



WEEKLY UPDATE APRIL 3 - 9, 2022

THIS WEEK

2 BOS MEETINGS ON APRIL 5TH

REGULAR BOS MEETING - 9:00 AM

BOS TO REQUEST GOVERNOR TO SUSPEND MOTOR FUEL TAXES

**WHY DOES THE STATE WANT TO HAVE KAISER COMPETE WITH
COUNTY BEHAVIORIAL HEALTH? WHY IS THE COUNTY AFRAID?
IS COMPETITION BAD?**

**GRAND JURY FRETS OVER COVID VACCINE DELIVERY PROCESS
BETTER THAT THEY WORRY ABOUT AVAILABILITY OF THERAPEUTICS**

**HEARING ON REVISIONS TO HEALTH DEPARTMENT REGS
RESTAURANTS, FARM LABOR CAMPS, SEPTIC PUMPERS, ETC.
ALL IMPACTED**

ROUTE 227 ROUNDABOUT DESIGN CONTRACT

**BUREAUCRATS WANT THEM – COMMUNITY OBJECTS
STATE SAYS OUR WAY OR NO HIGHWAY FUNDS**

**CLOSED SESSION ON REDISTRICTING LAWSUIT
WHO IS VOTING TO DEFEND?**

SPECIAL BOS MEETING – 5:00 PM

**HEARING ON LIMITED COUNTY CHARTER PROPOSAL
PROMOTE LOCAL CONTROL**

LAST WEEK

NO BOS MEETING

SLO PENSION TRUST SUFFERS BAD FEBRUARY

EMERGENT ISSUES

COVID LOW FOR NOW

**BUT STATE WANTS TO MANDATE VACCINATIONS FOR EVERYONE
WHERE ARE THE THERAPEUTIC PILLS?**

COLAB IN DEPTH

SEE PAGE 16



THE SHEER MADNESS OF TODAY'S LEFT

When ideologues demand power but cannot achieve it politically because they are cruel ideologues, expect more of their insanity to follow.

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

THE FAILURE OF CALIFORNIA ELECTRICITY POLICY IN ONE IMAGE

Veteran energy watchers know that a time-graph of electricity consumption on an electrical grid tells a story

BY CARL WURTZ,

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS
ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Regular Board of Supervisors Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 5, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item 4 - Request to approve a letter to Governor Newsom in support of suspending the gas tax and the gas tax's July inflationary increase. County Administrator Wade Horton has placed the proposed letter displayed below on the Agenda for Board consideration.

The Board may also wish to consider the impact of the increases on County operations. The County may be protected in the short term by annual fixed price contracts, but it is not known.

The larger issue is the supply side and what actions the County could take to promote fossil fuel development and distribution.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- John Peschong Vice-Chair, District One Supervisor*
- Bruce Gibson Chairperson, District Two Supervisor*
- Dawn Ortiz-Legg District Three Supervisor*
- Lynn Compton District Four Supervisor*
- Debbie Arnold, District Five Supervisor*

ATTACHMENT #1

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Proposed suspension of gas tax and inflationary increase - SUPPORT

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of your proposal to suspend the gas tax to help alleviate the cost for Californians as well as visitors to our state. The cheapest gas in our County ranges from \$5.43 to \$6.55 a gallon. San Luis Obispo County now has the distinction of having the most expensive gas in the entire United States.

While we understand that suspending the current 51.1 cents per gallon and no inflationary adjustment in July, will have an effect on transportation and infrastructure projects funded with SB 91 taxes, the citizens in our county and throughout the state are burdened, not only with higher gas costs, but also increased costs for every facet of their lives, such as food, shelter, childcare, medicine to name a few. Reducing this burden, even if only for six months, is the least that can be done for citizens and visitors who contribute their hard-earned dollars to the economy of this state.

We urge you to move forward with your proposal to suspend the gas tax. Even a short suspend time, such as six months, would be a welcome relief from the high cost of living here in California.

Please contact Wade Horton, at (805) 781-5011 or whorton@co.slo.ca.us if you have any questions about the County's support of gas tax hiatus. Additionally, our state advocates, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmeizer & Lange, are also available to you and your staff for further discussions.

