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Stephnie Wald <swaldcoho@hotmail.com>

Mon 9/25/2023 2:58 PM

To:PL_Diablo <PL_Diablo@co.slo.ca.us>

Cc:olivas.mona_gmail.com <olivas.mona@gmail.com>

 1 attachments (194 KB)

diablo comment letter.pdf;

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9/25/23

Susan Strachan
Department of Planning & Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
diablo@co.slo.ca.us

Dear Ms. Strachan,

Thank you for accepting the following comments regarding the DEIR for Diablo Decommissioning. I am representing myself as a long time interested party and one who works professionally in nonprofit conservation work, often with tribal interests to insure cultural resources are considered and protected to the greatest extent possible.

I am supportive of the *yak tiʻu tiʻu yak tilhini* Northern Chumash Tribe (ytt Tribe) and share their concerns for the future of Diablo lands. The following are items that I think require additional consideration for inclusion in the Final EIR and concepts for mitigation of disturbance to cultural resources.

According to Mona Tucker, In 2020 [“Descendants of Native Rancherias In the Diablo Lands Vicinity: A Northern Chumash Ethnohistorical Study,”](#) was prepared by Dr. John Johnson in 2020 through the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. The study provides abundant evidence that ytt is the precolonization descendant Tribe of the Pecho Coast, where the Diablo Canyon Power Plant currently resides. The DEIR fails to include ytt Tribe as the descendent tribe despite clear proof in the report that was commissioned by PG&E. This is an omission of an important ethnographic fact regarding the Diablo lands. The status as the descendent Tribe is inadequately addressed throughout the DEIR. Please remedy this in the Final EIR.

The DEIR indicates that signage and road blockade is an adequate barrier in preventing the general public from accessing sensitive Tribal cultural areas to eliminate looting and damage from trampling. This is an inadequate means of protecting irreplaceable cultural resources including sacred sites, ceremonial sites, cemeteries, and cultural landscapes. It is critical that additional mitigations be included to prevent public access to cultural resources including consideration of removing areas of high concern from planned public access roads, overlooks and trails.

In the event that new trails are developed, the process of planning any trails must include meaningful engagement and consultation with ytt. Utilizing ytt’s Tribal knowledge, impacts may be mitigated through the careful location of trails and consideration of placement of physical barriers to prevent and dissuade public access to areas of high concern. The Tribe’s knowledge will also assist in the protection of important fauna and flora habitat, including offshore habitat for marine plants, mammals and other marine species.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephnie Wald
1776 Tierra Nueva Lane, Oceano, CA 93445