From: <u>Vee Lohr</u>

To: <u>UTC DL Records Center</u>

Subject: Docket Numbers UE-160918 and UG-160919: Follow California"s lead

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2018 3:51:59 PM

Food for thought: Can our Commission do what California's Commission is doing? If not, what changes are needed to make it happen?

"In California, where natural gas—fired power plants generated about half of the state's in-state power in 2016, state regulators were scheduled to vote in January on a proposal that would require Pacific Gas and Electric Co. to replace three natural gas plants owned by Calpine with energy storage and other carbon-neutral "preferred resources" like demand response. The state, which has ambitious renewable energy targets, has pushed utilities to replace natural gas power plants with renewables and other resources. The urgency to pare down the state's reliance on natural gas mounted in 2016 after the leaking Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility was shut down. Last fall, the California Energy Commission said it planned to reject NRG Energy's proposed Puente natural gas plant because "feasible alternatives" that avoided or reduced environmental effects were available, forcing the company to withdraw its application."

From: Energy transitions begin to leave out natural gas power, by Sonal Patel, Power Magazine, 02/01/2018 http://www.powermag.com/energy-transitions-begin-to-leave-out-natural-gas-power/

Thank-you for your attention to this matter, Virginia I Lohr

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