins, salt and pepper, can-opener, serving utensils, etc.)

People should take care of their own trash. If you follow the suggested guidelines for food, your only trash will be a number of small plastic bags which can be rinsed and reused.

REPEAT: Do not bring alcohol or drugs. This is very important to the safety of the entire group, and we will count on folks to control themselves in this regard. The most important thing we can bring is our goodwill and patience. Remember that this may be a tense situation and we should remain flexible throughout.

Legal History

At the Abalone Alliance's first non-violent direct action at Diablo, August 7, 1977, forty-seven persons were arrested. They were charged with trespassing and unlawful assembly. Five pled "guilty" or "no contest" (nolo contendere) and were sentenced to five days in jail and a \$500 fine, with one year probation. Nine people pled "not guilty" and were found guilty in a non-jury trial. They also were sentenced to 5 days and \$500, but with a longer probation period - 18 months. Execution of these sentences has been stayed pending appeals in higher courts.

Two of the forty-seven occupiers were later identified as police informants, after one had participated in several defense strategy meetings with Abalone lawyers. The trial of the 31 remaining occupiers is postponed pending the outcome of a California Supreme Court decision on a pre-trial motion to dismiss all charges due to "illegal use of informants".

August 6th

Last year, 487 people were arrested, and charged with 2 counts of trespassing, failure to disperse, and contempt of court. This charge was dropped, and most occupiers were only convicted on one count.

Twenty people had a representative trial, in which they tried to get nuclear power on trial. Expert testimony was not allowed by Judge Carter, and the jury was given strict instructions to issue their verdict solely on information regarding the trespass charges. The twenty were found guilty and are now appealing their case. The appeal will go to the state Supreme Court and may take up to two years. About 200 people have attached their names to the appeal.

Many people were concerned that the judicial process was dragging out and draining their energies, and that probation would severely restrict their activities. The court had threatened 90 days in jail for anyone refusing to sign the probation papers or refusing to pay the \$400 fine. Twenty-three people decided to plead "nolo contendere" in January, and were willing to serve the expected 90 day jail sentence rather than accept probation or pay the fine. After several people gave moving testimony, Judge Carter made a dramatic apology to the courtroom and changed the sentence to 15 days in jail and a \$300 money judgment. At this point, over 100 people have gone to jail as a result of their action. Only three people have paid fines. Some people have had individual jury trials and have also gone to jail.

Four people who defended themselves had hung juries and were not convicted.

Possible Charges

It is natural to feel some anxieties about legal procedures, especially if you have never been arrested or gone to jail. Try to talk with people who were arrested last year to get a sense of what its like. And be sure to look at the Coping with Jail section.

Possible charges we face for the blockade include:

Criminal trespass (no. 602 Penal Code): defined as a peaceable but wrongful entry upon another's land. A misdemeanor punishable by a maximum 6 months in jail and \$500 fine. This applies only to those who blockade the road inside the gates.

Unlawful assembly (no. 409 P.C.): Also a misdemeanor with a 6 month/\$500 maximum sentence.

Blocking: Another misdemeanor with maximum sentence of 6 months/\$500.

Resisting arrest (no. 148 P.C.): persons who go "limp" and are carried or dragged off risk this charge; maximum sentence is one year/\$1000.

Battery (no. 243 P.C.): defined as any physical contact with a police officer. We must avoid situations of such contact as it is a serious offense punishable by 3 - 4 years in jail.

Conspiracy (no. 182 P.C.): Conspiracy to commit a misdemeanor is a serious charge, a felony with potential consequence of 2 - 5 years in jail.

Remember: All property destruction has been eliminated as a tactic of the Alliance for this action.

Under the Penal Code it is possible to receive the maximum sentence for two separate misdemeanors if they are considered either separate actions or having separate victims (for instance, a trespass charge brought by PG&E with an unlawful assembly charge brought by the police). Second and third time offenders can receive harsher bail and sentences. Juveniles may be treated differently. Juveniles will be charged under the California Welfare and Institutions Code - there are similar charges in that code to any faced by adults. Persons who are non-cooperators in jail cannot be charged with a crime but will risk being disciplined for violations of the jail code (or threatened with a 72-hour "observation" period at a psychiatric hospital).

Injunctions can be either civil or criminal. Violation of either type results in a contempt of court charge. Civil violations are punishable by 5 days in jail and \$500 fine and criminal violations are punishable by 6 months in jail and \$500 fine.

The court has issued a criminal injunction at the Diablo site, so that people involved in the blockade can expect to get that charge.

