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*Comment Received From: Nina Beety  
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**8-19-22 Comments to CEC, Diablo Canyon**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

August 19, 2022

Comments on Docket #: 21-ESR-01 Project Title: Energy System Reliability

To the California Energy Commission

These are follow-up comments to my public testimony at the August 13, 2022 hearing.

Diablo Canyon is unsafe and must be shut down now. It is not an energy option.

First, I and other Californians have been blind-sided by AB 205 and SB 180. AB 205 went from a complete re-write, to Gov. Newsom's signature in only 5 days. Why was the public never informed or given a chance to testify on this extremely important bill? Why weren't these issues raised beforehand? I object to the stripping away of due process from the public and local governments, and environmental protections, which appears to be part of each bill. These issues are too important to be left to Sacramento.

Secondly, Sacramento must address realities.

- 1) Delay electric vehicles and electrification measures until there are truly green, environmentally safe energy sources with which to power them. By continuing with your initiatives, you are pushing California into a dangerously energy deficient state.
- 2) Stop selling electricity out of state.
- 3) Don't blindly embrace technologies because someone with an investment interest called them "green". Sacramento and Washington has pushed "green" measures only to find them toxic. CFLs are one example; they are contaminating ground water with mercury, and their RF emissions cause health problems. Lithium ion battery storage is another alarming problem. In my community, two large battery storage facilities were sited in a corrosive marine environment, in a tsunami zone, next to earthquake faults, under Moss Landing power plant's very tall towers, despite that lithium is explosively flammable to oxygen, water, and heat. It is also subject to thermal runaway. Soon after starting, batteries overheated and the facility had to be shut down for many months. There was no transparency on the problems. Even our local CCA energy provider seems aware of the scant "greenness" to many technologies. Electric vehicles subject occupants and repair workers to high electromagnetic fields, and people are having health problems as a result. Industrial wind turbines also have significant health and environmental effects that lawmakers are not addressing. Truly green technologies likely exist, but at present, the only proposals are aimed at increasing the market-share of for-profit entities, who are incentivized by subsidies and tax breaks to build expensive, big facilities, and then leave, externalizing the ongoing costs onto the public and local communities. That further erodes trust in Sacramento and in "green" promises.
- 4) California must address climate change causers. One major cause is the aerospace industry and its rocket/space vehicle emissions that pollute the stratosphere with persisting water vapor, exhaust, chemicals, and re-entry dust, including alumina. This pollution not only destroys ozone and blocks the sun from replenishing ozone, but it traps heat from venting into space, creating a blanket effect. Experts are beginning to warn about this problem. Another major cause are the ongoing geoengineering programs. Public radar websites do not show or identify the large jets that regularly disperse spreading plumes high in the skies over our state. Researchers and whistle blowers have found these chemicals include aluminum, barium, and other substances for weather modification, sunblocking, and military uses. These metals and other substances trap and reflect back heat onto the Earth. The worsening weather and

temperatures are no surprise when natural processes are blocked.

5) Conservation. Education on conservation must be first priority.

6) Discourage energy-intensive technologies. That includes data centers. I remember when the power lines along the streets were considerably smaller in scale. Now, both consumer devices and technology rollouts are putting unprecedented strain on the grid and are unsustainable.

Next, I want you to consider the consequences if Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant explodes and melts down like Fukushima Dai-ichi did due to a power outage, earthquake, or PG&E mistakes.

If Diablo Canyon explodes, California's economy and future is gone.

– The cost of evacuation alone has been estimated at \$1 trillion.

– Farmland across a large area would be contaminated and unusable. That includes

Salinas Valley

Central Valley

Santa Maria

Santa Barbara

Ventura County

Vineyards

– Communities most impacted stretch from Salinas and Monterey across to Fresno and Bakersfield, and down to Ventura.

– Drinking water would be contaminated

– Marine life and fish would be affected and killed

– Tourism would be sunk.

– State products would be unsafe or deemed unsafe by consumers.

– A large section of State Highway 1 and 101 and the Amtrak corridor would be unusable, affecting commercial shipping.

– Fall-out would impact a wider area including Los Angeles and Hollywood.

– Soaring rates of cancers would occur in California and to marine life. Children would be at the highest risk of developing thyroid cancer and other health problems.

That would destroy California

When Fukushima blew up, Prime Minister Naoto Kan considered evacuating Tokyo and decided against it. There are areas in Tokyo that are as radioactive as around the Fukushima power plant. Monterey and all the communities I noted above are within the radius of that distance from Diablo Canyon.

The issues at Diablo Canyon include

– Unit 1 is embrittled.

– Diablo Canyon relies on grid power to keep reactor cores and spent fuel pools cool. In a power outage, generators must come on immediately and at full power, or the reactors would explode and meltdown. In 2014, inspectors found backup generators were inoperable. A power outage and broken generators caused Fukushima to overheat, explode, and meltdown.

– PG&E has had many safety violations, including 29 in 2014 alone.

– PG&E used the wrong engineering data on safety components, and hid it with the help of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

– PG&E has overcrowded spent fuel pools, and overpacked and incorrectly packed spent fuel in dry casks, risking explosion and a chain reaction nuclear disaster.

- The thin-walled dry casks are already showing signs of corrosion.
- Diablo Canyon is next to at least 13 earthquake faults.
- Diablo Canyon is in a tsunami zone.
- Diablo Canyon releases high levels of tritium, strontium, and cesium-137 into the ocean daily. Strontium mimics calcium and is called the "bone seeker".
- Diablo Canyon releases high levels of radioactivity into the air daily, and even higher levels during refueling once a year.
- Replacement fuel rods are transported along public roads, endangering the public, as is highly radioactive plutonium on its way to weapons manufacturing facilities.
- The once-through cooling system destroys marine life, and has caused a huge reduction of marine life along the coast.
- Diablo Canyon produces and stores deadly plutonium on site enough for hundreds of nuclear bombs.
- Highly trained workers are leaving due to the impending closure.
- The COVID crisis has put this work force under even more strain.

These are just examples.

California officials are not ignorant of the damage already resulting from this plant and the huge dangers from keeping it open. I understand the former PM Naoto Kan came to California and urged former Governor Brown to shut down the plant.

And due to the contamination to the land at present, this land may be impossible to repatriate to First Nation tribes. Independent evaluation would have to be done by those with no connection to the nuclear industry.

Every day, I and others hope there won't be an earthquake like Ridgecrest or Loma Prieta in the vicinity of Diablo Canyon. And every day, we hope that PG&E won't act true to form and make fatal mistakes at the plant.

However, the company's history includes Hinkley, San Bruno, Paradise, Northern California fires, and the Smart Meter roll-out which has harmed so many.

You are risking the lives of everyone and the environment by keeping this toxic plant open one more day. Nothing is worth that.

Shut down Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant now! And do not allow any more nuclear power plants in California. I urge you to put the Earth first in your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nina Beety  
Monterey