

## **Joint Proposal to Acquire and Protect the Pecho Coast**

**June 3, 2021**

## LETTER OF INTENT

Re: Proposal to purchase several parcels on the Pecho Coast commonly known as *South Ranch, Wild Cherry Canyon, North Ranch, and Parcel P*

ATT: Thomas Jones  
Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company

CC: Maureen Zawalick  
Vice President, Generation Business and Technical Services  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company

James Welsch  
Senior Vice President, Generation and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company

We are writing to express our sincere interest and readiness to purchase the Diablo Canyon lands. We believe conservation, education, and reconnecting yak tit<sup>y</sup>u tit<sup>y</sup>u yak ti<sup>h</sup>ini Northern Chumash Tribe San Luis Obispo County and Region with their homeland are the best future uses for the Diablo Canyon Lands.

The Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Panel received overwhelming public support for the conservation of this landscape following the closure of the plant. While conservation means something different for everyone in our community, we believe our proposal meets the overarching goals of the yak tit<sup>y</sup>u tit<sup>y</sup>u yak ti<sup>h</sup>ini Northern Chumash Tribe San Luis Obispo County and Region, Decommissioning Panel, the DREAM Initiative, the California Public Utility Commission's Tribal Land Transfer Policy, the Friends of Diablo Canyon Lands, the State of California, local leaders, and our community's interest in sustainable managed public access. Specifically, this proposal will enhance Cal Poly's educational mission to California (e.g. land for biology, ocean for marine science, buildings for teaching, research, labs, offices etc). We also believe that our proposal gives PG&E the best path forward as we are willing to work collaboratively to ensure the timing and other terms are compatible with PG&E's operational needs and regulatory requirements.

This letter is a non-binding proposal to purchase the properties that make up the Pecho Coast/Diablo Canyon lands. Our three organizations have decades of experience acquiring and protecting important landscapes, managing large tracts of land for multiple uses, and providing educational and sustainable recreation opportunities for our community. We are prepared to negotiate and complete multiple land acquisition transactions if required in a timely fashion.

The Land Conservancy, ytt, and Cal Poly intend to work with governmental agencies, local stakeholders, and community members to execute conservation easements north and south of the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. In addition, we will explore economic and public educational opportunities on Parcel P.

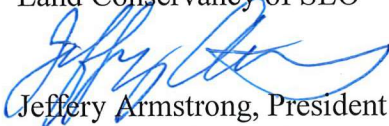
Sincerely,



Scott R. Lathrop, President  
ytt Northern Chumash Nonprofit



Kaila Dettman, Executive Director  
Land Conservancy of SLO



Jeffery Armstrong, President  
California Polytechnic State University

## Reconnecting ytt Northern Chumash with the Pecho Coast

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Evidence of *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash* occupation of the Pecho Coast represents Late Prehistoric and Post Contact occupation dating between ca. 600-250 cal. BP, respectively. One radiocarbon date and three saucer beads indicate that that basal portion of the archaeological deposit dates to the early Middle Period (ca. 2000 years ago) (Taggart 2018). Additionally, by evidence from CA-SLO-50, 52, 585, 02, 584, 07. 05. 08, and 1366 and village sites čanu, tsipxatu, petpatsu and wexetminu'. Contact Period is represented by the cultural assemblage recovered from two excavation units at CA-SLO-51/H, a site identified as the ytt *Northern Chumash* village of Tstywi (Jones et al. 2017).

Spanish occupation of California began in 1769 and brought *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash* culture to the brink of extinction. The establishment of the Spanish mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa in San Luis Obispo significantly disrupted native social, economic, and political organization.

By approximately 1772, the Diablo Canyon lands (*Pecho Coast*) were taken from the *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash* people by the Spanish Government following the establishment of Mission San Luis de Tolosa. These lands were taken without compensation, agreement, or consideration of the Northern Chumash land stewardship responsibilities.

Today, members of *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash Tribe* represent an unbroken chain of lineage, kinship, and culture from villages on the Pecho Coast. This lineage is passed down in their oral histories and documented in collaborated work between J.P. Harrington and Rosario Cooper, our last traditional speaker of our tilhini language. Through her work with J.P. Harrington, we have been able to preserve and revitalize much of our language, songs, and culture for our people today. It has also been documented in a recent ethnohistorical study of Native Chumash Rancherias on the Pecho Coast (Johnson, 2020). As the documented descendants of the Pecho Coast, it is *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash Tribe's* goal "to regain our ancestral homeland and once again carry out our land stewardship responsibilities on the Pecho Coast".

## Proposed Land Acquisitions

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Over the past 320 years, the Spanish Missions, Mexican governments, Private Parties, and a California public utility have benefited from the use of these lands without any consideration of who are the rightful aboriginal title holders of the Pecho Coast.

It is for this reason the ytt Northern Chumash Nonprofit, The Land Conservancy, and California Polytechnic State University-SLO believe that all 12,000 acres surrounding the power facility should be returned to the *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash* people so they can determine the future of Pecho Coast once again. *yak titʷu titʷu yak tilhini Northern Chumash* will permanently protect the Pecho Coast properties known as North Ranch, South Ranch, and Wild Cherry Canyon through conservation easements in partnership with The Land Conservancy.

One transaction may not be possible due to required actions by federal, state, county governmental agencies, a pending lawsuit, and two landowners. We have proposed four transactions below that can be negotiated and completed in phases or as a single transaction.