The legal process step by step

a) The warning: Police order to leave; last opportunity to opt out. In a situation of mass arrests it is sometimes difficult to get away at this point.

b) The arrest: There are several options (up to the individual, but affinity groups should know who's doing what): 1) walking with the officer in an effort to communicate with him/her. 2) going "limp" (non-cooperation) - some feel they have come to the site by clear choice and refuse to leave of their own volition. People should practice going limp - relax completely - if a cop is hurting you, let it be known. Remind them you are a person.

Police are not required to read you the Miranda Rights unless they are questioning you. *You have the right to remain silent.* Men and women may be separated at the time of arrest into separate buses. Write down the details of your arrest as soon as possible. Record the time and place of the arrest for possible use during trial, as well as the name and badge numbers of the arresting officer.

c) Booking: You will be asked your name, address, social security number; and you may be searched, photographed, and fingerprinted. To avoid contempt of court you should give your name (one piece of identification is recommended); the rest is up to you. Non-cooperators risk increased hassles in jail. *Consider the effect of your actions on the whole group.*

d) Citations: Once you are in jail waiting for arraignment, authorities may offer to let you go if you sign a citation release form which promises that you will appear in court at a later date. The Abalone Alliance recommends that people *not sign citation statements, unless you plan to return to the blockade.*

Signing citations for other purposes tends to split up the group because 2nd time offenders and others may not be given the same privileges

e) Arraignment: Must occur within 72 hours, not including weekends or holidays. The purpose is to enter a plea, before a judge. You are entitled to legal counsel.

The Abalone Alliance recommends that blockaders stay in jail until arraignment or as long as possible.

Pleas: Guilty - A date for sentencing will be set at this time. **No Contest (Nolo Contendere)** - This means you do not contest the charge. For example you may agree that you blockaded the road, but you felt it was justified. *This is the plea that the Abalone Alliance recommends.* You will probably be sentenced at arraignment and have a chance to make a statement. It is recommended that you *begin serving your time in jail immediately.* This gets the legal aftermath out of the way so that we can continue with our organizing work and resume our own lives without worrying about the aftermath of the action.

Not Guilty - A date for trial in municipal court will be set. At this time you must decide whether you wish a trial by a judge or a jury. Please refer to trial section.

A Creative Plea - Pleas such as "I plead for the life of my children", "I plead for the survival of the earth", will be registered as "not guilty". The judge may not listen to many of these.

Pre-trial motions (e.g. for the discovery of any police agents in the group) may be filed at this time.

f) Bail, Own Recognizance (O.R.) or Bond: These are set at the arraignment, or sometimes before.

Bail Solidarity: Recognizing that not everyone can refuse bail, the Alliance recommends that transformers/blockaders make the commitment that no one will accept bail or O.R. until all arrested are given O.R. (Promise to appear as ordered, without paying money. Failure to appear results in a bench warrant being issued.) This is our way to protect ourselves from the authorities' attempt to divide and conquer us. By not cooperating with the bail system, we also demonstrate our commitment more effectively, and don't take the rich person's "easy out" from jail.

g) *Trials*: If you want to try a "defense of necessity" trial it should be arranged for before arrest, eg. funds and lawyers should be obtained. A committee in San Luis Obispo is starting to coordinate this. Contact the Diablo Project Office for more details.

If you are interested in defending yourself in court, a *pro per* packet will be available through your trainer.

h) *Sentencing*: You should have an opportunity to make a statement. *The Alliance recommends refusal to pay fines*. If all 487 occupiers from last year's action paid \$400 fines, the state would have \$194,800 - which they could use to build more prisons to confine large numbers of demonstrators. By refusing to pay fines, we don't bankrupt the movement, and discover our strength in solidarity.

i) *Jail*: If convicted, we'll be sent to San Luis Obispo county jail. Transfer to another jail is an option of the state. No sentences for misdemeanors are served in state prisons.



Legal Strategy

As you can see, the Abalone Alliance is making a number of recommendations for legal procedures after arrest. These points are recommendations that come from previous experience, and are ways to keep us strong and acting in unison. At the same time it may be necessary for individuals to follow other options, and they should get support.

The following points are summarized here, but are explained in context in the legal Process section:

1. No Bail/No Fines/No Waiving Time.
2. Only sign citation release if you plan to return to the blockade. Otherwise stay in jail until arraignment, or as long as you can.
3. Plead nolo contendere and serve time immediately when sentenced.
4. If you want to try a "defense of necessity" trial, funds and lawyers should be arranged for ahead of time. The Abalone Alliance may provide a lawyer to coordinate such trials.
5. Jail/Bail solidarity. Make sure that all people in the group you were detained with are offered the same options, eg. try to protect second time offenders from harsher treatment.

