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## **Extending life of Diablo Canyon Power plant - opposing argument**

This proposed extension of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power plant's lifespan is, frankly, mind-numbing.

The last-minute, legislative trailer proposes a \$1.4 billion loan to PG& E so that it can extend the life of an aging nuclear plant for an additional ten years beyond its expiration date.

This plan will have a long-lasting devastating effect on Californians and the environment.

Here's why:

• The nuclear power plant is old, unreliable, and has suffered from years of neglectful, deferred maintenance.

• The plant is seismically vulnerable as it is sited near multiple, active earthquake faults.

• The plant's old (and now illegal) once-through cooling system will continue to suck in and spit out billions of gallons of seawater each day, further damaging the local marine ecosystem.

• There are no clear plans for future storage of the extra-high radioactive waste. Ironically, the life-support extension of the nuclear power plant will be exempt from CEQA environmental review because the power plant is not "new."

Cards well played.

To add insult to injury, the proposed legislative amendment coyly characterizes the expenditure of \$1.4 billion on an aging, radio-active nuclear power as an essential, transitional step to "clean energy."

That opportunistic, reframing of what is being proposed to the legislature is cold and heartless.

Here's an alternative suggestion for the State of California:

Spend \$1.4 billion dollars on renewable energy projects that will not have us glow in the dark in the case of an accident.

Respectfully submitted,

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