Yucca Mountain
Nuclear Fuel Locations and Associated Rail Facilities

Diablo Canyon Power Plant, California
V. DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, CALIFORNIA

Facility Description
The Diablo Canyon Power Plant, owned and operated by Pacific Gas & Electric Company, is located in San Luis Obispo County along California’s central coast. This site is located along the Pacific Ocean approximately 20 miles south west of San Luis Obispo in Avila Beach. The 750 acre facility has two pressurized water nuclear reactors and together, the twin 1,100 megawatt reactors produce about 18,000 FW-h of electricity annually. The facility serves approximately 2.2 million people and started operations in 1986.

The first of the following maps entitled “Diablo Canyon Power Plant” shows the plant’s location and nearby surface transportation network. Population centers, interstate highways, public roads and at-grade road/railroad crossings in the vicinity are noted. The second of the maps illustrates (at a larger scale) the plant itself and surrounding road network.

As shown on the map, the facility is not rail served, however, Union Pacific’s Santa Barbara Subdivision is located about 15 miles to the east of the site. There are six daily Amtrak intercity passenger trains and approximately 10-14 UP freight trains on this segment of the Santa Barbara Subdivision. Because of curvature of the line in the area, passenger train speed varies between 40 to 55 miles per hour while freight train speed is between 35 and 40 miles per hour. Commodities carried on the line include paper, steel, lumber, finished automobiles, scrap, chemicals, and containers carrying a diversified group of products including food.

Rail Routes

Diablo Canyon Power Plant to Hazen Map - The Diablo Canyon Power Plant is not located on a rail line as it is situated on the ocean with a coastal mountain range creating the eastern boundary. A truck route would have to be designated. It is assumed the material would be trucked over the mountains to a rail transfer site which would need to be constructed along Union Pacific’s Coast Line. For the purposes of this discussion, we will assume a truck-to-rail loading facility might be situated at a location north of Guadalupe, approximately 25 miles northeast of the power plant. The UP would then haul the material northward through San Luis Obispo, through San Jose to Niles, turning eastward over Altamont Pass. The route would turn northward at Lathrop, through Stockton and to Sacramento. Turning eastward at this point, it would pass through Roseville over the Donner Pass and through Reno into Hazen.

Diablo Canyon Power Plant to Caliente Map – From the proposed truck-to-rail facility north of Guadalupe, the loads would be moved south through Los Angeles then eastward to West Colton Yard at San Bernardino. The loads would then be dispatched northeastward over Cajon Pass through Barstow thence onward through Yermo and to Caliente.
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT, CA
DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT TO CALIENTE

Legend

- Probable Routes*

Railroads

- Burlington Northern Railway Company
- Union Pacific Railroad
- All Other Railroad Companies

Nuclear Fuel Locations' Status

- Canceled
- Closed
- Open

* Represents the most "probable" direct route. Actual route to be determined through multiple agencies and stakeholders, N.I.C.