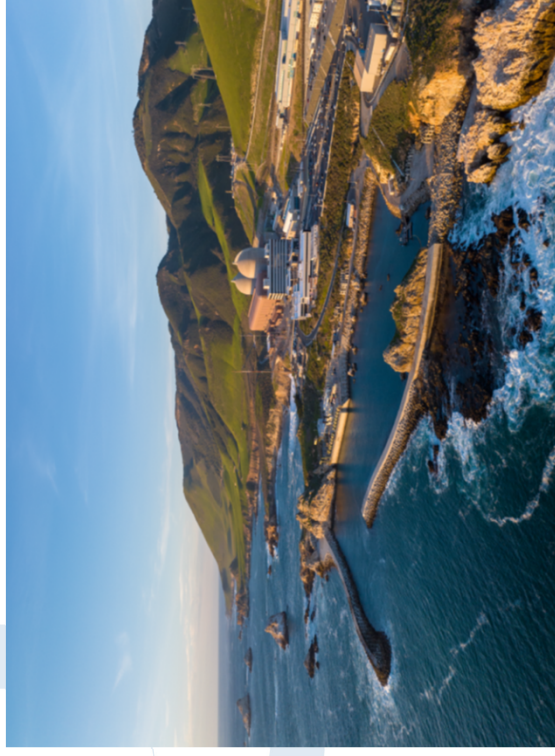


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# Preliminary Findings of the Environmental Review for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, License Renewal



November 14, 2024

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# Agenda

- Introductions and Purpose
- Opening Remarks
- Environmental Review
- Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) Preliminary Findings
- Draft SEIS Participant Contact Information
- Public Participation

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## Meeting Logistics

- NRC is actively soliciting comments on the draft SEIS to aid the NRC staff's review
- For this virtual meeting, participants are in listen-only mode until the comment session
- No regulatory decisions will be made at today's meeting

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## Introductions and Purpose

- Brian Harris, Safety Review Lead, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
- Kim Conway, Environmental Review Lead, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
- Steve Koenick, Chief, Environmental Project Management Branch 1, NMSS
- Ted Smith, Acting Deputy Director, Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support, NMSS

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# U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – An Independent Regulatory Agency

## **NRC MISSION**

*We license and regulate U.S. civilian use of radioactive materials, protecting public health and safety, promoting the nation's common defense and security, and protecting the environment*

## **STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

- *Atomic Energy Act of 1954*
- *Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 split the Atomic Energy Commission into the NRC and the predecessor of the Energy Department*



**Strategic  
Plan**

**Fiscal Year  
2022- 2026**

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## Diablo Canyon License Renewal

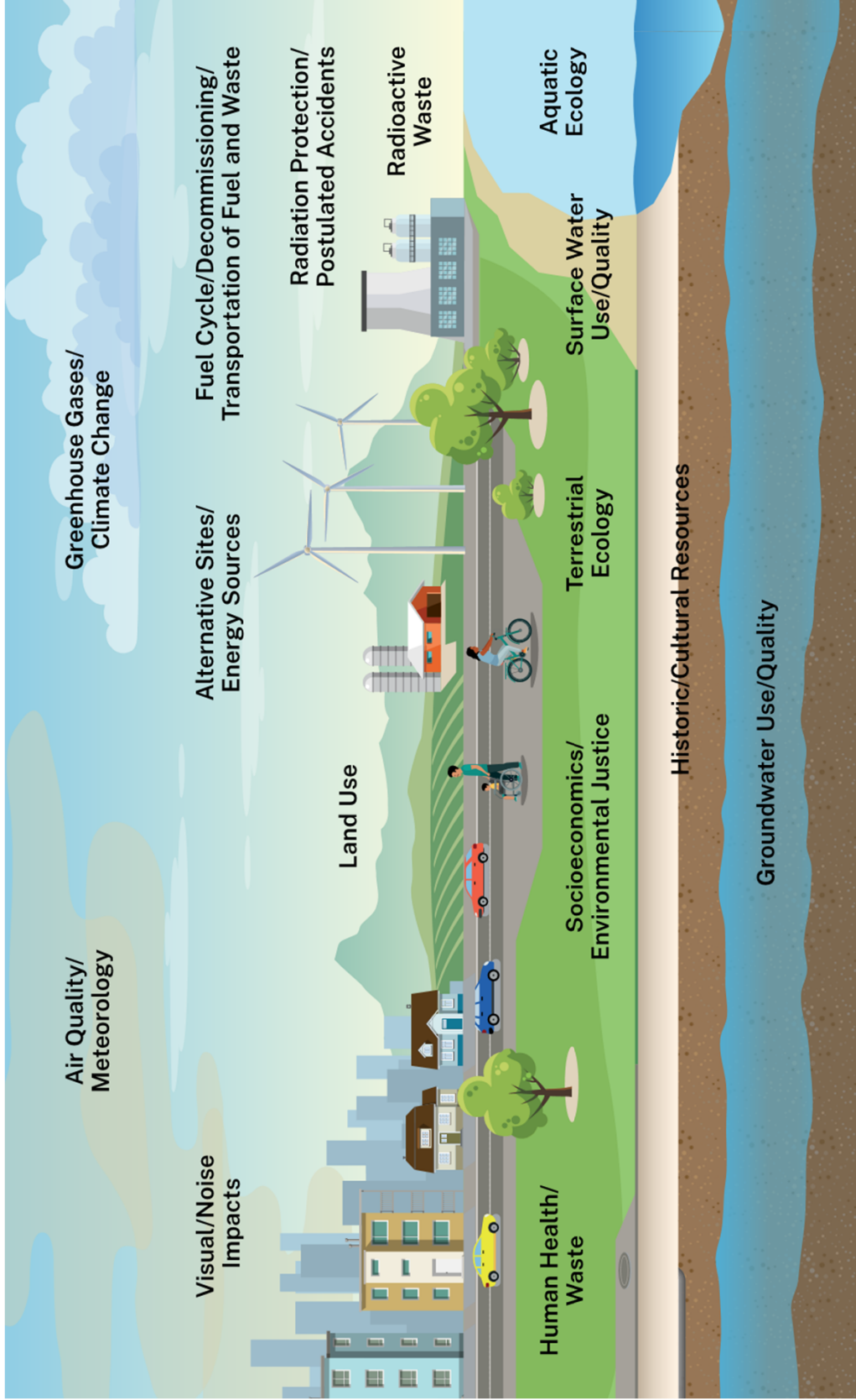
- The license renewal application for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Diablo Canyon) was submitted on November 7, 2023
- The current license expiration dates for Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 are November 2, 2024, and August 26, 2025, respectively
- Both operating licenses are in timely renewal; therefore, they will remain valid until the NRC has made a final determination on the application
- If a license renewal is granted, it will be for an additional 20 years

