



DRA

*Division of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission*

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JOSEPH P. COMO
Acting Director

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April 8, 2013

Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Marty Block
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4090
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Toni Atkins
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 418 (Jackson) - Support

Dear Senator Jackson:

Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). DRA's statutory mandate is to obtain the lowest possible rates for utility services consistent with safe and reliable service levels. DRA also advocates for customer and environmental protections in connection with utility service.

DRA supports your SB 418, as amended on April 1, 2013, which would require an investor-owned utility that files for relicensing of a nuclear power plant at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, using ratepayer funding, to submit to the CPUC a detailed study on power plant operational needs and costs to assess the continued operation cost-effectiveness, as specified.

SB 418 would create a clearinghouse of necessary nuclear power plant cost information so that decision-makers and the public can be well-informed of the costs associated with reliability, disruptions and other important factors associated with a nuclear plant's continued operation, prior to dedicating ratepayer money towards the federal relicensing process. DRA supports this bill's proactive efforts to increase accountability and transparency over the nuclear power plant relicensing process and looks forward to working with you to ensure this bill is enacted into law.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call DRA's Legislative Advisor Rebecca Tsai-Wei Lee, at (916) 327-1407 or me at (415) 703-2381.

Respectfully,

Joseph P. Como, Acting Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates

By
Rebecca Lee
Legislative Advisor