

[EXT]REACH - Draft EIR Comments

Joshua Boswell <josh@reachcentralcoast.org>

Mon 9/25/2023 1:28 PM

To: PL_Diablo <PL_Diablo@co.slo.ca.us>

Cc: Melissa James <melissa@reachcentralcoast.org>; Julie Sinton Pruniski <julie@reachcentralcoast.org>

 1 attachments (94 KB)

REACH Comments on Draft EIR.pdf;

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached REACH's comments on the Draft EIR. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Josh



Joshua Boswell

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Ideas + Action for a Thriving Central Coast

September 25, 2023

Susan Strachan
San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning & Building
976 Osos St., Rm 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Subject: REACH Comments on Diablo Canyon Power Plant Decommissioning Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Ms. Strachan:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Diablo Canyon Power Plant Decommissioning Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

By way of background, REACH is a nonprofit, economic impact organization with a mission to increase economic prosperity on the Central Coast of California through big thinking, bold action and regional collaboration. The north star of our work is collaboration with business, education, government and nonprofit partners to create 15,000 good paying jobs in the region by 2030 and establish the Central Coast as a place where current and future generations have the opportunity to thrive. The economic and energy transition of Diablo Canyon — our region's largest private employer — has been a key pillar of our regional work.

The REACH 2030 plan, our guiding blueprint for regional action, calls for "ensuring that the massive, complex project of decommissioning the plant proceeds with maximum safety and efficiency." While plant operations are slated for extension in line with SB 846 and will provide continued economic stability for the region, we appreciate the significant planning and analysis reflected in this EIR related to decommissioning.

The REACH 2030 plan also calls for the transformation of Diablo Canyon and repurposing of existing facilities and infrastructure to ensure it remains an economic engine for the Central Coast. To advance these economic development goals, a Diablo MOU Group was [formed](#) in March 2021 and REACH coordinated a year-long process of community envisioning and modeling, including a stakeholder workshop in December 2021, resulting in an [open letter and vision](#) in May 2022 for the creation of a Clean Tech Innovation Park. A detailed [proposal](#) to advance this vision was developed and shared to inform economic development planning efforts under SB 846. REACH also led development of an [economic impact report](#) and [waterfront infrastructure study](#) to support more specific analysis of potential implications of offshore wind and related infrastructure upgrades. These efforts share common goals: to plan proactively for our region's economic future in tandem with plant operations and decommissioning, expand clean tech and climate resilience innovation on the Central Coast, ensure Diablo Canyon remains an economic engine for the long-term, and advance our community's commitment to land conservation and tribal celebration.

REACH

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We appreciate that the EIR highlights these extensive community planning efforts and reuse opportunities. Close coordination among all stakeholders in conjunction with extended operations and future decommissioning activities will be required to successfully implement any co-use and re-use initiatives, including retaining and repurposing existing facilities and infrastructure that will support continued jobs and economic activity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. We look forward to continuing to partner with the County, the Diablo MOU Group, and the Central Coast community to advance these important efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa James". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Melissa James
President/CEO
REACH

melissa@reachcentralcoast.org