

Air Pollution

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SC Sentinel

PG&E: We'll End Plume

Pacific Gas and Electric Company has agreed to meet the proposed stringent regulations of the advisory committee to the Monterey-Santa Cruz Unified Air Pollution Control district regarding the Moss Landing power plant, it was announced today in San Francisco.

Under terms proposed by the advisory committee, PG&E would follow Rules 62 and 62.1 of the Los Angeles Air Pollution Control district regarding the burning of fuel oil and would also agree to the committee's recommendation of limiting emissions at the stack to 500 parts per million of oxides of nitrogen.

In more common phraseology, the utility promises to get rid of the "yellow plume" by reducing the amount of oxides of nitrogen from the big stacks by January 1, 1970.

They will also agree to limiting the use of fuel oil burning at the Moss Landing plant to "only when natural gas is not available."

There would be no fuel oil burning at the "Mighty Moss" plant to use up oil required for contractual purposes.

It has been estimated that the total use of fuel oil at the plant would be reduced to 400,000 to 500,000 barrels a year depending upon weather conditions and the natural gas supply.

The huge PG&E boilers use oil at the rate of 3000 barrels per hour so that proposed reduction in total usage at Moss Landing would be "great."

The figure of 500 ppm for oxides of nitrogen was an arbitrary figure recommended by officials of the air pollution control district. PG&E reiterated their position that we "will eliminate the plume."

Chairman Charles Kramer of the advisory committee to the air pollution control board said this morning, "PG&E's decision to accept the recommendations of the advisory committee is an outstanding move to cooperate in preserving clean air in the Monterey Bay airshed."

He praised the utility's willingness to cooperate with the board and expressed the opinion that the decision is a "major step ahead."

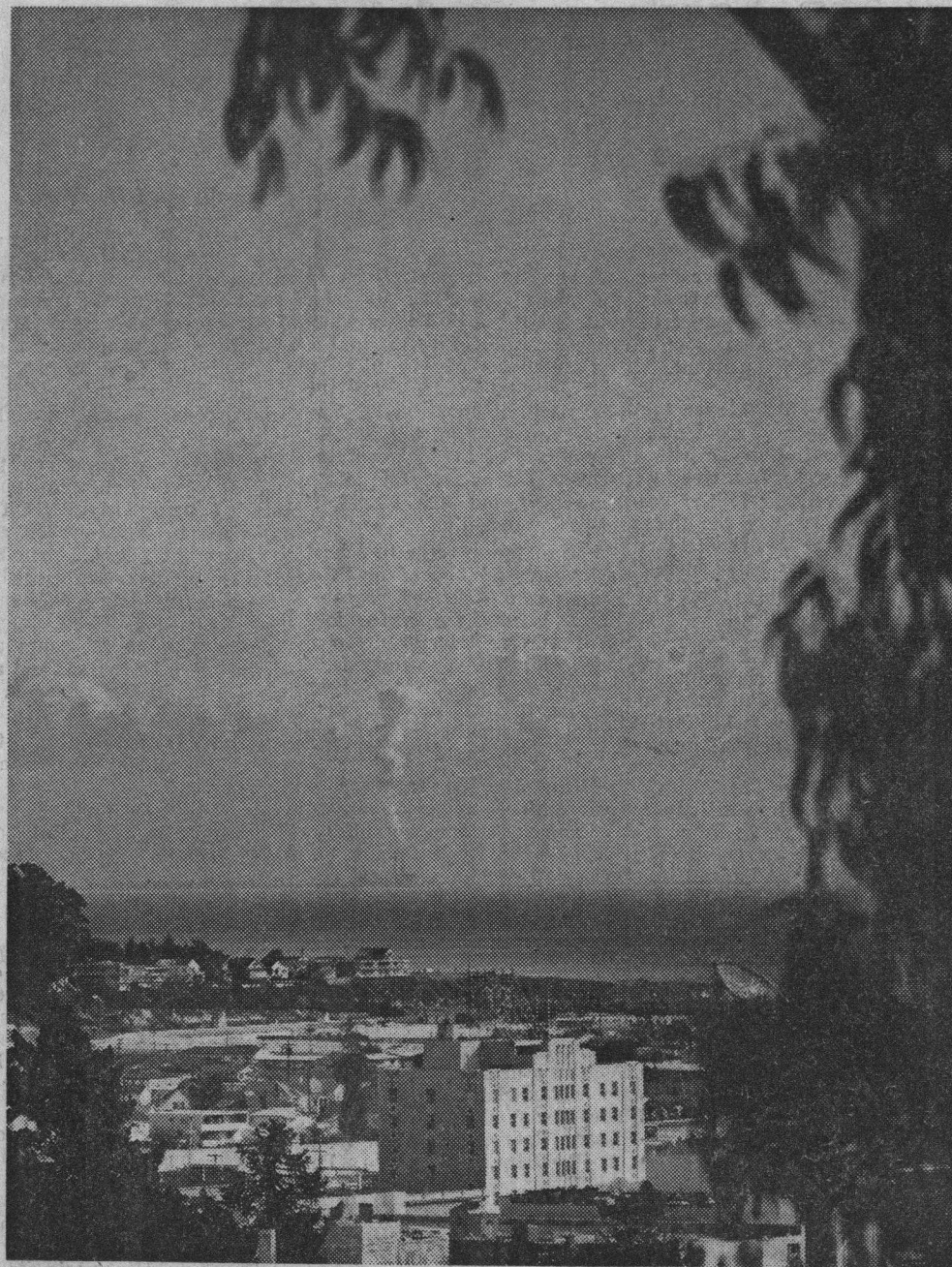
Gordon Sinclair, vice chairman of the advisory committee, said: "The decision by PG&E to meet the clean air goals of the district is good news, indeed."

Both Kramer and Sinclair said they believed the move would be completely acceptable to both the advisory committee and the air pollution control board, comprised of the supervisors of both counties.

Russ McCallie and Dan Forbus of the Santa Cruz Board indicated their appreciation of the PG&E action.

The formal action by PG&E will be reported at their meeting with the unified air pollution control board February 10.

Kenneth J. Dierckes, executive representative of PG&E, made the announcement.



This plume shown rising from PG&E stacks at its big Moss Landing plant will be eliminated by January 1, 1970, the utilities firm said in an announcement today in San Francisco.

The firm has agreed to meet regulations proposed by the advisory committee of the Monterey-Santa Cruz Unified Air Pollution Control District.