Juveniles

When arrested, juveniles will be separated from adults and given different treatment. They can't be legally incarcerated with adults and will probably be taken to a juvenile receiving center, then released to the custody of a parent or guardian. Because of their special circumstances they are not limited to the same legal strategy as others. The Abalone Alliance requires that:

1. People 12 and under must be accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian.
2. People under 18 must have notarized written permission from a parent or legal guardian which states that the person has business in San Luis Obispo, is not a runaway, and may be released into the custody of certain named support people (Use names of two support people in your AG and leave one space blank to fill in with the name of a core support person. You will receive these names at the briefing before the action.)
3. Exceptions to these policies will be considered but only if exceptions will not produce undue legal responsibility for the Abalone Alliance and its members.

If you are a juvenile you may want to be in an affinity group with other people your age. For more information on this, contact Saffron Jeziorski at (415) 626-7449.

Coping with Jail

As mentioned in the legal section, we will probably spend some time in jail before we are arraigned, and if convicted can expect a couple of weeks or possibly up to several months in jail. Don't expect that because you had a specific reason for breaking the law you will be exempted from suffering the consequences.

Jail affects people in different ways. It may be terrible, or it may be O.K., depending on your attitude. You get out of the experience what you put into it. You will be treated arbitrarily, have few rights, and you will have no control over your physical environment. But you will be able to use your time as you decide and you can meet some fascinating people. It is definitely a change of pace. Try to talk to others who have been through the experience before.

BEFORE YOU GO IN---

There are some things you can plan to do before you go in that will make your life a lot easier once you are there:

- a. make sure your affairs are taken care of
- b. read books about jail experiences by Barbara Deming, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day, etc.
- c. decide to be strong and open with other prisoners, and treat the guards as people
- d. set a task for yourself (eg. so many books to read and letters to write.)

WHEN YOU GET IN

- a. Re-form affinity groups, and if they are small, combine two.
- b. Whenever possible break into affinity groups to discuss ideas and share feelings.
- c. Do not try to make decisions in large groups. Break into A.G.'s and use a spokes council to make decisions of the large group.
- d. Don't get upset by rumors. Many of them are false.
- e. Lawyers don't have a monopoly on information or experience. Remember that most lawyers have been trained to keep people out of jail, whereas we may decide to stay in jail as the most powerful resistance to Diablo. Listen to what lawyers have to say, and then make your own decision.

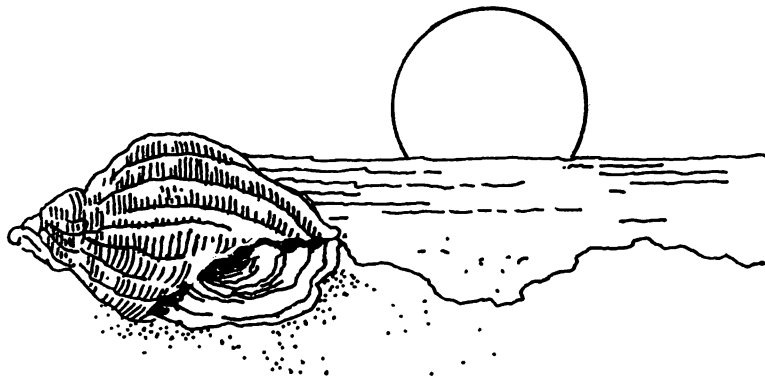
PERSONAL SUPPORT

Here are some recommendations to make jail more livable:

- a. Plan to start discussions or lead a workshop on a topic of interest in jail.
- b. Plan a regular form of exercise.
- c. Get in touch with your feelings on a regular basis, perhaps with a friend. It is natural to feel stress. Try to release it.
- d. Get to know others in your cell on an in-depth level. Exchange life stories.

Remember, our strength lies in our solidarity and our ability to support each other through thick and thin.

The threats of big penalties are geared to keep people in line. If we are fearful, the government has the upper hand. If we refuse to be intimidated, then we have the power.



