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*Comment Received From: Colleen McKinney
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21-ESR-01 - Save the Diablo Canyon Power Plant

Dear members of the California Energy Commission,

If we want to survive and thrive on Earth, we must dramatically lower our carbon emissions immediately. As we have seen in Germany, New York and California, when governments and commissions close nuclear power plants, the massive amount of carbon-free energy that these plants once provided is replaced in small part by wind, solar and/or geothermal projects and in very large part by the increased burning of natural gas—a fossil fuel that heats our atmosphere intensely and quickly. We can't handle any more climate warming. And we don't have the time, money or geographical space to implement enough renewable energy projects to replace what Diablo Canyon is generating now. The plant currently produces enough clean energy for 3 million Californians. If it is closed, the majority of its carbon-free nuclear power will be replaced by climate-altering natural gas. Closing the plant will lead to worsening climate disasters and the loss of countless local jobs and supporting businesses. According to a recent poll, 74% of San Luis Obispo County residents support keeping Diablo Canyon open, and 58% of Californians support the continued operation of the plant. Regarding safety, nuclear has been shown to be comparable to renewables. I urge the California Energy Commission to think about our very survival and support the continued operation of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.