



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

August 5, 2015

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk *MG*

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution in Support of Closure of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Lacques added this item to tonight's agenda for Council consideration. If adopted, the resolution will be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the California Coastal Commission, and the California State Water Resources Board, to be included as part of the public comments opposing any further permits for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Facility before these respective boards.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution

RESOLUTION 15-__

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF FAIRFAX
IN SUPPORT OF CLOSURE OF DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

WHEREAS, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) has submitted its license renewal application to the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (“NRC”) for Diablo Canyon on November 23, 2009, seeking to extend the licenses for an additional 20 years beyond the current expiration dates of November 2, 2024, for Unit 1 and August 26, 2025, for Unit 2; and,

WHEREAS, the NRC, the California Coastal Commission and the California State Water Resources Control Board will be considering permits to renew licensing of Diablo Canyon; and,

WHEREAS, since the Diablo Canyon reactors were built, roughly a dozen earthquake faults have been found in the near vicinity; and,

WHEREAS, the Diablo Canyon reactors are 45 miles from the San Andreas fault, half the distance as Fukushima from the earthquake that destroyed it; and,

WHEREAS, one recently discovered fault line, the Shoreline, passes within 700 yards of the two Diablo reactors; and,

WHEREAS, new evidence strongly indicates these fault lines are interconnected; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Peck, former Nuclear Regulatory Commission chief on-site inspector at Diablo Canyon, has written a lengthy memo warning that these reactors cannot withstand a likely earthquake; and,

WHEREAS, Diablo Canyon is also in a tsunami zone, and its intake pipes are especially vulnerable to damage or destruction from a massive wave; and,

WHEREAS, the damage from a major accident to the health and property of the millions of people downwind and California’s economy is essentially inestimable; and,

WHEREAS, there is a substantial likelihood that radiation from a significant accident at Diablo Canyon would adversely affect Marin County and the Town of Fairfax; and

WHEREAS, the owners of Diablo Canyon are only marginally liable for the damage that a disaster would do; and,

WHEREAS, there is no credible plan for what to do with the radioactive waste from Diablo Canyon; and,

WHEREAS, there has never been a credible evacuation plan in case of an accident at these two reactors; and,

WHEREAS, renewable energy, and energy conservation and efficiency can more than offset the electricity from Diablo Canyon; and

WHEREAS, there are roughly one thousand jobs at Diablo which will be easily replaced by a conversion to renewable energy; and,

WHEREAS, many of the workers at Diablo would continue working there through the lengthy decommissioning process once the reactors are shut; and,

WHEREAS, there are some 55,000 Californians now working in the solar industry, which would directly benefit from the shutdown at Diablo; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax requests that the Diablo Canyon reactors be immediately shut at least until a satisfactory federal and state investigation has been conducted to evaluate the ability of Diablo Canyon to withstand an earthquake as warned of by Dr. Michael Peck of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be submitted to the NRC, the California Coastal Commission, and the California State Water Resources Board, to be included as part of the public comments opposing any further permits for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Facility before these respective boards.

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax, held in said Town on the 5th day of August 2015, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

BARBARA COLER, Mayor

Attest:

Michele Gardner, Town Clerk