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*Comment Received From: Ron Pomerantz  
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## **Cease operation of Diablo Canyon per 2016 Agreement and SB 1090**

Re. CEC Joint-Agency Workshop August 12, 2022

Good day Commissioners and other participants.

There are many reasons that Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant (Diablo) must be fully shutdown by 2025.

Diablo's two units are old and inadequate to withstand the potential earthquake that can be generated. Seismic upgrades and a closed-loop cooling system are long past due. Onsite radioactive waste storage must be expanded after 2025. Therefore billions of dollars are required to keep Diablo running past the 2025 closure deadline. Please allocate the billions the Governor plans to use for Diablo's license extension for the purposes of upgrading the distribution system, and building solar, wind, geothermal, and storage. Today August 10th the CEC adopted a report establishing offshore wind goals of 3 to 5 GW by 2030. Why not accelerate that timeline to have 2 GW by 12/2025 when Diablo is shuttered to make up for that lost supply?! The technology, money, and the will are all there.

The 2016 Agreement and SB 1090 gave NINE years to phase out Diablo Canyon's operation and bring sustainable sources on-line. The Governor believes Diablo is needed to prevent blackouts and brownouts. This is highly debatable. Besides the Governor should know there are still 2 years to get it right by investing the billions in renewable energy sources without endangering our safety, public health, and California's economy with the continued operation of Diablo.

The more likely problem of potential blackouts and brownouts is the distribution system. There is little debate that the distribution system is old, inadequate, and unreliable. It makes no difference if Diablo is operational if the distribution system is faulty. The antiquated distribution system is vulnerable to winds, downed trees, and fires. Why hasn't PG&E been diligent about working on this critical weak link in our electrical system? The Governor must be aware of distribution system's problems. Counting on luck is not a good policy to protect public health and safety, and the environment. Why even consider dropping billions of dollars down a rat hole on Diablo's 40-year old technology? Diablo's technology and structures were dangerous from day one. Diablo is even more a threat now. There are now 4 known earthquake faults when PGE said there were none. One fault is about 1/3 mile from the plant! Then there's wear and tear, embrittlement, and deferred maintenance. There's inadequate storage for the generated radioactive waste if operations were continued as storage is close to capacity. Additionally, in the current news nuclear power plants have become weapons of war and terrorism.

An issue not often discussed regarding nuclear energy production is roughly 40% of the world's uranium is located in Kazakhstan. Roughly 1/3 to 1/2 of the uranium fuel for reactors used in U.S. reactors comes from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Russia. How

reliable, and wise, is this fuel supply?! Remember how Russia recently cut natural gas supplies to the European Union putting their electrical production in jeopardy. Also, I would strongly say our utility payments not support known authoritarian governments who are human rights violators and oppressive to their citizens and workers.

Environmental justice is an important factor when your decisions are made.

I anticipate you will hold another public hearing after the governor presents legislation that could undermine the 2016 Agreement and/or SB 1090. The CEC must weigh in on any legislation that affects future energy production.

I strongly implore you to uphold the 2016 Agreement and SB 1090, and shutdown Diablo completely by 2025. I'm sure there's no need to remind you that Fukushima Roulette is sitting off the Central Coast of California.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful deliberations.

Ron Pomerantz

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