

From: Jordan Cunningham <cunningham.jordan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 4:52 PM
To: DiabloCanyonEnvironmental.Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Public Comment; ATTN: DCPP Draft Supplemental EIS

Dear Commissioners:

I am a former California Assemblymember, who represented the Central Coast from 2016-2022. My former district included all of San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County.

In my final year in office, I had the good fortune to be the principal co-author of Senate Bill 846, which paved the way to extend the operation of DCPP. I write in strong support of continuing the operation of DCPP.

DCPP makes numerous irreplaceable contributions to California. It is the largest clean energy producer in the state. It ensures reliability, providing roughly 9 percent of the state's electricity on a 24-7, baseload basis.

DCPP is a pillar of the regional economy. It is the largest private sector employer and provides thousands of head-of-household jobs. It is a major contributor to our local tax base and school system.

For California to meet its ambitious clean energy goals, we need DCPP. We saw what happened when San Onofre went offline, which was a massive spike in carbon emissions that lasted for a considerable period of time. This is largely because when nuclear power goes offline, the replacement power (especially at night) tends to come from natural gas plants.

Continuing the operation of DCPP is an investment in California's future. Electricity demands in California will only continue to grow. There are many drivers of future demand, including vehicle electrification, housing, hotter weather, computer server farms, among other factors. Now is not the time to be divesting from proven large-scale resources like DCPP.

A word about affordability: Californians already pay some of the highest electricity rates in the nation. Without DCPP's safe, reliable, and affordable clean power -- there would be added pressure on rates, saddling families with increased costs.

As an Assemblymember, I toured DCPP many times and attended many safety briefings. I was impressed with how safe and secure the facility is; simply put, the security at the plant is incredible. It has an almost 40 year track record of safe operation.

For these reasons and many others, I respectfully ask that you allow DCPP to continue to be a bedrock for the clean energy production that California desperately needs.

Sincerely,

Jordan Cunningham (Assemblymember, 35th District (ret.))

Jordan Cunningham

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