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## Environmental Review

- **Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)**
  - Addresses Category 1 environmental issues common to all plants (or a distinct subset of plants) during the license renewal term
- **Environmental Impact Statement**
  - Neither the applicant nor the NRC identified information that is both new and significant related to Category 1 issues that would call into question the conclusions in the LR GEIS
  - Addresses Category 2 environmental issues during the license renewal term on a site-specific basis

# Environmental Review





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## How Impacts are Defined

- **SMALL**
  - Effects are not detectable or are so minor that they will neither destabilize nor noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource
- **MODERATE**
  - Effects are sufficient to alter noticeably, but not to destabilize, important attributes of the resource
- **LARGE**
  - Effects are clearly noticeable and are sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource

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## How Impacts are Defined (cont.)

- **Federally Listed Species and Critical Habitat (Endangered Species Act)**
  - No effect
  - May affect but is not likely to adversely affect
  - May affect and is likely to adversely affect
- **Essential Fish Habitat (Magnuson-Stevens Act)**
  - No adverse impacts
  - Minimal adverse impacts
  - More than minimal, but less than substantial adverse effects
  - Substantial adverse impact

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## How Impacts are Defined (cont.)

- **Sanctuary Resources (National Marine Sanctuaries Act)**
  - No effect
  - Not likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources
  - Likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources
- **Historic and Cultural Resources (National Historic Preservation Act)**
  - No adverse effect
  - Adverse effect

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## How Impacts are Defined (cont.)

- **Environmental Justice\*** (Executive Order 12898)
  - Disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects
  - No disproportionately and adverse human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations

\* The NRC chooses to address EJ, though not required. There is a pending vote by the Commission on addressing EJ.

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# Draft SEIS Preliminary Findings

## Resource Area

- Land Use/Visual Resources (Section 3.2)
- Air Quality/Noise (Section 3.3)
- Geologic Environment (Section 3.4)
- Surface Water/Groundwater Resources (Section 3.5)
- Terrestrial Resources (Section 3.6)
- Aquatic Resources (Section 3.7)
- Socioeconomics (Section 3.10)
- Human Health (Section 3.11)
- Postulated Accidents (Section 3.11)
- Waste Management (Section 3.13)
- Uranium Fuel Cycle (Section 3.15)
- Termination of Operations/Decommissioning (Section 3.15)

# SMALL

## Impacts

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# Draft SEIS Preliminary Findings (cont.)

## Resource Area

- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change
- Cumulative Impacts

## Impacts

- Would not adversely affect known historic properties
- No disproportionately and adverse human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations
- See Draft SEIS Section 3.15.3
- See Draft SEIS Section 3.16

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## Draft SEIS Preliminary Findings – Special Status Species and Habitats Under U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Jurisdiction

- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect
  - California red-legged frog
  - California condor
  - California least tern
  - Hawaiian petrel
  - Marbled murrelet
  - Short-tailed albatross
  - Southern sea otter
- No effect
  - on other federally listed species or critical habitats identified in Section 3.8.4.1 of the draft SEIS

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## Draft SEIS Preliminary Findings – Special Status Species and Habitats Under National Marine Fisheries Service Jurisdiction

