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Decommission Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant

In 2016 I was relieved when PG&E announced Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant would be decommissioned by 2025. Finally, we have come to our senses, I thought.

Now, with Governor Newsom pushing for the continued operation of Diablo, counter to his assessment in 2016, it is important to note that serious issues surrounding California's last remaining nuclear power plant have not somehow disappeared or lessened. Rather, they still hold true:

• Diablo sits very near several fault lines. A large earthquake or other natural disaster could instigate a catastrophic meltdown and the spread of radiation across the state and beyond. We've been lucky so far.

• We do not have a safe way to store high-level radioactive waste.

• Nuclear power cannot rightfully be considered "clean" energy. It may be "clean" in terms of "carbon-free" but not in any other way, including the centuries-long effects of nuclear waste and the real possibilities of a power plant meltdown.

With the climate changing so quickly, it's clear we live in perilous times. We can't afford to knowingly add more perils. We have to take our situation seriously and change our ways. To achieve climate goals, we can, for instance, learn to use less energy. We have to. In California, this land of sunshine, we can add solar panels to all rooftops. There are certainly many other simple and collectively powerful solutions other than bringing back to life a nuclear reactor that's a dangerous liability.

I urge you to support the decommission of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant by 2025 as agreed upon by many parties in 2016.