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Laura Maish's Comment

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

As a concerned resident of the great state of California, I'm writing to strongly advocate for keeping Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) operational.

We are at an energy crossroads in California where the decision you make about DCPP will have a major impact on our future and the future of our younger generations. It is therefore a decision that requires big picture thinking.

Our culture in America has always been forward thinking. We thrive on innovation. The other side of that coin is a 'throw-away' culture. Out with the old, in with the new. The impulse to retire DCPP is understandable given this innate ethos in our culture. Alternative energy sources are exciting. They inspire us in the belief that humankind can solve any problem. And yet, these sources have not lived up to their promise. Intermittent, dilutive energy sources like wind and solar fail to deliver sufficient energy, when we need it, to be prosperous. NUCLEAR CAN.

According to [Energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov) "Nuclear energy has by far the highest capacity factor of any other energy source. This basically means nuclear power plants are producing maximum power more than 92% of the time during the year. That's about nearly 2 times more as natural gas and coal units, and almost 3 times or more reliable than wind and solar plants."

We cannot ignore that fact.

The State has already gambled with our energy resulting in brown outs and black outs, conditions more common in less developed nations but not acceptable here. We cannot afford to further wager our future. 40 million people depend on you making the right decision to keep DCPP operational.

- THIS SUMMER, we are forecasted to be [short 1.7 GWs](#) = power for 1.3 million homes. (This does not include intense weather conditions from heatwaves or dropped power lines from fires)
- California's Energy Agencies have concluded that the CAISO-operated grid will be [short 1.5 - 2 GWs](#) between now & 2026. The past two summers have demonstrated that additional sources of energy are needed to deal with intense weather events.

Looking to the big picture, California has competing energy goals: 1) Reduce/eliminate fossil fuels. 2) Electrify everything 3) Provide 24/7 clean energy to residents, businesses and farms.

Only NUCLEAR ENERGY will get us there, and we already have it.

- DCPP supplies enough energy for **3 million Californians**.
- Diablo Canyon is California's last nuclear plant & it produces **15% of our zero-carbon energy & 10% of the state's energy**.
- According to a recent [study from Stanford and MIT](#), **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.**

I urge you to show leadership and avoid putting the residents and prosperity of California at any further risk. Keep this powerful, well-run, safe source of 24/7 steady-state, clean energy in operation for the foreseeable future.

Nuclear energy is the inevitable future. The world will eventually wake up to it, when they can no longer ignore reality. Let's be smart and lead the world by getting there first.

In that spirit, I sincerely thank you for your service and dedication to our magnificent state and people.

Laura Maish