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Keep Diablo Canyon open for clean, safe, reliable energy

At a time when intense weather events are causing blackouts and threatening the reliability of California's electrical grid, the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant helps keep the lights on without emitting carbon. When nuclear power plants retire, their electricity tends to be replaced by natural gas which adds to the climate problem that California is actively battling. In fact, if Diablo Canyon is prematurely closed, it will be equivalent to removing all the wind turbines in the state. The fossil fuels used to replace this clean nuclear energy would emit 15.5 million metric tons of additional green house gas emissions between now and 2030.

A recent poll (https://carbonfreeca.org/poll-strong-local-and-statewide-support-fordiablo-canyon-nuclear-power-plant/) shows that 74% of San Luis Obispo County residents support keeping Diablo Canyon open and 58% of Californians support extending the life of the plant. Californians want clean abundant energy instead of "power down― efforts that are in place at critical times when families come home from work. If they are not able to "conserve― energy, they are penalized with high electricity prices. Let's invest in quality of life without making climate compromises by keeping Diablo Canyon open!

Keeping Diablo Canyon open requires no major updates to the power plant, no increase in electricity rates, and complies with SB100 which requires clean energy by 2024 and includes Diablo Canyon. SB100 was not in place when the original decision to shutter the power plant was made.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Keep Diablo Canyon open for clean, safe, reliable energy

To the California Energy Commission, the Office of Gov. Gavin Newsom, and the California Independent System Operator,

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Sincerely, Miriam Kreher Graduate Student MIT Nuclear Science & Engineering Department