## Transcript of the Proceedings of:

## **PUBLIC MEETING ONLINE WEBINAR**

PG&E DIABLO CANYON DECOMMISSIONING ENGAGEMENT PANEL

December 14, 2022



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      REPORTED BY ABIGAIL R. TORRES, CSR, RPR, RMR, FCRR
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DIABLO CANYON DECOMMISSIONING PANEL:
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     Chuck Anders, Facilitator
     Charlene Rosales, Panelist
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     Maureen Zawalick, Panelist
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     Bruce Severance, Panelist
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     Will Almas, Panelist
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     Linda Seeley, Panelist
     Scott Lathrop, Panelist
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     Kara Woodruff, Panelist
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     ALSO PRESENT:
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     Siva Gunda Commissioner,
     California Energy Commission
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     Dr. Robert Budnitz, DCISC
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FACILITATOR ANDERS: Good morning, everyone.

My name is Chuck Anders, and I am the facilitator of the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel, and I would like to welcome everyone to this informational meeting. I want to remind people that the information with regard to the panel and questions that were submitted to the panel prior to this meeting can be viewed at the Engagement's Panel website at diablocanyonpanel.org.

To begin the meeting, I would like to turn it over to one of our panel members, Charlene Rosales.

PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you, Chuck.

So, good evening, everyone, and thank you for joining the Engagement Panel this evening. We're glad you're here and online with us to learn more about the extended operation of Diablo Canyon Powerplant beyond 2025.

As usual, we first begin with our safety moment and some holiday tips for the coming weeks. So, you can stay safe on the roads over the holidays and every day by keeping an emergency kit with you, getting a good night's sleep before departing to avoid drowsy driving, and always buckling up, and putting the cell phone away. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission suggests decorating safely by keeping potentially poisonous plants like mistletoe, holly berries, and amaryllis away from children and pets. If using an artificial tree,

- check that is labeled "fire resistant," and remove live trees
  from your home when it is dry. Turn off all lights, candles,
  and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. And
  last, watch out for other fire starters by placing candles
  where they cannot be knocked down or blown over, using
  flameless candles near flammable objects, and avoid burning
  trees, wreaths, or wrapping paper in the fireplace.
  - Now, on to why we're here: an informational meeting on extended operation of Diablo Canyon Powerplant beyond 2025 as it currently relates to Senate Bill 846. SB 846 provided a financial and regulatory pathway to continue operations at the powerplant beyond the scheduled shutdown of 2024/2025 to support California's climate goals.

While the legislation provides a pathway, there are numerous activities and approvals that must be accomplished before Diablo Canyon would be able to continue operations beyond those years. Since the passage of the State bill, there has been relatively little information released to date regarding the -- regarding the status of these activities.

One of the primary responsibilities of this Engagement Panel is to keep the public informed on decommissioning, related requirements and events, so the Panel's hosting this online meeting to update the community on the implementation status of SB 846 and the -- and the implications on decommissioning activities and the decommissioning schedule,

such as for repurposing, land use, and environmental
permitting. The meeting will include presentations by PG&E,
the California Energy Commission, and the Diablo Canyon
Independent Safety Committee.

Prior to the meeting, the Panel solicited comments from the public regarding SB 846 so that the presenters could incorporate responses to the community's questions and comments into their presentations tonight. There will be no public comment period at this meeting as, again, it is meant to be informational until more -- more details for the path forward become available to us and the public in the coming months.

PG -- PG&E has also prepared a summary of SB 846 and the current status of activities, along with a number of answers to frequently asked questions. This webinar is being recorded and can be viewed at the Panel's website after the meeting, and a written transcript of the webinar will also be available in the coming days. All these resources are available on the panel website.

We encourage members of the community to continue to submit comments through the "Engagement Panel's Public Comment" form, which is also available on the panel website at diablocanyonpanel.org.

We received over 30 public comments on topics, maybe more, as the afternoon went on, including -- these topics included nuclear waste, safety, the role of various state

1 commissions, staffing of the plant, the -- the re-licensing 2 process, and environmental impacts and opportunities. These 3 comments were reviewed by the Panel and the speakers so they could address those in the speaker presentations and the Panel 4 members' comments this evening. 5 Before we move on to our guest speakers, I will open 6 7 it up to the Panel for any thoughts on the submittals we 8 received from the public. No comments, initially. All right. We will have time 9 at the end for that, as well. 10 So our next agenda item is the overview of SB 846 by 11 the California Energy Commission. Topics include funding, 12 13 accelerated permitting, conservation, and economic development. So I'd like to welcome Commissioner Steve Gunda for 14 joining us, and I will turn it over to you. 15 16 So thank you, Vice Chair Gunda. COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you so much for having the 17 18 CEC here. I'm -- am I okay to share the slides from my end 19 or -- that's okay? 20 FACILITATOR ANDERS: Yes. Go ahead. 2.1 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you. Just a moment. Thank 22 you so much. 23 Are you able to see the slides? 24 MR. LLOYD: Yes, we are. 25 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you. Thank you again so

1 | much for having the CEC.

We did go through some of the comments, and I will try to summarize some of them in the presentation, but look forward to the continued discussion. I'll make myself available through the end of the -- our meeting today to answer further questions from both the Panel and the public.

So with that, I wanted to start just with the quick kind of overview of kind of why the 846, 205, 209, and a bunch of other legislations have been set up or enacted over the last summer. And just a quick -- quick kind of update, review -- updated liability challenges that the -- the State has currently been experiencing.

So this is -- the way I'm going to talk to you is that it's a -- it's an amalgamation or a compounding effect of climate change under the liability. So here's the first part in a -- this is just kind of a way to explain. And in order to meet our planning standards, meaning, you know, we estimate the demand over the next 10 to 15 years in most of our work at CEC and PUC, the estimated demand and the CPUC goes ahead and authorizes a certain amount of procurement to ensure that we are meeting that levels of demand, and there are some planning standards which we do.

So the first part is what I'm kind of showing there, is the amount that we have to typically put in. What's happening recently is kind of the struggle with covering

changing conditions. So, typically, the procurement process takes about two years from start to end, and during that time, the initial conditions under which we developed the planning would change, and so the procurement that the CPUC authorizes doesn't necessarily capture the latest demand or latest climate impacts and such.

So the top little, you know -- that title that you're seeing is what we say is the amount that we end up not procuring. On the top of that comes, you know, the struggle with -- like, even after you authorize the procurement, are you able to build fast enough?

And the challenges with building fast enough comes from a variety of things that includes interconnection issues, permitting issues of new technologies and resources. It also comes from global supply-chain issues, a number of changing conditions in the market.

So there's always a little struggle with completely meeting the procurement that we authorize. So even if we plan to the standards, and even if were to authorize the procurement and build to it, the extreme (indiscernible) that we are watching right now is almost impossible to capture in the -- in the procurement we do.

And, oftentimes, the procurement has to balance with the ratepayer impact. So if you build for those extreme events that are only for 20, 30 hours a year, you know, it becomes

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really expensive for the repairs, and then you have to figure out other ways to cover them.

And, finally, the drought -- continued drought, you have limited levels of hydro production in any given year. Sometimes it's not really clear about our reservoir levels until April of a given year. So that's something that could change within a year of our outlook before the summer. And then fire events -- a big fire could knock out a transmission line on a generator, and we lose thousands of megawatts in a minute.

So what happened, you know, earlier this year was, like, really articulating those coincidental risks that we have in both meeting our planning standards but also the inability to build fast enough and cover these extreme conditions.

And what you're seeing at the top, you know, is really the -- the illustration of how much more resources we need in typically covering these reliability risks around needed peaks.

So the legislature then did four different bills that all kind of work together to help address the -- as stated, it's a number of tools, and 846 is one of them, and I'm going to cover that in detail.

But before I go in there, just a high level, within the 205 and 209 bills, it's primarily around providing the agencies with additional money to shore up additional resources beyond the planning that can help with the middle peaks coming

from extreme heat, drought, or fires.

It also provide a pathway for opt-in permitting to -with the spirit and goal of accelerating and permitting and -more projects. And then it provided also long-duration storage
energy money, and then requested Energy Commission to develop a
reliability report.

209 furthers some of those core issues and also provides additional funding for offshore wind and such. But, anyway, 205, 209 is primarily around helping -- how do we clean up quickly, providing resources, but also developing some of these funds to develop -- to support emergency peaks.

846, on the other end, provides some key issues which is, it sets in motion the analysis, conditions, and requirements necessary for an extension of the Diablo Canyon Powerplant through 2030, and it fundamentally has two objectives: tasks State agencies with determining the prudency of the extension, taking into consideration our reliability issues, as well as cost effectiveness and GHG goals; and, also, given the timing constraints of extending a nuclear powerplant, which has a lot of regulatory hurdles to jump through, provides the Agency's direction to take the relevant steps to keep the option of extending Diablo open beyond '24 and '25.

And then, finally, the extension is pursued that it directs primarily to CPUC to take actions to ensure ratepayer benefit, protection, and safe operations.

So then just kind of going into the top line, there is about 40 different activities. It's a very large bill. It directs, you know, enabling steps. It takes into account analysis. It takes into account agreements -- all sorts of things. But we have CEC, CPUC, DWR, and CNRA, primarily having multiple tasks to do and lead them, but then you also have CAISO, State Water Board, DOF, and a number of other entities called out specifically as part of 846.

