April 12, 2016

Honorable Senator Bill Monning
State Capitol, Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 968 (Monning): Diablo Canyon Economic Impact Study – IN SUPPORT

Dear Senator Monning:

On behalf of the City of Morro Bay, I am writing to express our support of Senate Bill 968, which would direct the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to require the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Company to fund and submit an assessment study on the adverse economic impact a temporary or permanent closure of Diablo Canyon’s Units 1 and 2 reactors would have on our County. It should further analyze the adverse economic impacts of a plant closure and ways to mitigate those impacts.

The City of Morro Bay has seen firsthand the effects of a plant closing due to the closure of the Dynegy Power Plant in 2014. That resulted in the loss of jobs and tax revenue, which has had a ripple effect throughout the community. The City is continuously striving to fill the gap the plant closure left in the City’s budget. The closure of the Diablo Canyon Power Plant would be detrimental to the County on an even larger scale, having negative financial impacts on local and regional governments, businesses, schools and residents.

Assessing and planning for any adverse economic impacts is prudent. Senate Bill 968 will provide local communities and the State the information they need to develop contingency plans if the plant shuts down.

Please accept this letter of support of Senate Bill 968. If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, then please do hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jamie Irons
Mayor