Sincerely,

BRUCE GIBSON
Chair, Board of Supervisors

- c: Senator John Laird
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham
Members, County Board of Supervisors
Wade Horton, County Administrator
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmeizer & Lange

Item 5 - Request to sign a multi-jurisdictional letter in opposition to the California Department of Health Care Services Proposed Trailer Bill Legislation - Alternative Health Care Service Plan proposal. The staff recommends that the Board join a number of other counties to oppose AB 2724, which would allow large medical providers in various regions of the State to take over the treatment of mental health patients who are now served by local consortia.

It appears that the Bill is a last-minute gut-and-amend type, which was introduced to avoid the full committee process. Staff indicates that the Bill will cause the Kaiser Permanente Medical Group to invade the county. Neither the Bill itself nor the County write-up indicate what problem the Bill is supposedly attempting to fix?

These circumstances seem to support opposition to the Bill. However, the final paragraph of the Board letter asserts a number of problems with the bill, including that it “would exacerbate the negative impacts of market competition across commercial entities in the delivery system...” It is not exactly clear what this means operatively. The Board should pull the item and get some clarity. Why would market competition be bad? Certainly Kaiser¹ is a huge group medical practice that owns clinics, hospitals, and other treatment modalities. While it is generally regarded as a sort of Sears of medical care, is it more cost effective? Should the Board receive a presentation by Kaiser and hear all sides of the story?

The prioritization of commercial interests will exacerbate the negative impacts of market competition across commercial entities in the delivery system and will discourage their participation in a sustainable delivery system for the public good. This risks a return to a delivery system where an organization limits access to a number of people perceived as their “fair share” rather than working in partnership with their peer competitors to collectively serve the public. This would set a concerning precedent that threatens the stability of our safety net network, exacerbates strains on the provider network, and presents new obstacles to advancing the transformation of the Medi-Cal delivery system

Obviously, the current delivery system is fraught with problems which are apparent to law enforcement and the general public.

- **How many people are in the current system?**
- **Is the number declining or increasing?**
- **How many get better?**
- **How many move from a more intensive treatment modality to a less intensive treatment modality?**

¹ Kaiser Permanente, commonly known simply as Kaiser, is an American integrated managed care consortium, based in Oakland, California, United States, founded in 1945 by industrialist Henry J. Kaiser and physician Sidney Garfield. **Headquarters:** Oakland, CA **Founded:** 1945 **Number of employees:** 304,220 employees (including 63,847 nurses and 23,597 physicians as of 2021) **Type of business:** Consortium of for-profit and not-for-profit entities. **Subsidiaries:** The Permanente Medical Group, Inc.,

Again, the Board is subjected to the policy choice, which only represents its staff's opinion. Various sides and components of the issue are not presented. They may be right, but how does the Board or public know, especially since they are part of the existing system, which they seek to preserve. Is Kaiser patronage, although larger, worse or better than local patronage?



Of course, no one who is rational trusts anything that is proposed by the California Legislature majority. The Bill's sponsor is a physician, Joaquin Arambula, who represents portions of Fresno and adjacent communities. He sponsors many bills to expand healthcare for the poor, elderly, and otherwise underserved.

Dr. Arambula is part of a private group practice in Fresno and Selma and is not a member of Kaiser. He is an Emergency Specialist. It is not known if he has privileges at any Kaiser hospital.

Item 6 - Grand Jury Report on the Delivery of COVID Vaccines in SLO County. The long detailed report is pretty much a gratuitous systematic exploitation of the obvious. That is, it took a while to receive enough vaccine and then to get it out. It would seem that the public interest issue at this point is making therapeutic treatment drugs available as COVID is going to stick around. Of course, we have heard nothing in this regard.

Speaking of emergencies, how is the County set up to address the impacts of a pre-emptive Russian nuclear attack on Vandenberg's anti-ICBM missile squadrons? If the Russian submarine Captain is off just a little, you won't be worrying about COVID or the seismic hazards of the Diablo Nuclear Plant. The survivors could all be homeless evacuees. Moreover, the County could be in the path of millions of refugees fleeing Los Angeles. Just look at the impact of conventional weapons on the Ukrainian people and their flight to Poland. Are the Emergency Plan Annexes up to date on these scenarios? Has the public been briefed?