Going into CEC tasks first, so CEC has to develop a reliability planning assessment which underpins the discussion around what is prudent to extend Diablo.

On the top of that, CEC has also given an opportunity to develop reliability, clean energy reliability investment plan of about a billion dollars to accelerate the clean energy resources so that, you know, we might not have the need for Diablo but, also, we ensure that the Diablo is now extended beyond 2030.

And it also has some other levers to pull such as load-shift goals and policies to ensure we have more tools in the toolbox to meet our clean energy goals rapidly.

On the joint agency reliability planning assessment, the first report was due on December 15, 2022, which is tomorrow. We have had delays in getting the requisite data from -- for places where we need to get to, and then really process them and ensure there are no mistakes in that.

So based on that, we are requesting the legislature that we, you know, delay it by a few weeks so we can, you know, go through the holidays and really submit it first thing

January, is our hope. So that's -- that's the recommendation that we have requested to the legislature.

So -- but it kind of takes into things -- a few things. Right? So it estimates electric supply-and-demand balance, first of all, over the next 3 -- 10 -- 5 to 15 years, and it identifies expected loads and resources, and it provides what the delays or barriers to bringing in a new supply could be, and recommends action to resolve them along with the potential actions of regulatory barriers.

So that's the report, and it has to be done on a quarterly basis. So now that -- once the first report goes in, as new data becomes available, that it's a new forecasting data, new supply data, we continue to update it and send it to the legislature on a quarterly basis.

Two, under Diablo Canyon Powerplant -- this is a big one. It's determine whether there's a potential for reliability deficiencies and whether extension is prudent.

That's a big task that CEC has, and we kicked off this work through a public workshop a few weeks -- a month ago.

And we have a public docket, and I'm happy to share that information with this group. And then I can send it for -- docket it here. The link to the CEC is 846 docket.

And it kind of asks to assess operations of powerplants; so, basically, looking in the past and seeing how often it was out, you know, in outages such. And it specifically requires us to look into alternatives for the extension, and then do a cost comparison of the alternatives with Diablo extension, and continue reevaluate cost effectiveness as more data becomes available and new data becomes available.

As I mentioned, along with that, a critical tool that the legislature has deemed important is really looking at the opportunity to reduce the demand through -- through demand load shift, so that will help obviate the need for some of the resources we might not want to continue in the long run. It's not just directed towards Diablo but also towards the OTC powerplants which are also seeking extension at this point.

And, finally, the clean energy reliability investment plan, it supports investments and take into account a few things: anticipated supply-and-demand needs for near-term and mid-term. And, again, it's a billion dollars.

The legislature is asking us to develop a plan to ensure that we can accelerate our clean energy goals, and so that's 100 percent zero carbon generation as quickly as we can, in concert with the GHG reduction target for the electricity sector as made in the scoping plan with CARP.

Here's a summary of the statutory deadlines, quickly.

- I know we primarily tested in the 846. The quarterly report
  starts middle of December. As I mentioned, we are delayed -we are expecting it to be delayed by a few weeks, again,
  through the holidays, and then submit it.
  - And then we have the Diablo Canyon. Specifically, our first report is due end of March -- the beginning of March, which is looking at the need for Diablo extension.

So that's when we complete an analysis. And over the time, we will have a couple of workshops. We will discuss the results, take public comment.

As a part of the previous workshop, we put out a request for information to gather different options that are alternatives. So we asked for what other alternative can be considered and what are the costs and how quickly can we scale those resources. Right. So one of the core issues is, if we want to scale these resources, they have to be done by '24-'25 time frame, and they have to be clean.

And oftentimes, the clean energy options, that we need to look into the alternatives, do not necessarily have the commercial scale- -- scalability at this point. But, again, that -- that's the information we wanted to gather to ensure that we do a robust transfer analysis and get public feedback.

And in July 2023, we send the report on the outages, and then the cost comparison happens in October 2023.

We -- recognizing that the -- the similarities between

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the need for Diablo extension with cost comparison, we are
hoping to, more or less, complete the requirements of the cost
comparison by March so we could at least provide a
comprehensive report first, and then use the October deadline

as a way to update that analysis if needed.

- And, finally, on the clean energy investment plan, this is -- again, we're looking for public feedback on how to spend the billion dollars, what the barriers are for clean energy progress in California and installations, and look -- and, really, developing a plan to the legislature so that they can appropriate the money down to CEC.
- Here's a quick overview of the CPUC requirements.

  Obviously, CPUC's given that regulatory oversight over the powerplant. Their primary responsibility is around making sure there is ratepayer protection if the DCPP is extended.
- So some of the key things is by 12/21/23, so

  December 31st next year, CPUC has to determine the final

  closure dates. This is not to look at dates beyond 2030 but to

  look, you know, if it's feasible -- based on the information

  that CEC provides, if they could close sooner. So that's

  the -- that's the determination there.
- They do have to open proceedings to make sure there is cost-allocation mechanisms and rate-recovery mechanisms. So that's all within PUC's broad domain.
  - They're also looking at, you know, putting up an

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independent safety council to attract qualified experts and require PG&E to respond to the findings and recommendations of the committee and distribute the responses to various public entities. This is an important thing.

As we ran through the DCPP extension process, the core pieces where, you know, there was an agreement prior and then honoring the agreements of the past was an important question to, you know, safety considerations and re cost effectiveness. Those were the three primary issues that were raised during the conversation around this in summer, and the legislature really tries to address all of them before a final decision is made.

There's explicit requirements to work with the native tribes -- the Native American tribes to make sure their interests are reflected along with the local communities, as well.

And one of the other things that I wanted to just raise is that, ensure that the energy capacities -- the third bullet point, ensure that the energy capacity or attributes of DCPP is excluded from all IRP portfolios by CPUC and other CPUC-jurisdictional...

So the point here was to continue to plan the procurement as if the Diablo Canyon is not there so that we don't have a situation where we -- we delay some of those procurements and, hence, you know, potentially be in a situation where the extension would be needed. So this is all

about deterrence to ensure that, you know -- that the State doesn't go back for an extension requirement.

And, finally, CPUC has also jointly with CEC provided the legislature, you know, the quarterly report that I mentioned, which we are doing this collectively and, in coordination with CEC, CAISO and DWR, submit a report to the legislature each year on the status of new resource additions and revisions, based on the State's electricity-demand forecast which comes from the CEC.

So overall, CPUC's -- you know, in summary, have a lot of requirements to ensure that they're continuing to procure without any delays, continuing to report on the procurement, of the status of the barriers, and ensuring that, in case of the extension, the ratepayers are really protected.

Finally, the last two slides here on the DWR front, it's primarily a vehicle for disbursement of moneys that were set aside to pay for some of the cost that PG&E might incur to keep the option of continuing Diablo. So this includes loading money to necessary agencies, but also PG&E compensating operators' performance, and then contracting for external expertise to help with this whole process.

And, finally, with CNRA, by, you know, January 1st -sorry -- January 31st, the CNRA has to submit the legislature
all actions necessary for extension of Diablo. This basically
is looking at a list, a roster of actions, you know, for Diablo

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- to extend every single action that we have to take across all the State agencies, what is that, and then send it to the legislature.
  - I know there was a specific interest on the land conservation and economic development plan. Thank for noting those. I will absolutely make available any information we have soon as we have it. But, you know, CNRA is the lead agency of that, and then they're working on developing that.
  - So, basically, at this point, the CNRA has, you know, reviewed and had some initial discussions with the agencies, but there aren't any substantive updates at this point. And they're currently gathering stakeholder input and, you know, as soon as that information is made available, we'll make sure the committee here is made aware of those information (indiscernible) any draft information. And for all deliverables, you know, CNRA, along with all the agencies, are supposed to ensure that there's a robust stakeholder participation.
  - So that's the overall summary. I know that we have a bunch of other presentations. And I will stay on the line to take the Panel's questions as well as questions from the public.
- 23 Thank you.
- 24 PANELIST ROSALES: Great. Thank you, Vice Chair 25 Gunda. We appreciate you staying throughout the meeting

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- because I'm sure that there will be questions at the end. So
  thank you for your presentation.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you.
- 4 PANELIST ROSALES: So, you're welcome.
- So, next we have a PG&E update on actions taken in response to SB 846, the Department of Energy funding application, procurement of nuclear fuel, and the used-fuel management plan. We'll also hear about the status of ongoing decommissioning activities.
  - So I'll turn it over to panel member Maureen Zawalick with PG&E for the update.
- 12 PANELIST ZAWALICK: All right. Thank you very much,
  13 Charlene.
  - Good evening, panel members and members of the public that are listening in to this webinar.

Sitting here, thinking back, last public meeting was before Senate Bill 846 was voted and approved and enacted, so there's a lot of updates that we have for you, actions that we've been taking for the different requirements of Senate Bill 846. So we want to go over those, as well as, you know, we're still on concurrent paths. So there's still decommissioning activities that we need to continue to pursue due to the various off-ramps in Senate Bill 846. Since the bill did not say, "Thou shalt continue to operate," we have some actions to take and so forth.