Proposition 15

Two million Californians voted for Proposition 15 in June of 1976. This measure would have effectively curtailed construction of new nuclear plants in the state. PG&E spent over \$400,000.00 to defeat Prop. 15, and other utilities and nuclear manufacturers also spent heavily. The Energy Research and Development Administration, using taxpayers' money, helped the defeat of Prop. 15 by circulating pro-nuclear pamphlets, giving speeches, and displaying energy exhibits. (San Francisco Examiner, 1/30/78).

Although Prop. 15 was defeated, the California Legislature did pass three nuclear safe-guard laws in 1976. These provide that no new nukes could be built unless there were demonstrated means to reprocess nuclear fuel and dispose of nuclear waste. The California Energy Commission has found that there are no means to reprocess fuel or dispose of nuclear waste. Yet, these laws do not apply to Diablo, as it was already well under construction when they were passed.

One of these laws was recently overturned by federal district judge William Enright who claimed federal law preempted state law. If the San Diego judge refuses to reconsider, the CA state energy commission will appeal the case.

The Abalone Alliance

As many Californians began to see that the legal intervention process was long and costly, and inherently biased towards industry; that the electoral process was too easily manipulated by moneyed powers; and that the legislative process could not fight a plant already under construction, the Abalone Alliance was born, in June of 1977. It is a network of decentralized grass-roots, groups throughout California that are committed to stopping nuclear power through non-violent direct action and education. (see the Declaration of Nuclear Resistance in this Handbook.)

Our first major action was an occupation of the Diablo Canyon site on August 7, 1977. This coincided with a support rally at Port San Luis beach, attended by 1500 people. The occupation was totally non-violent, with occupiers remaining peaceful throughout. There were 47 people arrested for criminal trespass, and some were also charged with unlawful assembly. We later discovered that 2 of the 47 were police informants. (see Legal section).

In the fall of 1977, the Abalone co-sponsored, with the Northern California Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and the Alliance for Survival, anti-nuclear teach-ins throughout the State. These helped raise public consciousness about the dangers and problems of nuclear power, and specifically Diablo Canyon.

Local Abalone groups in San Francisco and San Luis Obispo have protested PG&E's public relations exhibits at their headquarters in San Francisco and Diablo Canyon Nuclear Information Center in San Luis Obispo. The theme of these demonstrations has been that people have the right to know all the facts about nuclear power, not just PG&E's one-sided view.

Another major civil disobedience action was sponsored by the Abalone Alliance on August 6, and 7, 1978. There were 487 occupiers and blockaders..10 times the number from the previous year. A day long rally drew 5000 people to the nearby beach for music, speeches and an alternative energy fair. "Waves" of several affinity groups chose to go in by sea, blockade the front gate or take one of two land routes over the fences onto the plant site. Most people chose the latter action and carried materials to transform the site. The legal aftermath is still being carried out. (see Legal section).

Mass rallies were held on April 7, 1979, in San Francisco and Los Angeles to protest the Diablo Canyon plant. In S.F. 25,000 people showed up for a rally and alternative energy fair, making it the largest anti-nuclear action in U.S. history, up to that time.

Structure

The Abalone Alliance currently includes 24 groups around the state. These groups meet about four times a year in statewide conferences to make major decisions by consensus. A statewide office is located in S.F. and a Stop Diablo project office is in San Luis Obispo. A coordinating committee meets monthly to share information and proposals between local groups. *Its About Times*, a statewide newsletter, keeps members informed of statewide activities on a monthly basis. Periodically an outreach tabloid called *The Radioactive Times* is issued.

There are statewide media and finance collectives with other collectives formed as needed for specific actions.

Affinity groups are strongly encouraged to keep in touch with their local group and to participate in overall organizing and educational activities on a local and/or statewide level.

Non-Violent Direct Action

Many people participating in the Abalone Alliance civil disobedience action have a deep commitment to non-violence on moral and spiritual grounds, while others agree with it primarily on a tactical level. Probably the majority of us are somewhere between these two positions, but we *all* fully in agreement that we will abide by the non-violent discipline during Abalone Activities.

Honesty, openness and communication are essential to this non-violent action. Our intentions are up-front and in the open. A dialogue with PG&E employees and police can be maintained only if we treat them as fellow human beings.

Non-violent civil disobedience has frequently been used to resist injustice and oppression here in the United States: by the colonists, women, oppressed people, and others struggling for peace and social justice. It is strongest and most aggressive

justice. It is the strongest and most aggressive form of non-violent protest, used as a last resort after legal channels have been exhausted.

Civil disobedience remains effective only when it is totally non-violent. Violence most often occurs when people are overtaken by fear, either from a direct personal threat or from a chaotic situation. We should realize that the "authorities" often feel threatened by civil disobedience.

