

DOCKETED

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From: Michael Shellenberger [<mailto:michaelshellenberger@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 4:05 PM

To: Weisenmiller, Robert@Energy

Cc: Cross, Catherine@Energy; Barker, Kevin@Energy; Romero, Jana@Energy; Mack, Grant@Energy

Subject: Letter from scientists & conservationists regarding Diablo Canyon

Dear Chair Weisenmiller,

Thank you for your stated commitment to strong climate action and clean energy.

Attached please find a letter to you from NASA scientist James Hansen, conservation pioneer Peter Raven, Stewart Brand and 50 scientists and conservationists from around the world, urging you, Gov. Brown, PG&E and other officials to use your powers to keep Diablo Canyon running, for the climate and for conservation.

Diablo provides nearly one-quarter of California's clean electricity. Diablo Canyon produces twice as much power as all of California's solar panels, 24 times more than all of our wind, and 40 times more than our largest solar farm, Ivanpah. (Data analysis attached.)

If Diablo closes, PG&E will replace the lost generation with natural gas, and carbon emissions will rise the equivalent of adding nearly two million cars to the road. Already California is highly unlikely to meet its 2020 climate goal. Carbon emissions would have to decline four times faster over the next five years than they did over the last 13.

Saving Diablo comes with an almost-certain conservation win: up to 2,000 acres of coastal land that would likely have to be purchased by Pacific Gas & Electric to mitigate Diablo's once-through cooling impact.

If Diablo were to close, 1,000 good jobs and \$1 billion in local and state income would be lost — mostly shipped to Texas, Colorado and the Dakotas in exchange for their natural gas.

Diablo canyon is considered by independent inspectors to be one of the safest plants in the world. It has been repeatedly investigated, up-graded, and certified as safe by the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which is one of the best, most competent, and most independent regulatory agencies in the world.

Irrational public fear of nuclear, not cost, is the main reasons that the percent of electricity generated from clean energy sources globally declined from 37 to 31 percent over the last 20 years.

California was a global leader in turning the world away from nuclear; it could be a leader in turning the world back to nuclear. California could show the world that its hope and commitment to a better world is more powerful than its fears.

You could help play such a leadership role. On a pure kilowatt-hours basis, saving Diablo Canyon would be the most significant climate action of your tenure. Your leadership would have

a positive, and historic, impact — not just in the United States, but globally as well. If Diablo closes, it will the result will be a net loss of clean energy during your tenure.

I thank you for your stated commitment to clean energy and climate change, and to your consideration of this critical issue.

The Save Diablo Canyon governing board and I are available 24-7 to meet or discuss any of these questions. My cell phone is 415-309-4200.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Michael Shellenberger

Michael Shellenberger :: Founder and President, Environmental Progress :: Tel 510-984-0076 ::
415-309-4200