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Robert Duncan's Comment

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

From: [Robert Duncan](#)
To: [Energy - Docket Optical System](#)
Subject: Diablo Canyon Power Plant, 21-ESR-01
Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 12:51:40 AM

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I am a physicist (PhD, Cornell University, 1986) with a deep interest in global warming and the problems of energy decarbonization. I have done research work at Caltech and UCSB. I recently retired from the University of Texas at Austin.

I urge you to keep DCPD open, in order to avoid the massive carbon emissions that will inevitably result from firing up natural gas plants more frequently to replace DCPD if it is closed prematurely in 2025 as has been planned.

PG&E faces many challenges due to the warming climate, and due to the ongoing drought which is very likely to persist due to the northern movement of Hadley global circulation cells caused by global warming. These challenges are widely recognized; but my careful analysis indicates that PG&E's future baseline demand is still being underestimated due to: (1) The drought's effect on hydro power. Reservoirs in CA are severely depleted, and the only controllable renewable will likely stop renewing well before 2045. (2) Electric vehicle demand—PG&E is increasingly powering the transportation sector, with most people plugging their cars in at night. (3) Projected rising temperatures requiring more air-conditioning on hot days, and early evenings when solar power drops.

Under these circumstances it is important to use every available carbon-free energy resource. There is a real threat that if you close DCPD, rolling blackouts will ensue that will harm vulnerable Californians.

Thank you for considering these issues and for doing what is best for the people of California and for our planet.

Robert C. Duncan
Research Scientist in Physics