Advantages of non-violence

Non-violent action is an active way to confront and challenge injustice through organizing people's power. It is an alternative to passivity or violence.

We can hate the system without hating the people. Our openness to the humanity of our opponents makes it possible for them to change.

Non-violence builds trust and strength within the demonstrators.

It avoids hysteria and panic by promoting good communication.

It will increase the chance of developing sympathy and support among officials, police and other potentially antagonistic people.

It will keep undecided people from turning against us because of our actions.

Non-violence is safer than violence, both physically and legally.

Training

In order to avoid the possibility of violence, it is necessary that the participants in the action know what to expect, and that a flexible and responsive decision-making process be established. To this end, the Abalone Alliance has developed a program of non-violence preparation, which will be required for all those who intend to participate in the transformation/blockade.

Preparation sessions are about 7 hours long, and usually involve 10 to 20 people. People who are unsure whether they want to participate in the civil disobedience action are often helped to reach a decision by attending a preparation session.

A preparation session accomplishes a number of things:

- It provides a chance for people to learn about the action, its tone, and its legal ramifications.
- It helps people to decide whether or not they will participate in the action.
- In role-playing, people are assigned roles such as: police, PG&E officials, and blockaders, to learn what to expect in various confrontational situations.
- It allows people to meet and build solidarity with each other through forming of affinity groups.

Teams of non-violence trainers are available to work with groups. Call your local Abalone group for preparation times and places. (See back cover for contact list.) Whenever possible, people should read this Handbook before the preparation sessions.

Affinity groups.

An affinity group is usually composed of 10 to 15 people who have organized themselves through local Abalone groups, or have participated together in non-violence training. The reasons for having these groups are to stay close together during the action, build strength from each other's presence, and to reduce "mob" feelings and alienation caused by being with lots of people in a potentially tense situation. They will help maintain non-violence by making every one of us personally accountable to a small peer group. This will dissuade heckling, hostility, etc. Structuring the demonstration this way will also help to coordinate activities and make disciplining ourselves easier. Affinity groups (AG's) may be structured around a common core interest, such as legal strategy, men and women's peacekeeping, old friends, or people who work together.

A major decision, which each group member should make as soon as possible, is whether he or she will be a blockader or a supporter. Each affinity group must have a minimum of two support people, although more are preferable. (see Support section).

The following roles need to be filled in each AG:

spokesperson: presents the AG's consensus/divergence of opinion at meeting of all AG spokes.

peacekeeper: helps keep tone of action peaceful and non-violent; tries to monitor AG's actions "on site", also watches for outside agitators or any problems; helps to resolve tension in the AG.

first-aid person (medic): responsible for AG's medical kit; deals with minor medical problems.

support person(s): keeps list of people in the AG and emergency phone numbers and contacts, takes care of vehicles, emergency funds, and many other things. Support people are critically important to the success of the action. *It's important for support people to take part in non-violence preparation.*

support spokesperson: to coordinate support activities during the action.

legal spoke: represents AG in contacts with lawyers.

Affinity groups should plan to meet together prior to the action to plan their participation, give each other support and get to know each other as a group. Please look at Responsibilities of Affinity Groups section.



A.G. Responsibilities

An affinity group (AG) is a good place to get to know other participants in the action. It can be a wealth of information, support and trust. Try to get together at least several times with your AG before the action so that you begin to have a sense of group identity.

Listed below are responsibilities which each AG must fulfill, and some suggestions that are highly recommended. In addition there are instructions for role plays you can do as a group, a stress workshop, ways for sharing feelings, and other ideas.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- *group name and ID (T shirt, armband, etc.)
- *select people to fill roles. Know who is doing support work and who will blockade
- *decide on nature of blockade action, and send to your nonviolent trainer. Try to think up creative ideas for your blockade. You might set up a windmill in the road, form a human knot, chain yourselves together, hold a pray-in at the gates, etc. Remember that your action must follow the nonviolent code of discipline, and be finally approved by the statewide blockade committee.
- *make list of names, addresses and phone numbers for support people, contact & your nonviolent trainer.
- *Each AG member is responsible for at least one day of door-to-door canvassing work in San Luis Obispo before the blockade. Contact Fresno (address on back cover) to coordinate your group's activities.
- *set up a phone tree so that messages about the action can be spread quickly and efficiently. You may want to test out your affinity group phone tree to make sure it works. Each person should have a copy of the list. Your trainer will phone the AG contact person, who calls the next person, and so on. The last person in the AG should phone the contact person, making a circle to be sure the message got through correctly.
- *fill out information sheet for each person. This should include legal plans, medical needs, etc. Your trainer will give you these sheets, and you should return them as soon as possible.

