

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
MANUFACTURING



July 10, 1980

Mr. John Ahearne
Chairman, United States
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Ahearne:

The Board of Directors of the Santa Clara County Manufacturing Group believe that it is imperative that the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plants be made fully operational without further delay, and therefore urges the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to license them for operation immediately.

The Board has reviewed the California Energy Commission projections of electrical power capacity and requirements for 1980 through 1985 and are convinced that without the Diablo Canyon plants the electronics industry and other critically important California activities will be seriously threatened with power interruptions which would adversely affect employment, the economy, and the ability of California's industry to compete, both domestically and overseas.

We have also reviewed the California State Public Utilities Commission and PG&E projections. Although there is some disagreement among state agencies and PG&E as to the degree of power reliability and the amount of reserve capacity required, there is unanimity that peak reserve margins for 1981 will be below the level required to ensure against power outtages. Thus, as Directors of an organization of 65 companies employing 150,000 people in Santa Clara County, we are convinced that the Diablo Canyon power plants must be brought on line to prevent the high risk of very damaging interruptions in industry power supplies.

The Diablo Canyon nuclear power plants have undergone repeated safety reviews and have passed all of the stringent demands made upon them. Any further review would be redundant and could only serve the interests of those who oppose nuclear power under any conditions.

The Board supports the concept of diversity of power sources as a part of achieving high energy reliability, and supports nuclear power as one of those sources- particularly where these nuclear power plants are completed and ready for start-up operation.

In addition, the Board views intensive energy efficiency measures by industry and other users as essential elements in both the near and longer term solutions to our serious energy problems. In this regard, the Board pledges continued support by the Manufacturing Group to industry efforts aimed at promoting improved energy efficiency among member companies and their employees.

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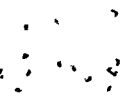
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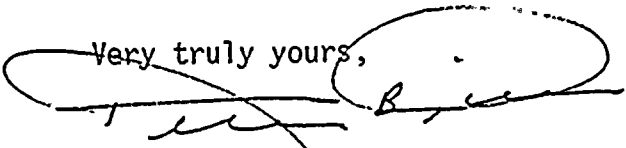


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Nevertheless, the Board agrees totally with conclusions reached by the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the Pacific Gas and Electric Company that conservation alone will not displace the need for the added generating capacity of the Diablo Canyon plants long planned for as essential to ensuring reliable power.

I would be most appreciative of information as to the current status of the licensing procedure and suggestions on how industry concerns can be most appropriately expressed in this process.

Very truly yours,



Peter B. Giles

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