

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE JV  
RM 5100 STATE CAPITOL BLDG  
SACRAMENTO CA 95814



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HAROLD DENTON, DIRECTOR OF LICENSING  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
1717 H ST NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20555

WITH REGARD TO THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONS CONSIDERATION OF A SHUTDOWN OF THE RANCHO SECO POWER PLANT, ESTIMATED CAPACITY MARGINS WITHOUT A FACILITY INDICATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SERIOUS CURTAILMENT OF SERVICE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

WITHOUT ADDITIONAL PURCHASES A MARGIN OF ONLY 0.98 PERCENT IS ESTIMATED FOR JULY. ADDITIONAL CAPACITY, WHICH WE CAN ONLY HOPE WILL BE AVAILABLE, WOULD BRING THE MARGIN UP TO ONLY 3.3 PERCENT.

THESE MARGINS ARE CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE AND DANGEROUS. THE COST OF THE PURCHASED CAPACITY COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL RATE INCREASES. SERVICE DISRUPTIONS WOULD HAVE SERIOUS ECONOMIC IMPACT UPON THE COMMUNITY.

THE NEED FOR A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF RANCHO SECO OPERATIONS IS UNQUESTIONABLE. A SHUTDOWN HOWEVER WILL IMPOSE A SERIOUS THREAT UPON THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE CITIZENS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

SENATOR ALFRED E ALQUIST  
CHAIRMAN, CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

19:27 EST

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