Item 43 - Hearing to consider an ordinance amending Title 8, Chapters 8.04, 8.06, 8.08, 8.12, 8.16, 8.30, 8.54, 8.60, and 8.62 of the County Code regarding the County Environmental Health Services Division, to update references, delete outdated code sections, and make other clean up and reorganizational changes. The Board will conduct a hearing and probably adopt the ordinance changes. COLAB provided early warning in the Weekly Update of March 13th. The item is billed as a clean-up and update of ordinances which

have not been adjusted since the 1970's. There is no written opposition in the file. It is not clear if the changes will result in any increased or additional fees.

It is not known from the write-up if the Health Department consulted with the potentially impacted businesses, associations, and chambers of commerce on this major update. The Board will need to ascertain the degree to which this happened.

The actual ordinance can be reviewed at the link [Meeting details - Provox IIP \(ca.gov\)](#). When it opens, click on the in-basket icon for Item 43.

Chapter 8.04 - Food and Drink Establishments Page 4 of 6 Part 7 of Division 104 of the California Health and Safety Code (sections 113700 et seq.), also referred to as the California Retail Food Code ("CRFC") was signed into law on May 15, 2006 (SB 144 - Runner). The CRFC became effective on July 1, 2007 and requires that there be uniform Statewide food safety standards for retail food facilities (section 113705). These sections provide that a local enforcement agency shall have primary enforcement responsibility for the State and local standards in its jurisdiction. Sections that were deleted in the recommended amendments are preempted by the CRFC. Chapter 8.04 does not override any local land use requirement or limitation. The purposes of chapter 8.04 are to clarify and explain: (1) the CRFC for local implementation where necessary; (2) the Environmental Health Services Division's role in enforcing State food safety standards for retail food facilities; and (3) implementation of a permit and cost recovery fee system for certain businesses and activities that are subject to the CRFC. The following outline summarizes the recommended deletions, amendments, and additions for this chapter:

Deletions

- *Delete any outdated sections that are preempted by State law. Amendments*
- *Clean up permit requirements and enforcement and appeal process sections.*

Additions

- *Add a definition for Environmental Health Services Division ("EHS") Director and designate EHS as the local enforcement entity.*
- *Formalize EHS' existing process of posting Notice of Closures on food facilities closed for no permit or health risk.*
- *Formalize the annual mobile food facility inspection process where a permit sticker is affixed to each mobile food facility.*
- *Clarify that fees can be collected for unlicensed complaint investigations when enforcement or other follow up actions are required.*

Chapter 8.06 - Plan Approval

This chapter provides that when a building permit is required to construct a retail food facility, public swimming pool, organized camp, or small water system, that plans need to be submitted to the Health Officer along with payment of required fees. It also provides that a stop work order can be issued when work is performed without prior approval. The purposes of the recommended amendments to chapter 8.06 are to consolidate:

1. *The existing plan review and health permit requirements for all facilities regulated by EHS;*
2. *The permit and cost recovery fee system;*
3. *The due process enforcement procedures for refusing, suspending or revoking a health permit.*

The recommended amendments also provide for a cost recovery for Hazardous Incident Response Team incidents and other unlicensed enforcement activities.

Chapter 8.08 - Seasonal Farm Labor Camps

This chapter is recommended to be deleted because it is governed and preempted by 1986 amendments to the United States Department of Labor Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (codified at 29 U.S.C. §§ 1801-1872). 29 U.S.C. §1823 states that housing for migrant agricultural workers must meet applicable California Health and Safety standards and have a Certificate of Occupancy.

Chapter 8.12 - Solid Waste Management

This chapter is administered and enforced by the Health Officer, Public Works, and Auditor with respect to the accumulation, collection, transportation, processing, recycling, and disposal of various types of solid waste. Minor amendments are proposed for this chapter to update outdated California Health and Safety Code section numbers referenced in the definitions of Medical Solid Waste and the definition of Medical Waste.

Chapter 8.16 – Septic Tank Trucks

This chapter provides for the permitting and inspection of septic tank trucks by the Public Health Department. The recommended amendments update permitting requirements by referencing the newly revised chapter 8.06 for health permit requirements. They also formalize current inspection standards for septic trucks pertaining to sanitary equipment and practices, labeling, proper disposal, inspection and reporting.