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So with that, I want to turn it over to Tom Jones,

PG&E senior director of regulatory, environmental and

repurposing, to go through more details of those actions that

we've accomplished, and next steps.

MR. JONES: Thanks, Maureen.

Good evening, members of the Panel and the public participating tonight remotely. I thought Commissioner Gunda did a fantastic job framing the global issues around SB 846.

I'm going to dive into some recent accomplishments.

We're the applicant in all of these processes, right, so we'll be working with a number of the regulators, both state and federal, in particular at this juncture to pursue and secure funding and authorizations that we'll go through here in just a minute.

Go to the next slide here.

Here's a list of recent accomplishments. There is a number of funding activities. We had a couple of questions from the community about, How does the funding work? I'll tell you that there are multiple funding mechanisms, none of which are operated the same way.

So we have the initial \$75 million that was a grant to the utility, and that was a no-regret strategy by the State to make sure that the window didn't close on things that have long lead time in nuclear operations, and that's common in all utility operations.

So think, uranium procurement for fuel assemblies.

Now, remember when we set the stage, the plant is typically funded through a general rate case before the Public Utilities

Commission in three-year intervals. We're inside of that time frame for the normal way that the State would adjudicate what's adequate for funding the operations of the utility, including Diablo Canyon.

So, in this instance, there was a grant issued that allowed us to procure things like uranium; and think dry cask storage, long-lead-time things, but the window was literally about to close two years out from Unit One. We didn't have fuel beyond its current license. Right? So that's what this type of thing was for.

We submitted to the Department of Energy after the Governor's office had advocated for some changes to make Diablo Canyon eligible. We submitted that application on September 2nd with the U.S. Department of Energy, that was ultimately deemed -- we were deemed to be an eligible applicant with a conditional approval, and the way that funding stream works is it's paid for performance.

So over a four-year period under this program, the utility can earn funds, so they'll then go back to offset the proceeds from the legislative action, the current \$600 million in next year to a legislative action. We anticipate the other \$800 million, totaling 1.4 billion.

When we go through this DOE process each year, when we're successful in that award, that offsets those costs to the State of California. So those funds aren't additive. That's been confusing for some folks. So just thinking it's almost a revolving funding mechanism between the State and Federal Government.

So the first -- so we've reached our contractual agreements with the Department of Water Resources, which is very critical to keep the project on schedule.

And with that, that also allowed us to staff up on our license-renewal organization, which now has about 40 people for the regulatory proceeding and the plant's implementation of extended operations and future regulatory inspections and needs.

So that's a big list. Our employees are excited about it. And we've also been able to augment our current employees with a number of recently retired PG&E experts. So we've had a rush of support from former employees and the industry alike to make sure that we can help California meet its future energy needs.

Additionally, we filed a licensing action with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. We requested a couple of things when the NRC had its first meeting on our licensing process last week on December 8th. And Phillippe Soenen and Randy Lopez represented the company, and there was some tough dialog

1 | around what the strategies would be.

In short, we'd ask for two things: Reinstate our previous application that we submitted in 2009; we will update that if they approve that action. And we've asked for a timeliness extension from the NRC. And the NRC recognizes this isn't a licensee that is not submitting an application five years prior to the end of the license date, but a significant shape -- shift in state public policy.

So they'll evaluate a timeliness exemption, as well. They'll do that probably in the course of the next three or four months. But, again, their meeting was on December 8th.

So those things are moving along quite well. I believe those are the first sets of hurdles, and we've cleared them to be available to again provide for the State beyond our operational licenses.

If we go to the next slide, please, Chris.

Here's some things on the road ahead in addition to the things that the Commissioner described. And so this first bullet, we just got an update, right, that this is going to extend to January. And then in December of this year, we anticipate submitting our first regulatory filing up to the State of California jurisdictions that are affected by the extended operations. And that would be to the California State Lands Commission to amend our lease.

Remember, from the median high-tide line out, those

properties, both above and below water, belong to the people of California, and the California State Lands Commission is the landlord that issues leases to private parties like PG&E to occupy that space.

So if you think about our intake and our discharge structures, our water, our pier, our docks -- those types of things are all in that jurisdiction. You might also remember that that lease was modified a couple of years ago; that by August of 2023, we had to update the State Lands Commission about our decommissioning plans.

The State Lands Commission has been participating with the County of San Luis Obispo in creation of the Environmental Impact Report, as has the Coastal Commission. Those three entities have a memorandum of understanding to produce that document so that one environmental document -- think of a three-circle Venn diagram -- will serve all three of those regulatory proceedings. It's a particularly thoughtful and complex project, and the agencies have done a nice job with that.

With that, if you go backwards from the statutory timelines for review in Senate Bill 846, that means we need to submit about now so that they have their 180-day clock, because I still have to satisfy the lease requirement that's in August of 2023. Right. So we're only eight, nine months out from some of these deadlines that exist today, but now have a

1 | commingled effect with the new legislation. Right.

So we're not exempt from processes. The legislation directed agencies to act quicker on our applications because of the short time frame to get approvals, because 2024 -- you know, we're less than two years out now from the expiration of the Unit One license. Okay.

Couple of other items here. PUC will open a new proceedings the next quarter. The Commissioner did a nice job of explaining those things. The NRC, again, in that same time frame, we expect them to issue guidance to us on which regulatory proceeding and the path for licensing for Diablo Canyon they want us to follow.

And then we'll be filing -- one thing of importance is the qualified employees, we'll need to retain them. The legislature and Governor recognize that importance, and there will be a new proceeding about employer retention and recruitment programs. We expect that to happen early next year.

And then, lastly, the legislature will take action -- I mentioned it earlier. They bifurcated the funding in two tranches. Last year was 8- -- \$600 million, and then the subsequent action through the state budget process most likely will be an additional \$800 million to match the forecast needed to operate the facility.

If we go to the next slide, please.

Maureen touched on this, but, you know, we're asked to do two opposite actions, and we'll know one of them to be true two years from now, and that is, Does the powerplant continue to run in an extended-license fashion, or do we go straight into decommissioning?

So we're maintaining both functions because while it's been portrayed at times that SB 846 is a done deal and the plant's going to run, we heard earlier additional needs assessments; there's subsequent legislative actions required. So we can't, certainly, take for granted that that's going to occur. And our commitment to this community was, we want to go directly into decommissioning once the facility is no longer in use.

So that's another reason why we're maintaining the dual track. So we are -- of course, our commitment is to continue with this Panel. We have another update later on this evening, the status of our Draft Environmental Impact Report and those actions.

There is a synergy between the planning for both of these things, and that is under the National Environmental Protection Act. We do have to have updated environmental information. The NRC considers that information still if it's five years old or older. So, clearly, we're past that from our original application and those updates up to 2016.

However, a lot of that identical work we did for

decommission planning. Right? Remember updating this panel and regulators about our endangered-species census, for instance, where we found black abalone in our breakwaters, those types of things.

So we're not starting at the starting line with that. We have a lot of research and a lot of work that we've done that will benefit our customers and this process by carrying that data over into the subsequent new processes that we need to face.

So that's the quick update on that. There are a couple of other topics here listed, one of which was an "updated used-fuel management plan." The shorter answer is, we're still evaluating what that is, and we have to plan for multiple contingencies on used-fuel management.

So in working with our contractor, Orno, about how we would do that, the interesting thing is if we load -- excuse me -- if we have extended operations, we won't be unloading as much fuel as fast because of some subsequent regulatory requirements. The loading campaign will be much smaller.

And the way we have done it historically -- you know, think approximately 10, 12 casks at a time to maintain the spent-fuel inventory to allow for operations; whereas, our previous decommissioning strategy was to unload each pool in consecutive order in one loading campaign that was quite lengthy, you know, close to a year.

So there are changes, but the technologies will be the 1 2 same. We're still evaluating how we're going to implement that for both potential outcomes. When we have a final plan with 3 that, we'll update the NRC, the DCISC, and this panel, as well. 4 But we're still evaluating what those options are. 5 And we're 45 to 50 working days from the passage of 6 7 this legislation. So we're building the teams, and we're 8 evaluating the technical options to make things even more safe. 9 With that, I'll hand it back to -- I think Charlene is chairing the meeting tonight. 10 11 PANELIST ROSALES: All right. Thank you, Tom. Thank 12 you Maureen. I appreciate it. 13 So our next agenda item is to hear from the Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee and its oversight of 14 extended operations, including the maintenance program, plant 15 16 staffing, seismic review, and the independent peer review 17 panel. 18 So for this presentation, we have Dr. Robert Budnitz 19 with the Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee. 20 Thank you, Dr. Budnitz, for joining us again. And you 21 can take it away. 22 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: Can you hear me clearly? PANELIST ROSALES: Yes. 23 24 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: And you can see me? Because I'm 25 going to talk without slides. So if you can see me, that's

1 great.

My name is Robert Budnitz. I'm one of the three members of the Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee, and we're a state-level committee appointed by the state officials, three of us: one appointed by the Governor, one by the Attorney General, and one by the chair of the Energy Commission.

We've been in existing over 30 years, and our fundamental mission, just to paraphrase it, it is we review the operational safety of the powerplant, and we make reports about the operational safety of the powerplant in our public meetings, and we write an annual report that is publicly available.