TIMING.....

The blockade may begin as early as mid-June or July. It is difficult to not know the exact date of the action, but people will have to make plans as they best can. In a sense, we will all be "on call" for the summer, until we know more about the licensing decision. It would be a good idea for people to write down dates they are unavailable and share this with their affinity groups.

SUGGESTIONS.....

1. Share more about yourselves, your needs for support, any medical problems, concerns you have about the action and how you carry it out together. Get to know each other.

2. List questions about the action or anything you need answered. Find volunteers to find the answers and report back.

3. Plan work (canvassing, office, graphics, etc.) that can be done both locally and in SLO to help prepare for the action

4. Do role plays which can help you prepare for situations you may face. Try role plays of arrest, jail, court, etc.

5. Make plans for logistics. Who will bring what so your AG has supplies for 1 or 2 days on site if we are allowed to stay? How will you get to San Luis Obispo? (A good role for a support person or a friend is to take blockaders to San Luis Obispo in their car or a borrowed car). Who needs childcare?

6. Talk about your fears and feelings.

7. Learn songs. Chants are probably not appropriate for the blockade, since they can sound ominous, and set up a we/they situation.

8. Conflict Resolution -- In our affinity groups we are going to go through some challenging times together. It is good to remember that conflict is natural and it is just a question of whether we can creatively deal with it rather than let it tear us apart. In our AG's there will obviously be differences of opinion. It is important to hear each person's concerns, then see if one can synthesize these perspectives into a common proposal which all can agree to. It helps to have an attitude of seeking a common solution. Following are some ideas to help with resolution:

1. If there are strong differences, let them be stated. It does no good to pretend they aren't there.

2. If one or more members of the group are being unreasonable, and won't allow good group process, the rest of the group should tell them so clearly and honestly.

3. If there is a major conflict between two individuals or two sub-groups within the AG, do a role play and have people play the opposite role from their own position and continue the discussion.

4. Keep in mind the strong points of commonality you have in your AG. Don't let the relatively minor difference destroy your common vision and purposes.

5. Remember that a major purpose of the AG is to give and feel mutual support. If that seems impossible in your AG, see if there is another AG you might join. Ask your nonviolence trainer about other possible groups.

Support Responsibilities

Support people have a task at least as difficult as those doing civil disobedience. Support people should meet together in their region before the action to determine how much each person is willing and able to offer, for instance, how long will people be able to stay and provide support if demonstrators are kept in jail for days or weeks; offering support for court appearances, etc. One possibility is to have alternates to replace support people. In addition, supporters will need to figure out how they can help with local or regional center office staffing and core support tasks.

Following is a list of some support responsibilities in chronological order. You may be able to think of others.

I. SUPPORT BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE ACTION

A. Meet in regional groups to get to know each other & establish who will staff regional and local offices.

B. On an affinity group basis, get a list of each person in your AG, with corresponding emergency contact names, and friends and relatives to be kept informed.

C. Know what each blockader's needs are during the action and in jail. Find out who plans to go limp, non-cooperate, etc. and what each person's time commitment is for being in jail.

D. Keep emergency funds, duplicate keys and description of blockaders' cars, lists of any major personal items.

II. JUST BEFORE THE ACTION

A. Regional groups of supporters meet and set up regional center and finish arranging for staffing.

B. Everyone is briefed in last-minute details at Diablo Project Office.

C. Supporters meet with those who are staffing a central support office and find what core support tasks need to be done.

III. SUPPORT DURING THE ACTION IN SAN LUIS OBISPO

A. Help the affinity group initiate their action--provide physical and moral support and share in the excitement and sense of determination.

Provide personal support to the demonstrators with a last minute check on plans, numbers to call, personal items to care for and so on.

B. Keep in touch with the demonstrators for as long as possible and determine the consequences of their action. Be prepared to follow police buses to jails and keep track of where demonstrators are being taken.

C. Staff a support information area near the site of the action so supporters can keep in touch with each other and coordinate necessary tasks as they arise.

D. Staff regional centers (in San Luis Obispo) - those centers should be the 24-hour contact place for all affinity groups from each region - if demonstrators go to jail, information on who is in what jail and any special needs should be relayed through them.

