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Docket Number:	21-ESR-01
Project Title:	Energy System Reliability
TN #:	248983
Document Title:	Phil Damask Comments on Reliability of power supply
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Chester Hong
Organization:	Phil Damask
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	2/27/2023 2:27:20 PM
Docketed Date:	2/27/2023

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Subject: Reliability of power supply
Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023 7:59:47 PM

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California Energy Commission,

As you work to transition California electric energy supply it is very important that you develop a system that has high reliability. The citizens of the state will not accept an unreliable power supply. When the power supply becomes unreliable in the minds of the citizens is an unknown, but emotions can take over and a government can be voted out of office. If electricity becomes much more expensive the public can also revolt. Societies do make tradeoffs between what they spend on electricity and other individual or common interests. It is a huge challenge to transition just the electric energy needs of the citizens of California. When you add in trying to change the transportation sector to electric in addition to trying to reduce or eliminate natural gas you are heading for economic chaos.

I suggest you take a path that assures the people of California that you will take a measured path which is based on milestones before moving on to the next level so that people can have confidence that the state knows what they are doing.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip G. Damask

I spent 10 years in the PG&E Planning Department and developed probability based computer simulations to assess how system reserve requirements could be reduced by power pooling. We even ran studies of the whole Western Systems Coordinating Council assuming infinite bus inertias.

The systems you are trying to model today are much more complicated because the sustainable resources are variable and often dependent whereas we only had to deal with the independent forced outage rates of generating units.

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