We write factfinding reports when we go to the plant practically every month, and we have public meetings in which members can come and listen to presentations from PG&E and others and ask questions.

We're, by the way, the only committee of our kind anywhere in the county. There is no other nuclear powerplant in the country that has a committee like this in which members of the local community can come and ask questions the way we do. We're proud of that -- of that very separate and special status that we have.

It's also important to understand that the scope of our review is not just the reactor. We review the operational safety of the spent fuel, and recently we've taken on reviewing

the safety of decommissioning.

As Tom Jones said, we are keeping that decommissioning track of going and reviewing what they're doing because we don't know -- nobody really knows yet which path it's going to be. But we've been doing the reactor, the spent fuel, and decommissioning right along. And we have the public outreach.

Now, that -- that review has been -- that review mission, operational safety, has been going on for more than 30 years, and it hasn't changed, and it's not going to change.

But now we have a special new assignment under SB 846. Basically, the question that the SB 846 legislation asks -- asked of us is whether the plant can operate safety beyond 2024-'25. They want us to evaluate that and report about it.

It's something we've been thinking about right along, but that's a special requirement in the legislation. And it also mentions in the legislation two specific topics that we are under obligation to review carefully and specially, and one of them is the seismic safety of the station, and the other one is to review what SB 846 calls "deferred maintenance." I'll talk about that later. It's actually a misnomer. But it's in the legislation. I'll talk about that.

And if there are any safety enhancements that DCISC determines are necessary in order to operate safely beyond 2024-2025, then we're going to describe them, explain the rationale, and write them down and write a report that then

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necessary, then we'll say that.

- becomes publicly available. And, of course, members of the
  public will have a chance to critique that, as will anybody
  else in the world, before we publish it in our public process,
  and then we'll send that forward. If, in fact, we find just
  the opposite, that there isn't anything that is really
  - Now, there's an important caveat. Our members and consultants are not engineering cost experts. We're not in a position to review any of the cost issues related to anything that we might recommend.

Suppose we recommend that such-and-such is needed.

We're not in a position to say whether it's going to cost -
cost a trillion dollars or a thousand dollars. I mean, I'm

joking, of course, because those are vast extremes. But we're

just not in that position. It's not something we're going to

do.

By the way, our committee operates with not just the three members, but we currently have three consultants, technical -- call them highly skilled with the -- national reputations, who assist us and, in fact, do as much work as the committee members do.

And then we have the administrative and legal office, too, that helps us. And that -- that's the Diablo Canyon team that worked together to make all this activity come together.

So let me turn to the questions that were asked of us.

Seismic safety, that's the safety of the nuclear plant. And, by the way, the spent fuels -- against large earthquakes. Well, the DCISC has been reviewing seismic safety right along on a continuing basis. We've been reviewing it since the committee was formed about 30-something years ago.

And as recently as 2015 and 2017, the PG&E did a comprehensive report published in 2015 that took a few million dollars and a whole lot of experts that reviewed and came up with the latest understanding of what the seismicity is around the plant. That is the seismic sources, the faults, and the other seismic sources, and how the ground motion propagates from the sources to the plant and that sort of thing. And they published that in 2015.

And then in 2017, they published a safety report we called a "probablistic safety assessment" -- "seismic probablistic safety assessment," in which the plant report -- how that all comes together to understand what the seismic safety of the plant is and what the exigent sequences are that might occur, and what the systems are to make sure that those things are very low probability.

Well, in 2015, the PG&E published that report, and we reviewed it thoroughly, and it was really a topnotch job, and it's nice to be able to say that. In 2017, they published the probablistic safety assessment. And, again, we reviewed it, and, again, it was a topnotch job.

And when I say that for you, speaking from the Diablo Canyon Safety Committee, it's fair to say that it was peer-reviewed by experts all around the country, and everybody agreed -- it's nice to be able to say this -- that -- that those reports were sort of gold-standard reports in the sense that they're as good as anybody does, and people around the country emulate them in terms of the quality of the technical work and so on. So at the time, those reports were the latest understanding of seismic safety just a few years ago.

And we also had the benefit of the Nuclear Regulatory
Commission review them, and found them not only adequate but
excellent. And the State of California has an independent
peer-review panel that reviews the seismicity and ground-motion
aspects of those of -- of those technical things, and they were
reviewed it too.

And so there we were in 2017 feeling that the -- that the plant had done an excellent analysis and, crucially, that the plant was safe enough; that is, the seismic adequacy of that plant was, in our -- in DCISC's opinion, also the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's, it exceeded our expectations for what a plant needed to do to be adequately safe.

And something that's bothered me right along is, for example, there was a public comment by somebody that wrote in that says -- this person said, "I've been convinced right along that that doesn't meet seismic standards."

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Well, I don't know where that comes from because I've been on this committee for 15 years, and it's met seismic standards all the way along, and the NRC has been saying it's been meeting the seismic standards since it was licensed. 4

Well, no matter, anyway. The question is: What is it today? So we are initiating right now our review to see whether anything is different or changed, or any new information, or maybe the configuration has changed, or maybe there's been some other changes that would make us revisit that -- that conclusion back five, six, seven years ago, and -and come to some different conclusion.

We're right in the middle of that. We had an in-depth factfinding visit in November just a few weeks ago, a couple of us at the station with a half a dozen of PG&E's experts. got a whole lot of reports that we're reviewing. And sometime -- we expect perhaps in February -- we're going to have a report on the seismic safety that -- that I'm not going to promise, but that's what we're pointing toward -- as to -as to the -- what the DCISC thinks about the seismic safety of the station up to date.

Now, there's going to be more information coming along because PG&E -- in SB 846, PG&E is committed in the bill to perform updated safety review, and when they do, we're going to -- the seismic safety review, and when they do, we're going to review that too. So that will be another update.

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And then they're going to submit everything to the NRC, and the NRC is going to do a review again. And we're going to review that again. So there's going to be plenty of opportunity, plenty of review of that subject. 4

Let me turn now to deferred maintenance. It's the other topic that we were called out specifically to review. And when I say it's really an incorrect term, and the reason is because the thought just -- just -- it isn't right.

Let me describe. Since the announcement when the plant was -- several years ago, the plant was going to shut down in 2024-'5. There had been a lot of changes to maintenance activities at the station. Many of them were part of a broad industry initiative called the "preventative maintenance optimization project, " PMO. It was an industry-wide initiative to take the lessons learned all around the industry and optimize how preventative maintenance was done, and PG&E did that too.

And since that time, many aspects of the broad category of maintenance -- lots of different kinds of maintenance changes were made. Many of them were not made because of 2025 looming, but some of them were.

And in every case -- and this is important -- there was no maintenance that was not done that was required to be done. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has a maintenance rule. We at the DCISC have our own standards about how much

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1 | maintenance should be and what it should be.

And every single item in the plant -- it's a pump or a valve or it's an electrical system or a tank, whatever it happens to be -- has certain maintenance requirements, and we have reviewed them. DCISC has reviewed them over these years, item by item. And we have a solid basis for being able to say that we don't know of any item in which the maintenance -- the maintenance protocol in that period had been compromised. It's just simply not the case.

The "deferred maintenance" words sound pejorative, and it's really not fair in the sense that we didn't see anything in which those changes to maintenance that had gone on had been negative, had been unacceptable.

So when we say that -- that -- this is, of course, about a year ago, the last time we looked at it carefully -- that we thought that the plant's proposed approach was acceptably safe, the crucial thing is we've made that conclusion on a defined and documented basis. I want to say those words again: a defined and documented basis.

So that we're just not making a judgment out of, you know, sitting there, thinking about it a little bit, and then coming up with something. It's all been documented, and we've seen the documents, and we've reviewed them, and we've written about them in our factfinding. We've talked about them often in our public meeting sessions three times a year, and the

1 | public had a chance to interact.

So we actually don't know -- although we're going to look at it again carefully, we don't know of anything important in which there has been a maintenance change over the years in which the maintenance change has been a compromise of safety that wasn't accepted. We just don't know that. Right? We don't think we missed anything. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has the maintenance role, and they enforce it, and they haven't seen anything either.

Now, crucially, there's an important distinction here. There have -- they did defer some capital projects, several of those. Back in 2016, they had a whole lot of capital projects. They were thinking the plant was going to run another 20 years after 2025, which is almost 30 years after 2016.

So they had a whole bunch of capital projects that they were going to do, and they can't -- they not just deferred them; they cancelled some of them, or they deferred or canceled. It's almost the same thing. And in every case, the DCISC reviewed each one of them, one by one. We concluded that it was sensible to defer them and it was not a safety compromise.

I'll just give you one example. The plant had over a -- for a long time, a plant process computer system called Eagle 21, which was a Westinghouse system, and it's used all over the country in Westinghouse plants, which was a system in

which the plant process computer kept track of all the
different parameters in the plant, enabled the operators to
understand things in a unified, carefully thought-through way.

But Eagle 21 was getting old, and the PG&E said, "If we're going to run this plant another 30 years, we really ought to replace it." So they had a project getting going to replace it. And along came the decision, and they said, "We're not going to replace it because it'll take two to three years to replace it, and we'll only get five years of the new system.