- May affect and is likely to adversely affect
  - Green sea turtle
  - Loggerhead sea turtle
  - Leatherback sea turtle
  - Pacific olive ridley sea turtle
- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect
  - Black abalone
  - Gray whale
  - Humpback whale
- May affect but is not likely to destroy or adversely modify
  - Critical habitat of the black abalone
  - Critical habitat of the humpback whale



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## Draft SEIS Preliminary Findings – Essential Fish Habitat and Sanctuary Resources

- Magnuson-Stevens Act: Essential Fish Habitat
  - No more than minimal adverse effects on the designated essential fish habitat of all life stages of coastal pelagic species complex, euphasiids (krill), groundfish, and highly migratory species
- National Marine Sanctuaries Act: Sanctuary Resources
  - May affect but is not likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources of the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary

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## Alternatives

- No new and significant information identified regarding the following alternatives
- Alternative energy sources (power replacement)
  - Purchased power
  - Renewables combination
- No-action alternative

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## Preliminary Recommendation

The adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Diablo Canyon for an additional 20 years beyond the current expiration date are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable

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## Environmental Review Milestones

Milestone	Date
Draft SEIS Published	October 25, 2024
Comment Period Began	November 1, 2024
Draft SEIS Public Meetings	November 14, 2024 (virtual) November 20, 2024 (in-person)
<b>Draft SEIS Comments Due</b>	<b>December 16, 2024</b>
Final SEIS	June 2025

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## Obtaining the Draft SEIS

- Printed copy:
  - San Luis Obispo Library  
995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA
- Diablo Canyon Project Public Website:  
<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/diablo-canyon.html>
- Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):
  - <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>
  - Draft EIS accession number: [ML24299A167](#)

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## Additional Information

- **Diablo Canyon License Renewal Public Website:**  
<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/diablo-canyon.html>
  - Diablo Canyon license renewal application
  - Environmental report
  - Current schedule
  - Project managers associated with Diablo Canyon
- **Sign up for Diablo Canyon Listserv to Receive Correspondence:**
  - <https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserv/plants-by-region.html>

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# Submitting Comments

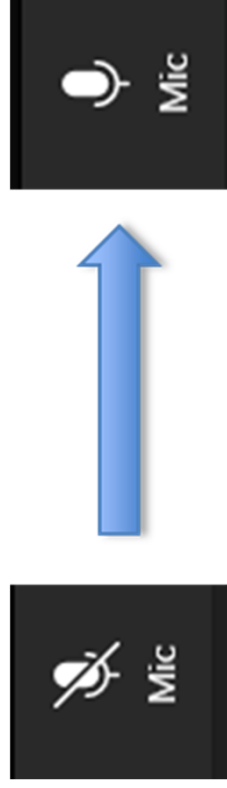
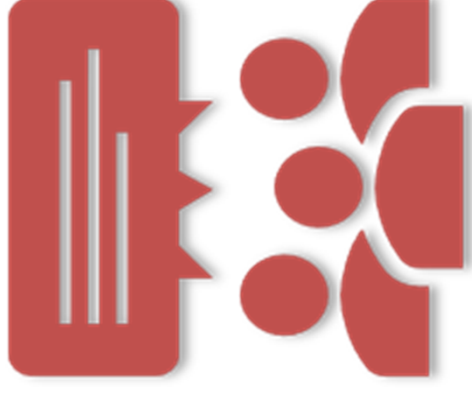
- **By mail:**  
Office of Administration  
Mailstop TWFN-7-A60M  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001
- **Website:**  
<http://www.regulations.gov>, use Docket ID NRC-2023-0192
- **Email:** [DiabloCanyonEnvironmental@nrc.gov](mailto:DiabloCanyonEnvironmental@nrc.gov)

**Comments should be submitted by December 16, 2024**

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## Public Participation

- Raise your hand
  - MS Teams: “Raise my hand” button
  - On the phone: press “\*5”
- You’ll still need to unmute
  - MS Teams: Unmute button
  - On the phone: press “\*6”





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## Audio/Technical Issues

Drop off and log back on

Call into Bridge line:

301-576-2978

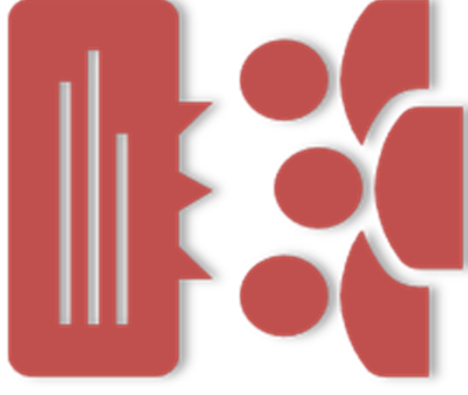
Conference ID: 66985596#

In Teams, check your device settings:

Click “More”

Choose “Settings”

Choose “Device Settings”



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## Draft SEIS Participant Contact Information

- Meeting Summary
  - Meeting participant list
  - NRC presentation
  - Transcript of the meeting
- Final EIS
  - To receive the final SEIS, email contact information to [kimberly.conway@nrc.gov](mailto:kimberly.conway@nrc.gov)