E. Greet returning demonstrators - find out where people will be taken and meet them there (in 1978 we had to follow the busses from jail to different parks in the city since the police would not tell us where they were taking people). Help people get their belongings from jail and arrange rides home. Get any information necessary for lawyers, such as arraignment dates for each individual and so on.

F. During all this time support spokes can meet together to assess progress and plan for unforeseen circumstances - it is important to send messages into the jail about what is going on outside, and let them know what they can expect from the outside.

G. If necessary, bring additional supplies on site (medical, food, water, etc.)

H. Outreach to the local community. Explain purpose of action. Hold support demonstrations.

IV. SUPPORT DURING THE ACTION AT LOCAL OFFICES

A. Take care of things at home (water plants, feed animals, etc.)

B. Staff local office during, and for at least several days after the action. Answer phone calls from friends and relatives. Call local media or arrange for interviews (yourself or others).

C. Be in touch with your regional center office in San Luis Obispo.

D. Provide childcare if needed.

V. AFTER THE ACTION (these tasks should be discussed before the action)

A. Help with rides to court appearances, etc.

B. Give support to people serving time in jail. This might include keeping in touch with relatives, arranging visits, writing letters, etc.

VI. COMPLETE AN EVALUATION OF SUPPORT AND RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS.

Role Plays

Role plays are an opportunity to try out our nonviolence and see how we can actually put it into practice in possibly difficult situations we may encounter—such as dealing with police, provocateurs, PG&E officials, etc. It also gives us a chance to put ourselves into the shoes of our “opponents” and see how that feels and see what kind of action/behavior might get through to them as human beings. Through roleplaying we can learn what strategies are more likely to work and thus avoid costly mistakes later

Steps to set up a roleplay:

1. Explain what a roleplay is. Explain the scenario or “situation”.
2. Explain what the physical set-up is..where the site is in the room, where the gate or cooling pipes are, etc.
3. Talk about the need for people to get into the role (policeman, PG&E official, blockader, etc) and stay in it, but be human.
4. Ask if there are any questions before you begin.
5. Explain the roles..how many police, blockaders, etc. and try to establish identifying marks (all police carry newspaper billy clubs, press wear nametags, etc).
6. Give each group 5 to 10 minutes to get themselves into the role. Start it and bring it to a halt when as much has happened as should happen, (about 5 minutes).
7. *The discussion at the end is the most important part.* Ask people how they felt during the role-play. What helped or hurt the action? What can we learn from the role play as we prepare for the real thing? How “together” were the demonstrators? How did each group perceive the situation?

HASSLE LINES

Hassle lines are short form of role play which give us a chance in a brief way to try out our responses in potentially difficult situations.

Have people line up in two lines facing each other. Tell each side who they will play. Relate the scene and allow 30 seconds to get into the role. Cut the action when people have gotten what they can out of it. Discuss feelings and reactions.

IDEAS

Get one or two members of the AG to facilitate the role plays and hassle lines. Warm up with hassle lines first..think up a situation that people are familiar with. Here are some suggestions:

1. one person hassles another on the street.
2. police refuse to loosen tight handcuffs.

ROLEPLAYS:

1. police warn they will use tear gas to disperse the crowd. You have 15 minutes to decide what to do. Roles should include several policemen, many blockaders and a couple media people.
2. one person in an affinity group tries to attack a PG&E official during the blockade at the front gates. Have one violent blockader, one PG&E official, 1 or 2 policemen, 1 media person and the rest are blockaders.

Declaration of Nuclear Resistance

We are committed to a permanent halt to the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in California. Nuclear power is dangerous to all life. We encourage the real alternatives of conservation and safe, clean, and renewable sources of energy.

To achieve these goals, we join together from throughout the state to form the Abalone Alliance to oppose nuclear power through nonviolent direct action and education.

Beginning with the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant, our nonviolent action will be directed to all existing and planned nuclear plants in California. We will continue until nuclear power has been completely replaced by a sane and life-affirming energy policy.