Let's just run with the old one." And they decided to do that.

We reviewed that carefully and decided, concluded that that was an adequately safe conclusion. It was the deferred capital project, but it did not compromise safety, and there were a whole bunch of those.

Now, in this next round, PG&E is going to be revisiting that, and I'm going to talk about that in the next -- next little discussion here just briefly. Simple enough.

With this new change and their different planning now,
PG&E has just put together a program that a couple of us -- not
I, but a couple of my DCISC colleagues were out at the plant
last week. They're unveiling a new program called PMO.
Remember, it was called "preventative maintenance
optimization." It's called PMO Optimization Project Plus Plus.
It's a new project. They're calling it PMO Plus Plus. It's a

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four-month effort between now and the end of March to develop a
plan for a long-range assurance for the whole scope of
maintenance. It's very ambitious.

What they intend to do, they explained to us, for each different item that needs maintenance -- it's a pump or a valve or it's a tank or it's an electrical system or whatever -- they're going to examine the long-term maintenance plan and either conclude that it's adequate; or if it isn't, what long-duration changes, or maybe even short-duration things are needed to assure that it's appropriate or safe and a reliable operation long-term.

It's a very ambitious project that's been -- it's going to comprise dozens of different experts, because different people know different things about different things out there at the plant. We're going to review it carefully. The schedule's hard to know, but they mentioned last week to our -- to my colleagues that it's sometime in the spring. And we're going to review that carefully.

So I'm talking out of school because PG&E will have to tell you about this in detail. We didn't even learn much about it in detail. It was just in introduction.

But the plan is that at the end of that, they will know, and we'll review what the maintenance plan is for every one of those important systems and functions and items out at the plant, dozens of them, and we'll have a chance to review

1 it. And the NRC, I'm sure, will review it, too, if there are 2 any changes to be made.

So in answer to the question, what do we know about the details of this maintenance situation? We're going to know a lot more in a few months than we do now, we at the DCISC. Heck, the plant is going to know a lot more, and they're going to share it with us.

And there's one other thing about that topic, and that is that in the Bill SB 846, PG&E is committed to commission a study by independent consultants to review the broad issue of deferred maintenance, and it's right in the bill. And when they do that, there's going to be a report and, of course, we'll review that whenever it comes out.

And then, finally, on that broad topic, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, of course, has its own regulations to meet for this extension, and they're going to be doing a whole lot of reviews, and we're going to be -- we'll have the benefit of them, and we're going to look at them and see what we can learn from them.

Way back in 2009 when PG&E submitted the first license-renewal submittal that then was -- was superseded by the decision, they submitted a license-renewal submittal. The NRC staff reviewed it in 2011 and issued a safety evaluation report which was largely favorable. And we'll have the benefit of that because we have it, although it's -- a lot of it's -- a

1 | lot of it's still pertinent, and some of it is out of date.

But they're going to submit a new one by the end of 2023. They've already committed to the NRC on the schedule like that. The details are still to be worked out. But when they submit their new license-renewal application, updated, in late 2023, we're going to have the benefit of that too. We're going to look at that, and the DCISC will do an independent review.

I just have one more topic, and I'm done. It's crucial, and it has to do with staffing. You can't run a nuclear powerplant without very competent staff, and I can report to you today that PG&E has a very competent staff out there. Everybody agrees that it's great. And they have retained them because of programs that were very, very carefully put together over these last half-a-dozen years to make sure that they retained them.

And just -- just a month ago, I was out at the station with one of my colleagues, and we reviewed the staffing plant for -- for -- for operations in the control room, because you can't run a plant without them. And they had routinely had classes in -- classes -- every year or two, they have a class to turn out another half-a-dozen or ten operators, licensed operators, because they have to keep the staffing up.

And they reported to us that they have a plan to have new classes just starting up so that they'll be sure that they

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- have adequate staffing of those operators and senior reactor
  operators and so on. It's been an ongoing concern right along,
  and it looks like that's going to be in good shape, and we're
  qoing to continue to review that too.
  - Now, there's more to staffing than just the operators, of course. There's the rest of the staffing. There's maintenance, and there's engineering, and there's radiation protection, and there's security, and there is a whole -- a whole lot of stuff.
  - Well, one of the things that gives them a great leg up is that they've been able to retain very strong staff till now. It's great that they have because they'd be in trouble if they didn't, and -- and it looks like they're going to be able to retain them right through this next period. We're going to watch it carefully. We're not the only people watching it carefully. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is watching it carefully. Of course, PG&E itself is watching it carefully.
  - But it looks like that staffing thing is going to be okay, and that the actions that they have taken to date are laying the framework to keep that staffing competence where it needs to be.
  - If that's true, great; if it isn't, we'll call attention to it, as will others. So we're going to continue to review that regularly.
  - And I'll just go back over to my summary. We're going

1 to review staffing. We're going to review the maintenance 2 activity. We're going to review seismic. We're going to 3 review the broad -- the broad scope that we've always reviewed, which has to do with the general issues of operating the plant 4 safely. And we're going to continue to do all that work, and 5 we're going to write reports, and those reports are going to be 6 7 publicly available, as they always have been, and they can --8 always will continue to be. 9 We're going to hold public meetings in which any of you -- anybody can come. Anybody in the public anywhere in the 10 world can write us a letter, and we'll log it in, and if it 11 12 asks for a response and needs a response, we'll respond to it 13 not just in the public meetings, but offline; we do that. And so we're here to have this public outreach 14 function, to do the safety reviews, and I hope that we're going 15 16 to be able to satisfy the -- the new requirements of SB 846 the 17 way we'd like to. 18 Thank you very much. PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you, Dr. Budnitz. And I 19 20 believe that you'll be tuning in for the remainder of the 2.1 meeting --DOCTOR BUDNITZ: I'll be here. 22 PANELIST ROSALES: -- as well available for questions? 23 24 Great. Thank you. 25 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: Yeah. By the way, I went over, but I

1 knew that we were ahead of time. 2 PANELIST ROSALES: You got it. Yes. 3 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: And I'm here. PANELIST ROSALES: And you still kept us on time, so 4 thank you. 5 So, now, for the next item, we have an additional 6 7 update from PG&E on the California Environmental Quality Act, 8 permitting status, and schedule, including the status of CEQA 9 review, and changes due to SB 846. 10 Maureen? 11 PANELIST ZAWALICK: Yeah. Thanks again, Charlene. I'm going to turn this right over to Tom Jones to save 12 13 on time and so we can hear some questions and so forth. And so Tom is going to give an update on the California Environmental 14 Quality Act, permit status, and anything else related to that 15 16 matter. MR. JONES: Thanks, Maureen. 17 18 So this will give some time back, probably, for 19 Dr. Budnitz for questions 'cause I don't think this will take 20 ten minutes. 2.1 What is the status of the CEQA review? That's the California Environmental Quality Act. That's really shorthand 22 23 for the application we have before the County of San Luis 24 Obispo. And, remember, they have jurisdiction both from the 25 coastal zone, from the terrestrial areas, and there's some

exclusive jurisdiction up by the switchyards in our higher elevation. That's a 300-foot plateau back by the switching yards.

And I mentioned earlier, they're doing -- they're administrating the draft of the Environmental Impact Report in consultation with their -- the two other agencies, the California State Lands Commission, the California Coastal Commission; and they're supported by Aspen Environmental, who are actually experts in the Environmental Impact Report process.

Most notably, Aspen put together the Environmental Impact Report for the State Plans Commission for the successful permitting of the San Onofre decommissioning activities. So it's a twin-unit pressurized-water reactor on the coast of California. It's very analogous to our project. So they have a well- -- a well-seasoned team to do this.

Now, we've had updates from the County and PG&E before about that timeline, and we were anticipating a Draft Environmental Impact Report to be released by the County to the public either in December or January. The County was talking, remember, about winter.

Recent conversations with the County, that looks like that's going to slip to April. We're, in working with the County on a regular basis, providing additional information that they need from us as the applicant. We hope that to come

forward, but we did have tolerance in our planning for that

outcome. And so while we'd like it sooner, the most important

thing is to get the document to you robust.

And when that document is issued, it's subject to an open, public comment period. And under the Environmental Quality Act, the County is obligated to respond to every comment it receives and evaluate that before they produce a second version that would be available for adoption through the county approval process.

So we're coming close to the important milestone. It slipped, it looks like, 60 to 90 days. It's a little disappointing, but it's certainly understandable with how complex of a project it is. And, again, we're working in consultation with the County to see if we can recover some of that time.

And the reason I say that, it goes back to the earlier illustration I showed the Panel and the public tonight that we are still planning for dual-track extended operations and decommissioning. So we don't want to lose project schedule for that.

This agenda item also says, What are the changes in relation to SB 846? And I'll give you an example of one where that could actually be favorable to the project. So the plant runs beyond the current licenses. We've maintained the current approval path, but we can change some of the phasing.

You might recall from the project, we were going to build, for instance, a new training facility for our security officers, a new firing range up the hill. We were going to build a new security building in the future.

So instead of having that in an 18-month type of project schedule, we can change the phasing and have that while we're still operating, but do that construction at a different pace but still be ready.

