

DOCKETED

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*Comment Received From: Paris Ortiz-Wines
Submitted On: 8/11/2022
Docket Number: 21-ESR-01*

Shutting Down Diablo Canyon would be a CLIMATE INJUSTICE

To close Diablo Canyon, California's single, greatest source of zero-carbon energy, would be a climate injustice!

In the last three years, I have seen our Golden State fail to provide reliable, affordable, zero-carbon energy for its citizens. In the early fall of 2020, a widespread heatwave blanketed the Western front. During this time, California saw its first rotating blackouts since 2001, leaving nearly 2 million citizens without power for up to 24 hours "without notice! Limited in-state generation, overreliance on imports, technology malfunction, inadequate planning, and lack of supply left California short 4.4 GWs of power.

Over the past 40 years, California has confidently shuttered its fossil fuels plants, proudly shuttered its nuclear plants, relied on fluctuating hydropower, and invested heavily in solar and wind - leaving the state without zero-carbon, reliable energy. With the reduction of in-state generation, California is now the leading importer of electricity in the United States, receiving nearly 30% of its electricity from across state lines.

In 2021, Californians saw their electricity prices increase by nearly 12% to an average of 22.85 cents per kW; Citizens pay about 66% more for electricity than the rest of the country. As of March this year, 3.6 million California residents struggled to pay their electricity bills, totaling over \$1 billion.

In the midst of a global energy and climate crisis, WE CAN NOT AFFORD TO LOSE 15% OF OUR ZERO-CARBON ENERGY. The data is clear; When nuclear plants prematurely close, they are replaced with fossil fuels. When New York's downstate nuclear power plant, Indian Point, was prematurely shuttered, in-state carbon intensity increased by 35% in the first month. When the San Onofre Nuclear Plant was shut down in 2012, emissions in California increased by 37 Million Metric Tons of CO₂e.

If Diablo Canyon is shuttered, 15.5 million metric tons of GHG emissions will be emitted between now & 2030. However, delaying the retirement of Diablo Canyon to 2035 would reduce California power sector carbon emissions by more than 10% from 2017 levels and reduce reliance on gas, save \$2.6 Billion in power system costs, and bolster system reliability to mitigate brownouts, according to a recent study from Stanford and MIT.

How can California call itself a climate leader when it is prematurely closing existing clean energy infrastructure?

I urge you California leaders to follow the science. To enact a fair, sustainable energy transition, we will need nuclear energy. I ask that you support any law changes needed

to keep California's last nuclear power plant, Diablo Canyon, operating past 2025.

Sincerely,
Paris Ortiz-Wines

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

To close Diablo Canyon, California's single, greatest source of zero-carbon energy, would be a climate injustice.

In the last three years, I have seen our Golden State fail to provide reliable, affordable, zero-carbon energy for its citizens. In the early fall of 2020, a widespread heatwave blanketed the Western front. During this time, California saw its first rotating blackouts [since 2001](#), leaving nearly [2 million citizens](#) without power for up to [24 hours](#) – without notice! Limited in-state generation, overreliance on imports, technology malfunction, inadequate planning, and lack of supply left California short [4.4 GWs](#) of power.

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In the midst of a global energy and climate crisis, we cannot afford to lose 15% of our zero-carbon energy. The data is clear; When nuclear plants prematurely close, they are replaced with fossil fuels. When New York's downstate nuclear power plant, Indian Point, was prematurely shuttered, in-state carbon intensity increased by [35%](#) in the first month. When the San Onofre Nuclear Plant was shut in 2012, emissions in California increased by [37 Million Metric Tons of CO2e](#).

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I urge you legislators to follow the [science](#). To enact a fair, sustainable energy transition, we will need nuclear energy. I ask that you support any law changes needed to keep California's last nuclear power plant, Diablo Canyon, operating past 2025.

Sincerely,
Paris Ortiz-Wines
Berkeley, California