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Diablo Canyon

The Commission's review of the Diablo Canyon power plant and license extensions should be based on facts. The ones I'd like to address are these:

Diablo is the largest single producer of low carbon electricity in the state. In California with its long term commitment to winning the race to reduce carbon emissions, closing Diablo Canyon is like trying to run that race on one foot. California won't win without Diablo Canyon. Closure will necessarily entail more use of fossil fuels either as prime generators or as a backup to wind and solar supplies. California is already behind other states on meeting climate goals so why arbitrarily make the situation worse?

Diablo Canyon is safe from the kind of disaster that affected the Japanese reactors at Fukushima. With an 80 foot rise above the sea to the cliff top at Diablo canyon, the plant is already much further above sea level than would be required to weather a tsunami like that experienced in Japan. Additionally, the NRC has repeatedly confirmed the seismic stability of the plant as well as addressing wave action from local faults. The risk just isn't there.

Diablo Canyon provides jobs - not only to the plant workers, which are highly paid technicians and engineers, but also to all the industry that supports the plant. Additionally it benefits the state economically as a whole with low cost, low carbon and most importantly dispatchable power.

I strongly encourage the Commission to support keeping Diablo Canyon open and supporting their license extension when it comes due.