There's things that we could begin to work on like shipping the legacy components that we have. You know, we have the old steam generator storage facilities.

So even with extended operations, it doesn't mean we can't start some prudent decommissioning activities under the authority of those permits that we would obtain from the California Coastal Commission, the County of San Luis Obispo, and then the least requirements from the California State Lands Commission. So that's in flux.

We, as an applicant, will also have to react to what's in the Draft Environmental Impact Report, as will members of the community and this panel will want to see that.

So right now the forecast is to begin April.

Hopefully, that changes a little bit earlier, but if it doesn't, we know where that lays.

So that's the brief update. There's not a lot else going on with that because that's the next major milestone

1 -- milestone. That's the next thing that's going to drive the
2 next thing. How about that? So that's where we're at with the
3 process right now.

PANELIST ROSALES: All right. Thank you. Thank you so much. So -- and I'd like to thank all of our presenters this evening, members of the public who submitted questions, and who are attending online.

I will now open it up to the Panel members for discussions, questions, and comments.

Go ahead, Bruce.

PANELIST SEVERANCE: Yes. In reading the text of SB 846, there are numerous places where there are provisions for cost comparisons to other generation and storage deployment in the state, and in order to do that cost comparison, there would need to be an open and fair accounting of all of the anticipated maintenance and operating costs at Diablo Canyon. There's also provisions that suggest that certain cost thresholds are not to be exceeded.

The question I have is -- and this is probably best directed to PG&E -- is: How are you going to address the requirements for cost effectiveness in this cost comparison to alternative deployment of generation capacity, and how are you going to show spreadsheets of what you're anticipated operating costs are in a manner that also doesn't infringe on fair competition? It seems like there's also a requirement for

1 that. It would have to be done with a spreadsheet that shows a 2 high and low figure for operating; you know, cost ranges for various line items. 3 Is that going to be an open public document that 4 5 allows CPUC, CEC, other entities, CAISO, to evaluate what the 6 opportunity costs are? 7 PANELIST ZAWALICK: All right. Thank you very much, 8 Bruce, for the question. So as Tom mentioned, there are various different 9 10 funding sources to address the continued operations of Diablo Canyon, including the \$1.4 billion loan that we executed a 11 12 contract with the Department of Water Resources that has the 13 oversight over that. So we have a contract with them. Part of that contract is, you know, the truing-up and 14 review of the costs and making sure that we're coming in within 15 16 our financial projections as we evaluated the continued-operations costs and transition costs and the 17 18 licensing costs for Diablo Canyon, including fuel and -- and 19 dry cask storage and other things that Tom had mentioned. 20 PANELIST SEVERANCE: So those will be public-facing 21 documents? PANELIST ZAWALICK: Those will be documents that are 22 23 under our contract with the Department of Water Resources. 24 Tom, I don't know if you want to add anything else?

PANELIST SEVERANCE: So that means that they're not

1 public-facing documents? 2 MR. JONES: I'd actually defer to the Commissioner --3 PANELIST ZAWALICK: Yes. MR. JONES: -- if he's still on, to address how they 4 intend to do the cost comparison, because that's not an 5 activity that's going to be conducted by the utility. The 6 7 objector regulator is going to do that, and we will provide the 8 regulator information for our costs. But they're looking 9 across the marketplace broader than just PG&E's generational 10 assets. 11 PANELIST SEVERANCE: Okay. Thank you. 12 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: If I could just add to that. 13 We definitely are looking for PG&E and DWR and CPUC. We're all going to collaborate to make sure of the costs as it 14 pertains to the Diablo Canyon extension. Our operations will 15 be reviewed in contrast with many other alternatives. 16 So as I mentioned earlier, we are creating -- we've 17 18 developed a notify process, a request for information where we 19 ask different alternatives that are offered by entities out 20 there to provide how many megawatts that they could really 21 build over the next couple of years, and some of the costs. So we just -- we closed that. We are reviewing the information 22 23 right now, but we'll also be looking into existing resources 24 like, you know, Lazard and Endrail [verbatim] and other places 25 where we can get cost information to try and develop a

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1 comprehensive set of alternatives that are looked under a 2 variety of attributes including cost, ability to interconnect 3 quickly, ability to meet the GHG goals of the State, as well as reliability, amongst others. 4 So, you know, we are going to do the cost comparison, 5 and that analysis we're going to put out will be a public 6 7 process. 8 PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you so much. 9 Bill? PANELIST ALMAS: Thank you, Charlene. 10 11 I want to make a short statement, and then I have a question. You know, I looked at the comments that we received 12 13 from the public, and I am also cognizant of how many people tuned in today, the number of people, somewhere north of 100 14 watching or listening to us. 15

Many of those people have questions, and we're not actually answering those -- many of those questions directly, and I wanted to address that a bit. We're not the group to address many of the questions that have been addressed to us.

We -- our remit is decommission. And so -- and as you've heard from Dr. Budnit and -- Budnitz, I'm sorry -- and also the Commissioner from California Energy Commission, they are the right -- those are two of the right sources of information for those questions.

I think that for that reason, in reading through 846,

Bill 846, that -- and looking at the amounts of -- of budget that are provided to the regulatory agencies, and the money provided to PG&E for -- for purposes of this extension, that a public liaison should be -- there should be a beef-up in staff at these agencies. We need to -- there needs to be an attempt to answer -- even if it's a very cursory answer, answer everyone's questions concerning this extension.

Then I -- then I have a question that's somewhat related, and that is, this is an extremely compressed time frame to begin with. We're -- Tom has mentioned it several times. We already have a delay from California Energy Commission.

If it's like any other project -- regulatory project I've ever been involved with, there will be other delays. The difference between this and a lot of other projects is that there is hard date out there that energy has to be produced or not.

And so for Dr. Budnitz, do we -- if you have to hire additional staff, if you have to hire additional consultants to meet the timelines that this is going to require, how do you do that? Do you have that budget? Do you have a mechanism? And what is that mechanism for -- for, really, getting in there and answering these questions before the re-licensing takes place?

DOCTOR BUDNITZ: This is Bob Budnitz. I can answer the budget question easily. We have a sufficient budget, and

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the legislation actually tells that to its commission to make sure we do, if we ask for more.

But, Bill, we do. We actually believe that we have enough staff. There are -- between the three members and the three consultants that are really topnotch expert consultants, there are six of us, and we believe we can carry out this mission in the allotted time.

The reason why it's not as complex as you'd think, as you would think, is that there's hardly a system or an issue there that we haven't been reviewing right along for the last bunch of years.

If you look at the particular issue just, for example, auxiliary feed water pump liability, you can find we've reviewed it four times in the last ten years. And there are a hundred things like that. Some of them that are really troubling, or we thought they were, we reviewed ten times in the last ten years; and some of them that are in great shape, and we haven't reviewed them that often.

So we think we have enough staff, expertise, and time. It's nice to be able to report that.

We did an evaluation in our last public meeting in October, and we're continuing to do it again. We're going to do another evaluation at our next public meeting in February. And you, members of the public, can attend and listen.

I'm confident that that will be okay, but if it turns

out that it isn't, we'll jump right up and see what we can do. 1 2 I don't think that we would have difficulty staffing with additional staff if we needed it, but I'm hoping that we'll be 3 able to do it without it. 4 5 Thank you. 6 PANELIST ALMAS: Thank you. 7 PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you, Dr. Budnitz. 8 Linda? 9 PANELIST SEELEY: Thank you. I have a couple of questions for Vice Chair Gunda. 10 11 I'd like to ask you -- hello? 12 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yes, I'm here. 13 PANELIST SEELEY: You mentioned that you are -- you have 48 actions or there are 48 actions across multiple 14 agencies that have to be monitored. 15 16 Who -- is there a person who does that? Or how -- how does that get monitored? 17 18 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yes. So the totality of the 48 19 tasks, as I mentioned, the primary focus areas are to DWR, CEC, 20 CDC and CNRA. And we have an interagency reliability 21 coordination group that meets once a week for updates, including updates on 846. And then we have a monthly and a 22 23 quarterly meeting. 24 And our hope as a part of our quarterly reports is to 25 provide updates on anything that we need to flag along the work

plan that we need to do collectively. And there will be also reports developed by NCRA, which is the parent agency, that will be putting together some of the reports as well.

But overall, the coordination currently happens through the reliability coordinating group, participation of the Governor's office.

PANELIST SEELEY: Thank you.

And, as you know, you've probably looked on our website and you've seen that we have lots and lots and lots of questions from the public. The public doesn't have input into this meeting tonight.

Is there a particular way that a member of the public can get in touch with the CEC? And is there a -- how would a member of the public do that?

COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah, absolutely. And, really, thank you so much for raising the issue, and that's a theme I heard from many of you today. And I think that's -- as a state agency, it's extremely important. And as one of the members, I know that the condensed timeline to be as transparent as we can.

So we do have a public docket at CEC for which I will send an e-mail with links so that that could be docketed within your public docket as well. So we have a docket where most of those comments and questions have been coming, and the notices for these workshops that we are holding are noticed.

So we do have also list serves that CEC sends them to.

We would love to include your list serve that you might have,

and send that information actively. And we also have a Public

Adviser's Office. And I will send that information to you as

well.

