



Santa Lucia Chapter
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May 12, 2015

Senator Bill Monning
State Capitol, Rm. 313
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

RE: SB 657 —**SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Monning:

On behalf of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club, located in California's last reactor community, we thank you for authoring this bill and extend our support.

Seismic safety is always of paramount importance in California; the seismic safety of the state's last remaining operational nuclear power plant even more so. The Independent Peer Review Panel assembled by the CPUC to oversee PG&E's seismic studies at Diablo Canyon as an outgrowth of AB 1632 has met the challenge of studying and analyzing voluminous data, and has raised questions and concerns regarding PG&E's studies in an open and transparent manner. That this panel's work was scheduled to "sunset" before it could complete its tasks would have been unfortunate for ratepayers and citizens. Extending the IPRP's mandate throughout the entire operating license of the nuclear plant is a prudent action.

Given the attention focused in recent months on the need for the CPUC to enhance its attention to safety, and the current penalties and indictments against PG&E for their failure to adequately consider safety, SB 657 adds a measure of protection for ratepayers and residents by providing an *independent* set of eyes to evaluate PG&E's data and conclusions. The state has become painfully aware of how safety failures can plague the gas distribution infrastructure; failure to properly evaluate the nuclear infrastructure could be even more deleterious. A Fukushima-like disaster at Diablo Canyon is a risk we can't afford.

The Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club urges the passage of SB 657.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Christie
Chapter Director

cc: Senator Ben Hueso, Chairman, Energy, Utilities and Communications