Chapter 8.30 - Cross–Connections Control and Inspections

The purpose of this chapter is to protect the public drinking water supply against actual or potential cross connections by non-potable water supply sources. Recommended amendments to this chapter include adding and updating terminology, including reference to backflow prevention equipment as “assemblies” rather than “devices”. The amendments also codify the existing practice of requiring adherence to the San Luis Obispo County Cross-Connection Program Policy and Procedures and requiring cross connection control testers submit current reports of calibration of their testing equipment when submitting certificates of training from recognized providers before a County issued identification card is provided.

Chapter 8.54 - Enforcement–Citation Authority

This chapter provides citation authority for EHS. The recommended amendment to this chapter clarifies that the citation authority is for violations of Title 8 of the County Code.

Chapter 8.60 - Public Swimming Pools

This chapter designates the Public Health Department to enforce state standards for public swimming pools and specifies that a health permit is required to operate. The recommended amendments clarify that the Health Officer and EHS enforce state public swimming pool standards and codifies the long-standing process of posting a Notice of Closure on public swimming pools and spas that are closed for health risk or for not having a valid health permit.
Chapter

8.62 - Organized Camps

This chapter specifies that a health permit is required to operate an organized camp. The recommended amendments clarify that the Health Officer and EHS enforce state organized camp standards and updates the Page 6 of 6 reference to chapter 8.06 for permitting requirements in addition to the outdated California Health and Safety Code section referenced in the definition of Organized Camp

We wonder if the County itself is in compliance with this one for its homeless camp at the Kansas Avenue service center facility.

Item 44 - Closed Session. One item includes the legal challenge against the redistricting plan by the so-called County Citizens for Good Government. No details are provided. Since this is a matter of critical and broad public interest, it would be proper for the Board to publish any filings that have been submitted since the original Writ of Mandate by the plaintiffs was rejected by the Courts.

The Board should also release the County's defense briefs. The County Counsel should be directed to reveal any votes from closed session. For example, has the Board voted to defend the adopted plan? If so, what was the vote – who voted yes and who voted no? Release of this information would not jeopardize the County's legal strategy.

Item 25 - Roundabouts on Highway 227. The staff requests that the Board appropriate \$661,000 for an engineering firm to design Route 227 improvements, including roundabouts at its intersections with Buckley Road and Los Ranchos Road, respectively (Scenario B). The matter must be approved by a 4/5 vote, as it is a new appropriation.

County professionals and Cal Trans favor the roundabout version as opposed to widening the highway and adding traffic signals (Scenario A). Version B-2 is asserted to be less costly to maintain and more efficient for moving traffic. Environmentalists favor roundabouts as opposed to signals, as traffic keeps moving and does not queue up waiting for a green light. This is said to reduce CO₂. The report states in part:

Scenario B and the recommended project alternative for SR 227 at Los Ranchos Road provides the highest societal benefits for both safety and delay, while costing significantly less to construct, operate, and maintain.

As is the case in many scenarios favored by the staff experts, the County faces losing State and Federal funding for actual construction of the project if the Board does not agree.

Non-approval of this item will leave the ICE process incomplete and result in cancelling the project or reassignment of the Lead Agency responsible for the delivery of this project and the

remaining SR 227 corridor improvements proposed between Buckley Road and Biddle Ranch Road. Additionally, \$9.7 million in regional funds programmed to the County for projects on the corridor would be returned to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), and approximately \$750,000 of federal funding spent to date for preliminary engineering would be at-risk for being repaid by the County of San Luis Obispo (County) to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