So the information I promise to send would be the docket information, the public officer who will be in touch with you as the primary contact, and if you are able to send your list service, I will ensure that your list service is included in all communications that we send henceforth.

PANELIST SEELEY: Thank you.

And one last thing. I have read in a lot of places that having Diablo Canyon online interferes with having the renewables come online because it takes up so much of the electrons in the grid, or however you say that.

And I'm wondering -- now, I remember that you said that the operation of Diablo Canyon is not going to be figured in when you do the assessment of the -- of the renewable resources that are becoming available, and battery backup and all that whole conglomeration.

But is it -- is -- okay. And you also said that the -- you had those -- that -- in your grid that you showed, there was a -- you had made a little pile that was up above the pile already of the different factors that -- that affect how much energy we -- we need.

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I don't -- what I don't understand -- can you really
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 2
     do that? Can you really figure it out?
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              It seems so complicated that it doesn't seem like you
     could really know. That's --
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              COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah.
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              PANELIST SEELEY: -- my question. Can you really,
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 7
     really, really know if you need Diablo or not?
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              COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah. You're absolutely right in
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    kind of framing the question. Let me try to answer as well as
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     clarify what I said, and then welcome your further questions on
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     this.
              So the first one around whether continuing operations
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     of Diablo through 2030, potentially, would impede the
     development of offshore wind in that area. The answer, you
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     know, preliminarily that CAISO has been on record is no, based
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16
     on two things. One, given the transmission that exists today,
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     even if Diablo were to be operating, you could connect, you
18
     know, in excess of 2,000 megawatts of offshore wind to that
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     location today.
20
              Given that, you know, we're talking about six to
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     seven years from now in terms of offshore wind at development
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     cycle, we don't anticipate, you know, anywhere close to that
     level of development to occur even in the best of cases. So
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     the existing transmission would not be an inhibiting factor for
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     the development of the offshore wind.
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Two, you discussed, you know, would it potentially reduce other variables, you know, or constrain the deployment of other variables. When we look at how the transmission -- transmission wires and, essentially, the pipes are laid out, right, so the flows have to take into account, you know, how much can flow in and out of those existing transmission lanes.

And given the current interconnecting queues at CAISO, CAISO's preliminary determination that they put in a public record was that it would not impede the development of other renewables, given the timelines of interconnection that have been requested in the current clusters. Right.

So we do not see either the renewables or, specifically, offshore wind being deterred by the extension of Diablo, based on preliminary analysis.

Having said that, as a part of the -- of work that CEC is now interested to do, we will have public comment, as well as public kind of vetting of the analysis to ensure that those statements are true, and I will be reporting that in our March report.

So that's kind of what -- so, two, as for what you mentioned about, we are not going to take into account the Diablo extension. I just want to make sure that I clarify that. What I meant to say is that while Diablo is there, the procurement that the CPUC is going to do will do as if the Diablo is not there, so that they don't, you know, slow walk or

1 | slow down the procurement cycles of the clean energy resources.

So it doesn't -- it doesn't mean that we're not going to take into account, you know, Diablo when we're doing the analysis of the power flow and such; you know, the movement of the electrons and such. But we will be not not taking into account as it persists -- as it pertains to authorization of more procurement. So that's number two.

And then, finally, on the broader tools that we currently have, the agencies, the CAISO, the stakeholder such as PG&E and IAUs [verbatim], all of us have very complicated tools that really model the flow of electrons on an hour-to-hour, even in sub-hour flows, based on that idea of conditions and the generation profiles of the idea of generators. So we do that. Right.

So I think the final event comes to your final question on prudency: Would we really know if Diablo is needed? I think, you know, as you said, we will be looking towards a public process around that. You know, there will be analysis that develops a variety of scenarios under which the State might have reliability issues.

And based on that and based on the public input, the Commission is going to determine -- you know, again, it's any public process, you will have -- you know, oftentimes we have unanimous decision-making on some things. And this is a particularly complex issue, and we'll be looking to experts on

vetting the information, and public comments to vet the information as the analysis becomes available before such work is taken at the Commission. So that's the broader process.

And, you know, absolutely would love to engage with you and your colleagues to make sure that we translate the information in an accessible way to answer the questions you might have.

PANELIST SEELEY: Thank you.

PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you.

10 Kara?

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PANELIST WOODRUFF: Thank you, everyone.

So, before this meeting, the Panel asked the public for its comments and questions, as you all know, and I think we've tried to answer a lot of those today. And I think what I'm hearing on the number of items like deferred maintenance and dry cask storage and the impact funds and workforce training is that we don't know the answers today. Reports will be done within the next year or so, public workshops will be held, and information will be made available.

But I still think there's a handful of issues that we should be able to get answers to tonight that haven't been answered. So what I'd like to do is ask about six questions and really drill down on the answers to these outstanding questions that I think the community is asking for.

So I wanted to start with: What time period will be

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1 license renewable -- renew process by PG&E anticipate? So, for 2 example, SB 846 anticipates the closure of the plant by 2030. That would be a five-year extension. We know when the NRC 3 recently came to town, they told us that most operators seek a 4 5 20-year-license extension, but you don't have to go to 20 years; that's the max. 6 7 So my question for PG&E is: What license-extension 8 time period do you plan to put in your application? That's my 9 first question. 10 PANELIST ZAWALICK: The NRC's process and review is for a 20-year review cycle, so we would be submitting a 20-year 11 12 one. But we have to also meet the State of California's 13 regulations and energy policies, and that is for five years. So the State holds the keys to Diablo Canyon, so we 14 would only operate for five years. The NRC standard review 15 process is a 20-year application. 16 PANELIST WOODRUFF: So PG&E will be submitting a 17 18 20-year-license renewal? 19 PANELIST ZAWALICK: Yes. 20 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Okay. Thank you. Under SB 846, there's a covenant that PG&E will 2.1 conduct an updated seismic assessment. 22 23

And so the question is: How will this covenant be implemented? Who is going to oversee -- or review the PG&E assessment? And will there be independent, third-party peer

1 review of those assessments called for in SB 846? 2 PANELIST ZAWALICK: So we're currently in the planning stages of that assessment. Dr. Budnitz talked about that in 3 his remarks. We will be seeking as much independent review as 4 possible for that, and the covenant is with the Department of 5 Water Resources, and we'll also be going over that with them as 6 7 well. 8 PANELIST WOODRUFF: So when you talk about third-party 9 review, who would you hope to seek to provide that? 10 PANELIST ZAWALICK: We're currently evaluating a 11 number of industry experts and other -- other experts in that 12 area. So still we're under the plan. Like you said earlier, more to come and more information coming over the next year. 13 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Okay. And the third-party review 14 would be, presumably, by people who don't already have a 15 16 connection or an employment-contract relationship with PG&E? PANELIST ZAWALICK: I don't know that right at this 17 18 time, no. 19 PANELIST WOODRUFF: I mean, generally, when people 20 talk about independent third-party review, that's what they 21 mean, is that the people that are preparing the assessment and 22 the people that are reviewing that assessment are totally 23 disconnected professionally. 24 PANELIST ZAWALICK: Well, I look at the Diablo Canyon 25 Independent Safety Committee as an independent committee.

However, they're funded by, you know, rates and by -- you know, 1 2 administered by PG&E, but they are very independent. I don't know if, Dr. Budnitz, if you'd like to add 3 more to this discussion. 4 5 PANELIST WOODRUFF: So I guess that --DOCTOR BUDNITZ: It depends on who -- on who the 6 7 people are. Just to -- can you hear me? 8 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Yes. 9 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: Just to give an example. PG&E did a very huge multimillion-dollar assessment of the seismic sources 10 and the seismicity around the plant in 2013, '14, and '15. 11 12 They engaged about 20 experts of their own, but then they also 13 engaged a group of six or seven outside experts who were independent of both the experts doing the work and of PG&E. 14 other words, they had no employment connection. And they were 15 16 the outside peer review group, but PG&E paid them after all. Some people thought, "Well, PG&E is paying them," but 17 18 I don't know what to say about that. I knew all of those 19 people when every one of them was about as crotchety and 20 independent as you can imagine. 2.1 So how you comprise an independent peer-review group 22 comes down in many important ways to whether the people in the 23 expert community agree that those are the really top 24 independent experts.

