

San Francisco Gray Panthers

1182 Market Street, Room 203, San Francisco CA, 94102, 415-552-8800

CARA 2011 Convention: Protect California from Dangers of Nuclear Power Plants

1. Whereas: The Diablo Canyon and the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plants will have been in operation for some 40 years, their entire design life, when their operating licenses expire in the 2020s, yet their operators, Pacific Gas and Electric and Southern California Edison, are trying to extend their operating licenses for an additional 20 years,
2. Whereas: *The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has loosened, rather than tightened safety regulations as nuclear plants age, allowing more leakage from the thousands of age-associated problems discovered by a year-long AP investigation; yet all license extension requests for these forty year old nuclear power plants, at the end of their design lives, have been granted by the NRC.*
3. Whereas: *Over 30,000 mishaps with the potential of serious meltdowns occurred between 1979 and 2009 at US nuclear-power plants, in addition to common system failures,*
4. Whereas: *These plants are close to earthquake faults.* Diablo Canyon is only 2.5 miles from the Hosgri Fault, which had a 7.1 quake in 1927, and 1 mile from the Shoreline fault, and is close to the San Andreas fault inland. San Onofre is 5 miles from the Christianitos Fault,
5. Whereas: *These plants are operating close to population centers with no realistic evacuation plans.* Almost 93,000 live within 10 miles of San Onofre, and are at risk of inhaling contamination. 8.5 million, including San Diego, are within 50 miles and at risk of radioactive food or liquids. Diablo Canyon has 160,000 within 19 miles and 470,000 within 47 miles.
6. Whereas: *California's Lawrence Livermore Lab, which designs U.S. nuclear weapons, is a Superfund site, which by definition allows the EPA to compel responsible parties to reimburse the government for EPA-led cleanups,*
7. Whereas: *These plants produce and store nuclear radioactive waste, dangerous for tens of thousands of years, for which there is no safe or permanent disposal.*
8. Whereas: *Senior, environmental, scientific, physician, and peace groups oppose continued operation of these facilities, including 1,960 arrested protesting the opening of Diablo Canyon.*
9. Whereas: the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) "regulates privately owned electric, ... companies, (and) .. serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring the provision of safe, reliable utility service ... with a commitment to environmental enhancement and a healthy California economy", and "has authority over financial matters affecting the nuclear plants owned by the utilities it regulates"
10. Whereas: the California Energy Commission (CEC) "identifies future statewide energy needs, assesses the major energy trends and issues facing the state, and uses these results to recommend energy policies that balance broad public interests to conserve resources, protect the environment, ensure energy reliability, enhance the state's economy, and protect public health and safety."

Therefore, CARA resolves to

Demand the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) appoint an independent commission, not connected with NRC or nuclear corporations, to plan the shut down of Diablo Canyon, San Onofre and Livermore Lab, and the least dangerous possible solution for disposal of the nuclear waste;

Demand the CPUC and CEC redirect the proposed \$56 Billion for nuclear energy into development of wind, solar, fusion and other clean, sustainable energy, as well as conservation.

Signed September 16, 2011: Michael Lyon, SF Gray Panthers Co-Convener, 415-215-7575
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