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Diablo Canyon is vital to our clean energy future

Diablo Canyon produces 10% of California's energy, at a time when we are forecasting energy shortages. When I need air conditioning and air purifiers running to keep my family safe during heat waves and wildfire smoke season, and power outages are happening due to the strained grid, it frankly boggles my mind that we would be shutting down such a reliable power source. Struggling to cope with the heat and smoke will be the number one reason I leave the state for good if we put ourselves even further behind with this closure.

Diablo is also critical to achieving our environmental goals. It seems outrageous to even consider shutting it down in a time of shortage, but even in a time of abundance it would be a huge mistake to simply forgo so much clean energy. We could use it to solve so many more problems, for example desalination to cope with the drought, that even in the optimistic future where renewables and storage would meet our current energy needs without the need for fossil fuel backups, we should be thinking bigger. We are a long way from that optimistic future, so it makes even less sense to shut down a key source of clean power based on the hope that we might get there without it.