We recognize that:

1. The much advertised need for nuclear energy is derived from faulty and inflated projections of consumption based on a profit system hostile to conservation. The United States has 6% of the world's population consuming over 30% of its energy resources. With a rational energy policy and appropriate changes in construction, conservation, and recycling procedures, the alleged "need" for nuclear energy disappears.
2. Nuclear plants are an economic catastrophe. They are unreliable and inefficient. Nuclear power is an extremely capital intensive technology. In contrast, conservation and solar related energy technologies will create many more jobs, both permanent and safe, than the atomic industry could ever provide.
3. The centralized nature of nuclear power takes control of energy away from local communities.
4. There is a direct relationship between nuclear power plants and nuclear weapons. The export of nuclear reactors makes possible the spread of nuclear bombs to nations all over the world. The theft of nuclear materials and the sabotage of nuclear facilities pose further threats to our lives and civil liberties.
5. The dangers of nuclear power are intolerable. They range from a continuous flow of low-level radiation which can cause cancer and genetic damage, to the creation of deadly radioactive wastes which must be completely isolated from the environment for 250,000 years, to the destruction of our rivers, lakes and oceans by radioactive and thermal pollution, to the possibility of a major meltdown catastrophe. No material gain, real or imagined, is worth the assault on life itself that nuclear energy represents.

We therefore insist:

1. That not one more cent be spent on nuclear power reactors, except for efforts to dispose of those wastes already created and to decommission those plants now operating.
2. That American energy policy be focused on conservation and the development of solar, wind, tidal, biomass conversion, and other forms of clean and renewable energy in concert with the efficient recycling and fair distribution of energy.
3. That all people who lose jobs through the cancellation of nuclear construction or operation be retrained immediately for jobs in the natural energy field or in other areas.
4. That we end production, testing, stockpiling, and use of nuclear weapons.

We have full confidence that when the true dangers and expense of nuclear energy are made known to the American people, our nation will reject this tragic experiment which has already caused so much loss in economic and material resources, health, environmental quality, and the control over our own lives.

We pledge we will wage a nonviolent direct action campaign:

1. To stop construction and operation of all nuclear plants in California.
2. To promote the realistic alternatives of safe, clean, and renewable sources of energy.
3. To encourage responsible community control of energy production and use.
4. To support efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons.
5. To build a more loving and responsible world for ourselves, our children, and future generations of all living things on this planet.

In our work, we will maintain a discipline of active nonviolence and full respect for all persons we encounter. We will speak and act truthfully and openly, and we will honestly weigh concerns brought to us.

We pledge our solidarity with all other nonviolent efforts to stop nuclear power worldwide.

We appeal to all people to join us.

San Luis Obispo, California
February 26, 1978



Fears and Feelings

Some brief exercises on 'fears & feelings' were probably included in your training session. Getting in touch with those fears, sharing them, and, where possible, preparing practically and emotionally to handle them is crucial to our success.

In your affinity group, spend some time sharing in pairs and in a couple of role-plays about specific fearful situations. Be aware of your feelings. Your affinity group family is a genius of innovation for maintaining order and personal support in a mass action -- nurture it, use it! Make sure you're taking care of yourself and others, showing support for one another, touching, talking and caring. Share skills in co- or re-evaluation counseling, and help each other.

As a group, you might brainstorm responses to these questions:

- What helps people deal with situations where they have a lot of fear?
- What are ways of helping *yourself* when you're powerless, afraid, threatened, angry, depressed, or shy? Talk about situations you have been in.
- What are ways of helping other people when they're overcome by fear and emotion? You may want to share skills such as breathing exercises, yoga, centering, etc.
- How can non-violence be developed as a source of empowerment in overcoming fear and in overcoming violence directed at you?

An important goal for this 'fears & feelings' session in your affinity group should be to develop specific, agreed-upon strategies and contingency plans that you will follow if different situations occur. You might want to do some research on a couple of these before you agree to the appropriate strategy. But be clear with each other and have known guidelines to fall back on if or when things get confused.

These are some minimum situations that your Affinity Group should have pre-arranged strategies for. Keep in mind how large a group we'll be, and how PG&E is seeking every possible means of discrediting us and getting rid of us. What truly creative non-violent responses can we come up with that speak to our intention and our humanness?

- dispersal by tear gas, dogs, fire hoses
- organized violence by police riot squads with clubs, or by angry construction workers
- isolation from your group
- spontaneous violence, when someone breaks under stress
- provocateurs -- individuals or whole affinity groups not abiding by Abalone guidelines
- responding to violence against those near you (this can be even harder than violence being committed against yourself)

Remember, the gentlest person can burst into rage if a friend is violently assaulted. But we have lost everything if we escalate, if we accept their violent terms. They can always out-do us in violence.

Finally, remember what parts of you cannot be hurt and taken from you. Hold to the awareness of the person who you are, know your strengths and securities, your purpose in blockading, your sense of self and your collective identity. Claim back your humanness, your ordinariness, transcending moments of abnormality and crisis. Be aware of yourself in a human history of courage, sacrifice and nonviolent struggle.

