

Oregon Daily Emerald

Closure of Trojan
could devastate
town's economy
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Sealed records reveal flaws in Trojan design

By B.J. Thomsen
Of the Emerald

Documents questioning the safety of the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant were released to the media Thursday by Lloyd Marbet, co-director of Forelaws on Board, a Portland-based environmental group, and the chief proponent of ballot measures 14 and 15.

The material includes previously sealed court depositions resulting from a court case between Bechtel Corp. and Portland General Electric that was settled out of court in 1981. The terms were not disclosed at the time of the settlement, said David Eagon, a PGE spokesman.

In 1978, problems in the design of the control building at Trojan were revealed to PGE by Bechtel.

According to testimony in the documents, PGE President Robert Short said Bechtel officials "described the problem as very severe. The direct quote is, 'This is the worst mistake we have ever seen in a construction project of this size.'"

Marbet obtained the documents Oct. 25 from an unrevealed source and said he has not released them until now because he was trying to determine the credibility and authenticity of the material. Marbet said he had to agree not to identify the source of the material in order to obtain it.

"We spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the material and also checking...to make sure that it was credible," Marbet said. "We have no more questions regarding its credibility. It speaks for itself."



Lloyd Marbet

Eagon agreed that the documents probably are authentic.

The documents were not to be released because of a federal court order sealing the documents as part of the settlement between Bechtel and PGE.

When PGE found out about the construction problems, the plant was shut down for annual refueling and maintenance, Eagon said. The press was notified immediately, public hearings were held in 1978, and it was determined that it was safe to run the plant while changes were being made, he said.

PGE brought suit against Bechtel Corp. in 1979 for costs incurred while making modifications on the nuclear power plant's control building, which had to be redesigned because of design flaws that were discovered after construc-

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Couple finds stolen lab rabbits abandoned north of Roseburg

By Sarah Kitchen
Of the Emerald

Four of the rabbits that were stolen in Sunday's laboratory raid have been recovered, but one is in serious condition, said Greg Stickrod, director of animal laboratory services.

"The rabbits were found by a woman and her husband on their way to church Sunday morning, probably just a few hours after the raid occurred," Stickrod said.

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The rabbits, taken during a break-in by a group calling itself the Animal Liberation Front, were found alongside a country road in the Ricefield area, just north of Roseburg.

"The rabbits had been dumped along the roadside, and they were huddled together in a group, and the woman just walked over and picked them up and put them in her car and took them home and took care of them," Stickrod said. It wasn't until several days later that the woman heard about the laboratory raid and contacted the University about the rabbits. The animals were returned yesterday.

Emergency veterinary care was needed once the animals were recovered, Stickrod said.

Stickrod believes that the other rabbits that were stolen have been let loose in the same area.

The rabbits are albino and have limited visibility, Stickrod said. They are particularly sensitive to light.

"The animals clearly had no idea of what to do out there. They just sat, and obviously any other dumped rabbits would do the same thing, and this would make them a real visible target for dogs, hawks, etc.," Stickrod said.

Earlier this week, People for the Ethical



Photo by Derrel Hewitt

Doug Miller, supervisor of lab services, cares for one of the rabbits stolen earlier this week and returned Thursday.

Treatment of Animals said there would be homes available for the animals, but Stickrod said that was clearly not the case.

Virtually all the stolen animals have been replaced and are being housed at other laboratories.

"The rabbits will be moved tonight, probably out of state to another institution" for security reasons, Stickrod said.

Sen. Dole stumps for Long during Eugene stopover

By Ted Fuller
Of the Emerald

It was the Republican party's turn to bring a famous face into the 4th Congressional District campaign Thursday as Senate Majority Leader Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., stopped at Mahlon Sweet Airport for a press conference with Republican candidate Bruce Long.

Dole's Eugene stop was one of many in a whirlwind tour of 11 western states in an effort to drum up last-minute support for Republican candidates. He was in Portland Thursday morning and off to California for more campaign stops on Friday.

"We're doing what everybody else is doing," Dole said. "I understand you had a visitor in town from the midwest yesterday," he added, referring to Colorado Sen. Gary Hart's campaign stop for Peter DeFazio, Long's Democratic opponent.

"We're getting down to the nitty-gritty, this is it," said

Dole, who ran for vice president on the unsuccessful Republican ticket with Gerald Ford in 1976. "We're trying to select areas where we believe we have good opportunities for victory. We checked with Republican campaign committees, and they advised us that this would be a good stop to make."

"They advised us that Bruce Long was doing an outstanding job," Dole continued. Looking at Long, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance and Agriculture committees said, "...you did a good job in the 1984 election, and you're on the right track when it comes to federal spending. We need you in Congress. We need some help on the House side."

"I certainly hope that Oregon understands that you have the two most powerful committee chairmen in the Senate of the United States," said Dole, referring to Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield, who heads the Senate Appropriations Committee and Sen. Bob Packwood, chairman

of the Finance Committee.

"I would guess if you could beef up your House delegation a little bit with Tony (Meeker, who is campaigning in Portland for the 15th District seat in the House) and Bruce, it would really be even more beneficial to the state of Oregon," Dole said.

Slipping into the spirit of a campaign the candidates have filled with as much mudslinging as personal platform statements, Dole didn't hesitate to take aim at Long's opponent.

When asked about Long's virtues and Republican principles, Dole responded that support of President Reagan would be helpful. "I understand your opponent (DeFazio)... when they asked him what percentage of the time he could support the President, he couldn't think of any."

"Now I happen to believe that we don't have to agree with Ronald Reagan on every issue," Dole continued. "But I do

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Photo by Sherlyn Bjorkgren

Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole was in Eugene Thursday to lend his support for 4th District Republican congressional candidate Bruce Long.