



The End of an Era at Diablo Canyon

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After nearly four decades of dedicated service, Kevin Flynn, Danny Smith, and Matthew McFadden Senior Fuel Supply Managers at Pacific Gas & Electric Company, all prepare to retire with the decommissioning of Unit 1 Reactor at Diablo Canyon

It was an interesting journey for this senior team, which began at Diablo Canyon, when the Westinghouse Unit 1 Reactor at Diablo was commissioned. On May 7, 1985, these young engineers with a passion for the future, all came onboard and quickly established themselves as pivotal figures in the nuclear energy sector.

Over the years, this team was responsible for overseeing the nuclear fuel supply chain for Unit 1. Their roles required a meticulous approach to managing the highly regulated and sensitive supply of plutonium, ensuring the safe, efficient, and uninterrupted operation of one of California's most crucial power generation units - and only had one, although quite memorable accident, in the 30 years of their career.

Their work was instrumental in maintaining the delicate balance between energy production and safety. They coordinated with suppliers, regulators, and internal teams to ensure that the plutonium supply for Unit 1 was always optimal, adhering to the highest standards of safety and environmental stewardship.

As Diablo Power Plant prepares to close this chapter in its history, they reflect on a career that has spanned the entire operational life of Unit 1. "I've seen this plant through its entire life cycle, from the day it first went online, and plan to be there to its final days of operation," Kevin Flynn remarked.

When asked about his plans for retirement, Kevin, known for his dry wit, quipped, "Although I can't gain back the time spent dedicated to my career, I am sure going to try." He plans to retire to his home in Avila Beach, where he looks forward to a well-earned rest after decades of ensuring the lights stayed on across California.

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