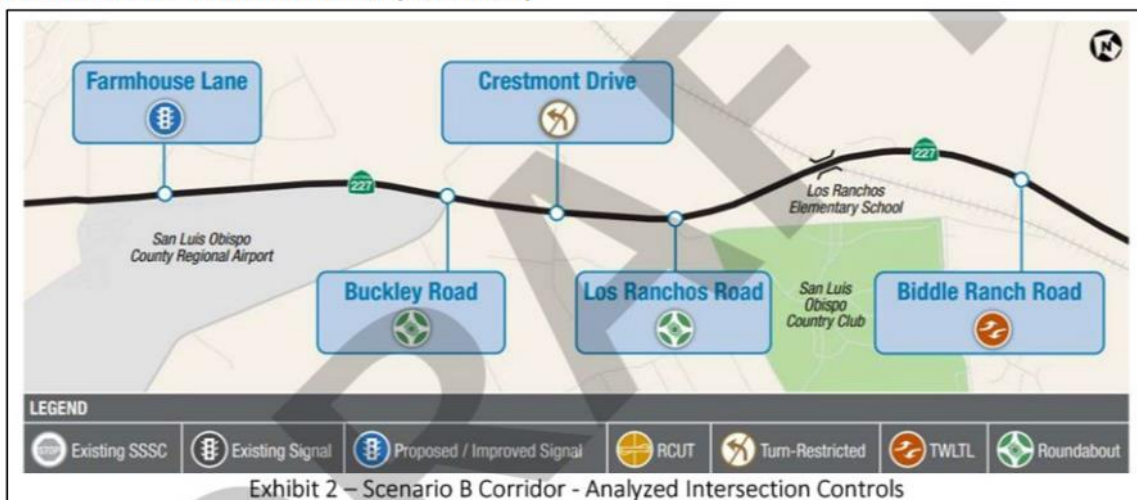
In other words, you had better do what the bureaucrats want, or you will be punished.



Neighbors and many commercial users of the highway are opposed to roundabouts generally and have asserted that the specific versions proposed in this project are undersized. Land required to fit in the roundabouts may require condemnation proceedings. This might also be true of widening.

Scenario B: 2-Lane Corridor The 2-Lane Corridor concept focusses on providing additional capacity at only the most constrained locations within the corridor at intersections. A combination of intersection control types including signal, roundabout, turn-restricted, and two-way-left turn-lane were determined to have the greatest return on investment through the corridor. Exhibit 2 illustrates the intersection controls that have the highest return on investment and were included in the analysis for Scenario B

Scenario B: 2-Lane Corridor (Exhibit 2)



Roundabouts pose challenges and risks for tanker trucks (including fuel), fire department water tenders, and trailer trucks.

One advantage of roundabouts is that they provide great sites for monumental sculpture. The only problem now is that all our patriots have been cancelled by the left as they are now regarded as racist or worse.



The Mayor of New York is considering removal of the Columbus Statue from Columbus Circle. Perhaps he would donate it for one of our roundabouts.

Special Board of Supervisors Board Meeting of Tuesday, April 5, 2022 (Scheduled) 5:00 PM

Item 1 - Hearing to consider a request to 1) provide direction to staff on proposed language for a County Charter to be submitted to the voters regarding the appointment process for County elected positions and 2) provide other direction as appropriate. The Board will hold a hearing on adoption of a proposed limited County Charter. The purpose of the Charter would be to provide the voters of the County with more control over the replacement of County Supervisors when a vacancy occurs midterm. Provisions would also apply to the Countywide constitutional officers, Auditor Controller, District Attorney, Assessor, Sheriff, and Clerk Recorder. No other provisions of the County's governing structure would be affected. The proposed Charter provisions would be subject to approval by a vote of the people.

Per prior Board Direction, County Counsel Rita Neal is submitting language for adoption of a County Charter. The Board direction came on a split 3/2 vote with Gibson and Ortiz-Legg dissenting. Gibson was particularly critical of the idea, stating that it is a solution in search of a problem.

Gibson has been adamant in his opposition. He stated that counties are administrative subdivisions of the State and should stick with the general law form. He also objected that the special and regular elections would cost more. Again, he stated that the proposal was a solution in search of problem.

He said that the matter was purely political. In so doing, he noted that it is likely that governors in California are likely to be Democrats for the foreseeable future. Thus, he sees the Charter as an attempt to avoid Democratic governors having control of the appointments.

Promotes Local Control:

Actually, it is a good idea because it would give the people of the County and its elected Board members control when a Board member vacancy occurs midterm. Currently and under General Law provisions, the Governor has the power to fill such vacancies. Given the fact that the Socialist Party, operating under camouflage as the Democratic Party, has controlled the office for decades and will probably control it forever, this is a good move.

