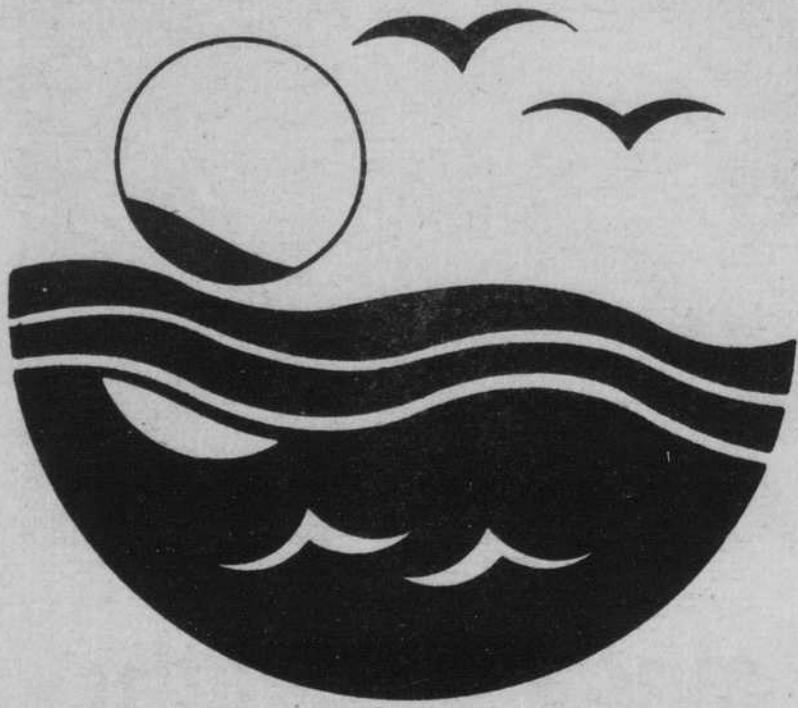


... of environmental concern



By CATHERINE SIEGNER

The 90 protestors arrested last November for trespassing at the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant were given 30-day suspended jail sentences and \$155 fines Friday in St. Helens.

Columbia County District Judge Robert Gilliland gave the group 30 days in which to either pay the fines, or work 30 days in public service to the county.

The protestors were also placed on two years probation with the conditions that they in-

form the court of current residences, that they not be convicted of any crimes, and that they not remain on any property in Oregon where they have "reason to believe they are not wanted."

The protestors were convicted of criminal trespass on June 30 by a Columbia County jury. They had attempted to present a choice of evils defense, but it was ruled out by the judge, who insisted on trying them solely on the trespassing charge.

The Department of Environmental Quality has charged Teledyne Wah Chang Corp. of Albany with violating Oregon's pollution laws.

Wah Chang, which produces exotic metals, has been dumping up to 6,000 pounds of ammonia daily into Truax Creek, while reporting to the DEQ average discharges of from 400 to 750 pounds per day.

The company requested an exception to state pollution rules in April to allow an average of 400 pounds per day with a maximum of 800 pounds. Tests ordered by the state showed that actual discharges exceeded the average daily allowable limit by 15 times.

Kent Ashbaker, head of industrial waste programs for the DEQ, said that Wah Chang's discharges have killed all aquatic life in a four-mile area of creeks and lakes between the company and the Willamette River.

A herbicide ban in Lane County would probably have no legal effect, County Counsel Larry Shaw told the Lane County Commissioners last week.

The Safety and Full Employment Committee had sought to place a measure on the November ballot that would suspend aerial spraying of dioxin-containing herbicides in the county until the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reregisters them for use.

The EPA recently issued a report citing evidence that herbicides containing dioxin (2, 4, 5-T and Silvex) cause cancer and birth defects in laboratory animals, and presumably would have the same effect on humans.

Shaw noted that the federal government has jurisdiction over local governments with regard to herbicide use. A local ban would probably be challenged by the federal government.

A leak in the cooling system at the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Athens, Alabama, caused a discharge of radioactive water into the Tennessee River last Saturday.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which owns and operates the plant, said the discharge produced no measurable change in the river water.

The waste exceeded operating specifications, but posed no threat to public health, according to TVA officials.

Prospective bear hunters have until midnight July 31 to purchase a tag under regulations adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

After the cutoff date, it will no longer be legal for a license agent to sell a bear tag.

The Commission was requested by the public after hearings last year to limit deer and elk tag sales, and this is an expansion of that regulation.

PGE seeks court halt to occupation

By CATHERINE SIEGNER
Of the Emerald

Portland General Electric Co. (PGE) has filed a request for a preliminary injunction in Columbia County Circuit Court to halt the planned occupation of the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant August 6-9.

PGE has summoned 122 persons, the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance (TDA), the Columbia County Environmental Council and the Coalition for Safe Power to appear at a hearing in St. Helen's today to show cause why they should not be "enjoined and refrained" from:

Going into any of the premises of the Trojan plant, disrupting or interfering with the normal functions conducted by PGE, blocking or interfering with PGE's access to and from the premises, or inciting or counseling others, or conspiring with others to do any of the previously noted acts.

PGE claimed the defendants violate its property rights by trespassing and hindering normal functioning of the Trojan plant and

that they will cause PGE "irreparable injury" for which there is no adequate remedy at law if an injunction is not granted.

The company also stated that TDA has "numerous public and private forums" in which to present its views on nuclear power and does not need to infringe on PGE's property rights to accomplish this end.

Members of TDA occupied the Trojan site in August, 1977 and were acquitted of a trespassing charge due to a technicality involving a railroad right-of-way. Ninety protestors were recently convicted and sentenced for the same charge stemming from a November, 1977 demonstration at the site.

In its request for the injunction, PGE asserted the existence of a criminal sanction has not proved to be a deterrent to defendants and that "the defendants have no constitutional right to go upon plaintiff's private property to express their dissatisfaction with the business being conducted."

On July 13, PGE officials met

with members of TDA and were informed of TDA's plans to once again occupy the Trojan site. PGE refused to grant permission for the group to enter the site, but TDA has indicated its intention to proceed with the occupation as planned.

Civil disobedience workshops are being held in Eugene, as well as in other parts of the state, in preparation for the August demonstration at Trojan.

TDA has anticipated that "although an injunction has never

been attempted by PGE, it remains a possibility," according to its Occupational Handbook. TDA also states in the Handbook that "if an injunction is in effect at the start of the occupation, we will proceed with the occupation as planned."

Although it is uncertain what violation of an injunction, if granted, might mean, generally, ignoring a court injunction could "make a person liable for additional penalties," according to the Handbook.

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