

August 26, 2022

RE: Plans to Extend Operations at Diablo Canyon

Dear Gov. Newsom and Legislators,

We write as climate and clean energy advocates, and former critics of nuclear power, to encourage you to exercise your governing authority to ensure the continued safe operation of the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant.

Our planet is burning and California is right in its path: drought, wildfires and fatal heatwaves are nearly daily headlines. We need to avoid every ton of climate-warming carbon pollution not just in the future but right now. Half of California's electricity still comes from fossil fuels and that number will go higher without Diablo Canyon.

Shutting Diablo Canyon will consign the next big waves of renewable energy in the state to standing in for Diablo's clean power, keeping them from replacing climate-killing fossil fuels. This needless bulge in our state's carbon emissions will persist until every kilowatt on the West Coast comes from zero- or ultra-low-carbon sources – which will take decades.

Diablo Canyon has a top rating for safety. Its resilience against earthquakes has been bolstered by unprecedented degrees of seismic protection and affirmed by decades of careful analysis.

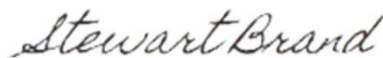
Others can debate whether to build new nuclear plants to combat the climate crisis. **But no one can deny that letting existing, well-functioning reactors like Diablo Canyon remain in service keeps fossil fuels in the ground and their carbon emissions out of our atmosphere. We ignore that benefit at our peril.**

Please use your executive and legislative powers to ensure that Diablo Canyon can continue in service and help defend our state, nation and planet against deadly climate change.

Sincerely,



Charles Komanoff



Stewart Brand



Armond Cohen

Charles Komanoff was a lead witness for ratepayer advocates in California's investigations of Diablo Canyon's cost overruns in the 1980s.

Stewart Brand is a futurist, cofounder of the Global Business Network and editor of the Whole Earth Catalog. His most recent book is [Whole Earth Discipline: An Ecopragmatist Manifesto](#).

Armond Cohen is President of Clean Air Task Force, a leading environmental organization focused on reducing the climate impact of global energy systems.