

DONNA IRVING opens the door. She's 35, petite, with a scrappy, high-strung manner. She's wearing tight jeans, and her dark curls are piled on top of her head.

ERIN

Hi. Donna Irving?

DONNA

Yes?

ERIN

I'm Erin Brockovich, from Masry & Vititoe?

DONNA

(a little surprised)

You're a lawyer?

ERIN

Hell, no. I hate lawyers. I just work for them. You got a minute?

INT. THE IRVINGS' HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The house is furnished with little money, but lots of care. Erin's on a plaid couch, in a sea of needle point pillows. Out back, two GIRLS, ages 9 and 11, are playing in a pool.

ERIN

This is a real nice place you got here.

DONNA (O.S.)

Well it oughta be, with all the work I put into it.

She comes out from the kitchen with a tray of iced tea.

DONNA (CONT'D)

I added air conditioning, put in the pool, made all those pillows by hand...

ERIN

Yeah? I should learn to do stuff like that. They make the place feel real homey.

Donna corrects the positioning on a couple of pillows.

DONNA

Thank you. I think so too. That's why I'm being such a stickler on this house price thing. I don't mean to be a pain in PG&E's backside, especially after all they've done for Hinkley, but I look around here and I think, if they want

files about them are in with all the real estate stuff?

Donna tops off their iced teas.

DONNA

There's so much correspondence, I just keep it all in one place.

ERIN

Right, but -- I'm sorry, I don't see why you were corresponding with PG&E about it in the first place.

DONNA

Well, they paid for the doctor's visit.

ERIN

They did?

DONNA

You bet. Paid for a check-up for the whole family. And not like with insurance where you pay, then wait a year to be reimbursed, either. They just took care of it. Just like that. We never even saw a bill.

ERIN

Wow. Why would they do that?

DONNA

'Cause of the chromium.

ERIN

The what?

DONNA

The chromium. Well, that's what kicked this whole thing off.