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Preserve the Option of Clean Energy Generation from Diablo Canyon

I encourage the State of California taking prompt action to preserve the option of continued operation of Diablo Canyon. Many things have changed since the middle of the last decade when the decision to shut down Diablo Canyon at the end of its initial licensed operating period was made. Adjusting to changed circumstances is a hallmark of good leadership, and California needs it now. The electricity reliability situation is bad and will probably get worse, and California needs the 24/7 baseload generation from Diablo Canyon. Moreover, Diablo Canyon produces electricity with virtually no airborne emissions, which will help abate climate change.

It is not necessary to make a final decision on Diablo Canyon operation at this time. However, due to the nature of the nuclear regulatory process, action must be taken now to preserve the option of running the Diablo Canyon units after 2024 and 2025. As public servants of the State of California, you have an obligation to take prudent measures to allow for continued Diablo Canyon operation, if needed (which it almost certainly will be).

Finally, please do not be swayed by the vocal opposition of anti-nuclear activists. They do not represent the majority of Californians. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is an impartial regulatory agency with the mandate of ensuring that the health and safety of the public are protected. The NRC should have the final word on Diablo Canyon safety through its established and proven regulatory processes.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Steve Nesbit
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