We'll leave it to Maureen Zawalick and PG&E to come up

with a list, and if we -- if we, the DCISC, don't think that 1 2 it's independent, we'll tell you. How's that? 3 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Fair enough. And I quess I would add that, obviously, the seismic 4 condition has been the subject of a lot of controversy. 5 know it's complex. 6 7 And if PG&E's assessments are to have as most 8 credibility as they can, which would be our -- everyone's goal, 9 having that independent peer review to be able to look at it, I 10 think would be appreciated by the community, so --DOCTOR BUDNITZ: Yes. 11 12 PANELIST ZAWALICK: Just to clarify, Kara, you know, 13 the long-term seismic program that PG&E has, has been around 14 for over three decades. We never stopped assessing seismic. And, in fact, the region around Diablo Canyon is the most 15 studied region in the world. 16 Part of the long-term seismic program is 17 18 industry-leading researchers that contribute our assessments 19 and analysis independent of us. We have an annual and more 20 frequent check-in with the independent peer-review panel that 2.1 we've been doing. So those have continued, and there's also been, you 22 know, three decades of Dr. Budnitz and his peers before him 23 24 that have independently reviewed our long-term seismic program,

our seismic assessments, in addition to the Nuclear Regulatory

1 Commission, and what Dr. Budnitz talked about in his remarks. 2 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Yeah. And I think that's very helpful. And I would just add, SB 846 is brand-new, and you 3 4 have this brand-new requirement, so that's why I asked the 5 question. PANELIST ZAWALICK: And we'll meet all requirements of 6 7 SB 846. 8 Tom, did you want to add something? 9 MR. JONES: I would just add there's been some 10 confusion over time, and Maureen mentioned the long-term seismic program. It's important to understand in license 11 12 renewal that the conditions of your license today, like our 13 long-term seismic program, if approved for license extension, 14 continue. License renewal is additive to the conditions and 15 16 regulatory requirements today. It can require additional inspections, different types of operations, new licensing 17 18 conditions. But everything that we've been doing to get that 19 plant as safe as it is and as reliable as it is continues. It only is additive. Things aren't relaxed. 20 2.1 So that's an important thing to keep in mind when we have these discussions. 22 23 DOCTOR BUDNITZ: Wait. Wait. 24 FACILITATOR ANDERS: I just want to remind everybody we have about five minutes after this. 25

1 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Okay.

DOCTOR BUDNITZ: But there's another important thing I want to try to add to this.

When you're reviewing the seismicity around the station, as that study did in 2013, '14 and '15, it's not done out of whole cloth. There is a procedure that has been developed in the '90s and is used all around the world. It's a particular process for doing that analysis, and they followed it to the letter, and that it's documented. It's been endorsed by everybody. If you want to do a study like this in Hungary or in Australia, you use that process, and they used it too.

So the other crucial thing is the process under which these studies take place. I'm not saying that this new one is going to follow that process. But these studies generally just aren't a bunch of people sitting around saying, "Well, how are we going to do this?" There's just a lot of precedent for how these reviews are done.

And that background will be the background under which this next one will be done, not necessarily following that whole, great big two-and-half-year thing, but there are lots of precedents.

PANELIST WOODRUFF: Second-to-last question: Has PG&E procured sufficient uranium to enable operations through 2030?

PANELIST ZAWALICK: As Tom mentioned in his remarks, that's -- we're in the process of doing that, and we don't see

any challenges with procuring the amount of uranium that we 1 2 need to run through 2030. 3 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Okay. Great. And then, finally, I wanted to talk about offshore 4 wind because I received a lot of questions about that. 5 6 How do you see the development of the Morro Bay 7 wind-energy area to coincide with the operation of Diablo until 8 2030 with the decommissioning of Diablo after 2030, the 9 availability of transmission lines that could transmit energy, 10 both from offshore winds and Diablo operations, and then also a potential location of the Central Coast Port? 11 12 Do you have any thoughts on that? 13 PANELIST ZAWALICK: I would turn it over to 14 Commissioner Gunda. But, you know, PG&E and Diablo Canyon, we're focused 15 on continued operations of Diablo Canyon, and we're not 16 involved in offshore wind development or generation at any --17 18 you know, at this time. So we're, again, focused on continued 19 operations at Diablo Canyon. 20 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you. 2.1 So in terms of the interconnection, as I previously mentioned, the opportunity to develop the offshore wind in that 22 23 area, but, you know, as it pertains to the 2030 timeline, a 24 potential Diablo extension will not be an inhibiting factor,

based on preliminary analysis by CAISO and other colleagues.

And look forward to, you know, sharing that information with you.

And then the second issue specifically on port development and such, we -- CEC has a small -- a big role but smaller in the grand scheme of things, given that there are about 32 entities that are, you know, involved in the planning of the offshore wind.

But CEC does have the opportunity on developing the strategic plan. I will both offer our staff to provide you a briefing at one of these meetings or privately and just kind of providing the status on the offshore wind development, and they will be able to really answer the questions.

For me, I'm just not a lead commissioner of the offshore wind, and I do not track it carefully outside the resource planning, especially in the emerging development of offshore wind.

MR. JONES: Thank you.

And I think the last component of what -- Kara had a question about the ports. The State is doing a comprehensive study of port infrastructure; and then for San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, the boards of supervisors have authorized funding through the group Ridge [verbatim] to look at our regional approach.

We've participated in that, and they're analyzing the Diablo Canyon facilities for a number of ways, in addition the

1 facilities at the Port Harbor District and other Central Coast 2 facilities. So we're supportive of that research project that's going on now. And I believe there to be -- the product 3 of that report should be available in the next -- I'd say 4 inside of the next 90 days. 5 6 PANELIST WOODRUFF: Thank you. 7 PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you. And we're coming to a 8 close. 9 Really quickly, Scott and then David. PANELIST LATHROP: Yeah. This is for Commissioner 10 11 Gunda. I -- first of all, I appreciate your presentation 12 13 simply because I think it's a nice overview of what's happened 14 to date. Just one comment, though. You had in your presentation for the CPUC, as far as 15 consultation with Native American groups, I believe the 846 16 17 language actually says "appropriate Native American group." So 18 we really appreciated that that was updated in your 19 presentation because that's kind of a big deal here locally. 20 Thank you. 2.1 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Will do. Thank you. PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you. 22 David? 23 24 PANELIST BALDWIN: Yeah, I just had a couple quick 25 comments, I guess primarily maybe to bring the -- a couple

ideas back to the Panel.

It's easy for these conversations, I think, to really spread out into a lot of complex discussions that are important, but I wanted to sort of bring the Panel back, and maybe also because this is my last meeting here tonight, to make a couple comments.

And mainly -- I guess mainly as a reminder that the Panel adopted in its vision statement language that references a local workforce and that, really, in my mind, ties in very closely to these discussions we're having around safety.

Having a highly skilled, highly trained pool of journey-level workers and premises in the building trades that have built and maintained Diablo is really crucial to making sure that not only PG&E but the public can have a high amount of confidence in the work and the -- and the continued operation or the decommissioning of Diablo Canyon.

You know, I've said many times in our meetings with the Panel that the best-suited folks to dismantle Diablo safely and efficiently are those who built it and maintained it over the last 30, 40 years. And I feel very strongly about that.

I hope that after I leave, the Panel will remember those discussions and what we put into our draft vision statement about the importance of those local-hire provisions that come through a community workforce agreement or a project labor agreement, not only for the workers, but it flows out

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into everything, as far as safety of the plant, continued

operation, or decommissioning, like I said. And I think it's

very important that -- that we stay mindful of those.

A friend of mine use to tell me, "The main things are the plain things." And -- but stay mindful of those main things that we've already addressed so many times.

Thanks.

PANELIST ROSALES: Thank you, David. And thank you for your perspective and contributions and your service on this panel. It's been very much appreciated, and we will miss you.

PANELIST BALDWIN: Thanks. It's been my pleasure. I really appreciated working with everyone here. Thank you.

PANELIST ROSALES: So Item No. 8: Future meeting dates and topics. The next Engagement Panel meeting will most likely be held in March after more information is available regarding the implementation of SB 846.

The Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee will meet on February 15th through 16th in Avila Beach in the Point San Luis Conference Room at Avila Lighthouse Suites. That meeting will also be available online.

And PG&E will host a "spent nuclear fuel management and storage" open house in March or April for the public to learn more about the new spent-fuel storage system. The open house will include tours of the independent spent-fuel storage installation at Diablo Canyon.

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              And as always, as we close, this panel's role is to
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     keep our regional community members informed and to foster
     dialog on matters related to deactivation of the plant. Please
 3
     continue to be involved, ask questions, and offer your input.
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              So thank you, everyone.
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              And I will turn it over to our facilitator, Chuck
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     Anders, for any closing comments and adjournments.
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              FACILITATOR ANDERS: Thank you, Charlene. I'd also
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     like to thank all of our speakers. Dr. Budnitz and
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     Commissioner Gunda, thank you for excellent presentations and
     for spending your time with us tonight.
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              I'd also like to thank all the folks that support this
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     meeting that people can't see behind the cameras.
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              And I want to remind everyone to go to the Panel's
     website, diablocanyonpanel.com, for a recording of this
15
     meeting, also for a written transcript which will be available
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     in a couple of weeks, and copies of the presentations that you
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18
     saw tonight, and also resource materials.
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              We will also have and continue to accept and encourage
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     public input through the Panel's comment form. And when you
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     submit those comments, all of the Panel members see them almost
     immediately, so they do -- the Panel members are aware of them.
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              So with that, I want to wish everyone a joyful and
24
     safe holiday. And we're adjourned.
25
              (The proceedings were adjourned at 7:39 p.m.)
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1	STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2	:SS COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO)
3	
4	I, Abigail R. Torres, a Certified Shorthand Reporter
5	of the State of California, do hereby certify:
6	That as such reporter, I reported in machine shorthand
7	the proceedings held in the foregoing case.
8	That my notes were transcribed to the best of my
9	ability into typewriting under my direction, and the
10	proceedings held on December 14, 2022, contained within pages 1
11	through 74, are a true and correct transcription.
12	Dated this 30th day of December, 2022.
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