



Economic Vitality Corporation  
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501(c)(3) Non-Profit

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Bill Manning  
State Capitol, Room 4066  
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: **Senate Bill 968 (Manning): Diablo Canyon Economic Impact Study: IN SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Monning:

On behalf of the forty Board of Directors of the ECONOMIC VITALITY CORPORATION (EVC) of San Luis Obispo Board County, the only non-profit economic development organization serving all of San Luis Obispo County, we strongly support Senate Bill 968.

As this Bill would require Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") to hire an independent organization to conduct a comprehensive study about the negative economic impacts caused by the closure of Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP), the EVC would also like to see such a study provide in-depth contingency planning on the negative impacts (direct and indirect) that would be caused whether closure of the plant is planned or unplanned, is temporary or permanent, and whether such a closure pertains to all or part of the plant.

Since PG&E is one of the largest private employers in SLO County, the negative impact of a closure would be catastrophic economically, to not just the employees and ancillary businesses, but to schools, emergency response, and non-profit organizations that benefit from PG&E's support. Additionally, PGE provides significant funding to multiple non-profits and community organizations, including the EVC

As you are aware, PG&E commissioned two economic impact studies about the DCPP, and the most recent version, produced in 2013, determined an overall economic impact to San Luis Obispo to be approximately \$1 Billion per year for the Central Coast. Through these studies, an analysis of the economic benefits were performed, however, the studies did not include mitigation measures suggested herein.

As suggested in your Bill, such an impact study should provide an in-depth analysis done by an independent third party, but with input locally, that focuses on any adverse economic impacts and how to mitigate or replace the benefits that the region relies upon. Although the DCPP provides a statewide impact as a major supplier of electricity, the suggestions and focus herein relate solely to the region of San Luis Obispo County and nearby communities outside of the County. If executed in a way the EVC would like considered, such a study could enable the region to be better prepared for the changes that may occur when the plant closes, whether planned for or not.

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Please consider the following suggestions to the Bill or implementation of it:

### **SUGGESTIONS**

As a result of Bill 968, a proposed study should develop actionable strategies for an early or planned closure of the DCP. The EVC would like to see included the following:

1. Be highly specific in nature about the assessment of, planning for, and implementation of strategies to plan for and mitigate negative impacts such as loss of jobs, taxes, etc.
2. Develop realistic and achievable strategies to fund not just the initial study, but the implementation of strategies that should be embraced by the community and local leaders.
3. Obtain local input and participation from the business community and local government about how to assess, develop and implement planning and mitigations measures.
4. Provide immediate and long-term funding to address the mitigation of such negative impacts.

Thank you for taking the lead on such an important piece of legislation that would provide vital planning for the long-term health of our County's economy and our local communities.

Please accept this letter of support of Senate Bill 968.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Manchak  
President & CEO

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cc: Bruce Ray, Chair, Board of Directors  
Members, EVC Board of Directors