

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	21-ESR-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Energy System Reliability
<b>TN #:</b>	245509
<b>Document Title:</b>	james Heddle Comments - Why I Oppose Extending Diablo's Operation
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	james Heddle
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	8/19/2022 3:57:38 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	8/19/2022

*Comment Received From: James Heddle*  
*Submitted On: 8/19/2022*  
*Docket Number: 21-ESR-01*

## **Why I Oppose Extending Diablo's Operation**

Statement of James Heddle " EON " The Ecological Options Network "  
EON3.org  
<https://www.eon3.org/>

The attempt to extend Diablo Canyon's operation in defiance of citizen opposition, public safety and common sense demonstrates two things:

• Nuclear energy is a quintessentially totalitarian and anti-democratic technology  
• Nuclear Revivalism is a religious cult

The late S. David Freeman - who oversaw more nuclear plant shutdowns in his career than any other nuclear administrator " put it this way:

"You have to understand, the nuclear industry and the people that run it " and I say this advisedly " they have a religious belief in nuclear power.

"So facts don't interfere. You know, religion is belief.

"They believe in nuclear power, and I'll tell you how it came about.

"It started off as a guilt trip.

"We got the bomb in World War 2, and President Truman said - right after he found out about it, he said - "We've got to make something good out of this evil."

"And so the whole nation started off with civilian nuclear power plants as a gigantic guilt trip.

"And so we overlooked the dangers inherent in it, and we thought we were doing something good."

Freeman knew whereof he spoke from a lifetime of experience.

He was involved in the negotiations that led to the Diablo shutdown agreement " approved by California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) - which nuclear revivalist cultists are now attempting to violate.

He would strongly advise against it.

We were privileged to shoot video interviews with Freeman in his various roles twice in

the course of our documentary productions. In his last interview with us he advised, "We need to phase out and shut down the 104 reactors in America. I will put it very bluntly. We need to kill them before they kill us."

### Early Warning

Arnie Gundersen is Chief Nuclear Engineer at Fairewinds Energy Education. Back in 2019 as the "save Diablo" campaign was just getting rolling in response to the shutdown agreement, Gundersen testified to the California Public Utilities Commission recommending shutting down of Diablo Canyon based on a Report Fairewinds did for the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace.

Arnie Gundersen, Fairewinds Associates, Testimony to the CPUC 2017-1-27  
February 01, 2017

<https://www.fairewinds.org/nuclear-energy-education/arnie-gundersen-fairewinds-associates-testimony-to-the-cpuc-31-1-17>

PDF of his testimony

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54aac5e4e4b0b6dc3e1f6866/t/5c4b70944ae237479f9d45b4/1548448017808/Full-Report-Arnie-Gundersen-Testimony-On-Retirement-Of-Diablo-Canyon.pdf>

An Executive Summary is here:

PG&E: Diablo Canyon Defers Millions Of Dollars Of Maintenance - Nuclear: California  
February 18, 2019

<https://www.fairewinds.org/demystify/diablo-canyon-deferred-maintenance>

An Analysis By Fairewinds Associates, Inc for Mothers For Peace

<https://www.fairewinds.org/demystify/diablo-canyon-deferred-maintenance>

Here is a link to the Full Fairewinds Report:

PG&E: Diablo Canyon Defers Millions Of Dollars Of Maintenance - Nuclear: California  
February 18, 2019

<https://www.fairewinds.org/demystify/diablo-canyon-deferred-maintenance>

These reports conclusively show that extending Diablo's operation is dumb, dangerous and tragically irresponsible.

### A Summary of Diablo Realities

PG&E has not maintained inspections and repairs at Diablo for several years since shutdown has been scheduled

Its components are degraded and rated as the nation's most embrittled

- â€¢ Its 2 reactors sit on multiple intersecting earthquake faults
- â€¢ An earthquake would likely exceed the aged plantâ€™s seismic design limits
- â€¢ Diablo does not meet â€œonce-through coolingâ€™ legal requirements
- â€¢ Diablo is deadly to sea life
- â€¢ The Diablo site has no space to store additional spent fuel from an extended operation
- â€¢ Reversing the shutdown process at this late date would be very high-risk and prohibitively expensive
- â€¢ After decades of denial. Nuclear Revival Cultists are now admitting â€œ actually as a selling point â€œthe fact that maintaining commercial nuclear power infrastructure and trained operators is vital to preserving nuclear weapons capacity.