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Keep Diablo Canyon Power Plant Operating for Californians (21-ESR-01)

California must currently balance the triple challenge of balancing its electricity grid, doing its part to combat climate change, and accomplishing both of these first two goals at an affordable cost. A study by researchers at MIT and Stanford has confirmed that it is cost-efficient and climate-optimal to keep Diablo Canyon operating. Numerous prominent energy experts and academics have advocated in a group letter that California and Governor Newsom to keep the power plant running.

Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant is a cornerstone of California's electricity system. The state is not remotely prepared to replace Diablo Canyon with new clean energy, and Governor Newsom and the CEC know this. Even if Diablo Canyon could be fully replaced with clean energy, this would merely represent running in place in climate terms, as maintaining Diablo Canyon while installing new clean energy would allow the state to retire existing fossil generating capacity more quickly.

In the name of California's electricity reliability, climate progress, and power sector costs, Diablo Canyon should continue to operate well beyond its current planned retirement.