It promotes local control and fairness. So far in the last decade, Democratic governors have appointed Caryn Ray and Dawn Ortiz-Legg.

The proposed Charter also provides for the filling of vacancies in the Countywide offices of Auditor Controller, District Attorney, Assessor, Sheriff, and Clerk Recorder by election.

This would forestall the sort of conflict that ensued when the Clerk Recorder position became vacant, and the Board appointed a successor. Gibson will criticize the proposal as too costly. This is a limited Charter, which does not revise the basic structure of the County itself.

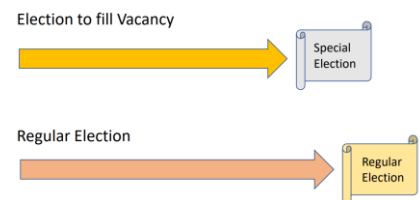
Current Proposed Language:

A. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is 180 days or greater, then the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the electors of that district at a special election to be called by the Board of Supervisors not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs, except that if the vacancy occurs within 180 days of a regularly scheduled election held throughout the supervisorial district, the election to fill the vacancy may be consolidated with that regularly scheduled election. The person receiving the highest number of votes in that election shall fill the vacancy.

B. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is less than 180 days, then the vacancy shall remain vacant until the vacancy is filled through the next regularly scheduled general election.

Alternative: This alternative would provide greater flexibility in timing, which, in turn, could avoid the high cost of a countywide election for one of the Constitutional officers (Sheriff, DA, Clerk-Recorder, Assessor, and Auditor-Controller in some cases.

If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is 365 days or greater, then the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the electors of that district at a special election to be called by the Board of Supervisors not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs, except that if the vacancy occurs within 180 days of a regularly scheduled election held throughout the supervisorial district, the election to fill the vacancy may be consolidated with that regularly scheduled election. The person receiving the highest number of votes in that election shall fill the vacancy.



Financial Considerations (Estimated):

- *To submit Charter to voters: \$353,000*
- *Consolidated General Election to fill Countywide vacancy: \$313,000*
- *Special Election to fill Countywide vacancy: \$1,000,000*
- *Consolidated General Election to fill a BOS office: \$66,500*
- *Special Election to fill a BOS office: \$354,000*

CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Enacted [date]

Effective: [date]

We, the People of the County of San Luis Obispo, with a desire for self-determination in selecting our county elected officials and to initiate the process to govern our county by charter government, do hereby adopt this charter.

ARTICLE I. POWERS OF THE COUNTY.

Section 100. The County of San Luis Obispo is a political subdivision of the State of California. It has all the powers provided by the constitution and laws of the state and this Charter. It has such other powers as necessarily implied.

ARTICLE II. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

Section 200. Governing Body. The governing body of the county is a Board of Supervisors of five (5) members elected by and from designated supervisorial districts.

Section 201. Filling of Vacancies in the Board of Supervisors. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of supervisor, the vacancy shall be filled as follows:

- A. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is 180 days or greater, then the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the electors of that district at a special election to be called by the Board of Supervisors not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs, except that if the vacancy occurs within 180 days of a regularly scheduled election held throughout the supervisorial district, the election to fill the vacancy may be consolidated with that regularly scheduled election. The person receiving the highest number of votes in that election shall fill the vacancy.
- B. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is less than 180 days, then the vacancy shall remain vacant until the vacancy is filled through the next regularly scheduled general election.

Section 202. Filling of Vacancies in Other Elective Offices. Whenever a vacancy occurs in any elective county office, other than in the Board of Supervisors, the vacancy shall be filled as follows:

- A. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is 180 days or greater, then the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the electors at a special election to be called by the Board of Supervisors not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs, except that if the vacancy occurs within 180 days of a regularly scheduled Countywide election, the election to fill the vacancy may be consolidated with that regularly scheduled election. The person receiving the highest number of votes in that election shall fill the vacancy.
- B. If, at the time the vacancy occurs, the remaining term of office is less than 180 days, then the vacancy may either remain vacant until the vacancy is filled through the next regularly scheduled election or the Board of Supervisors may fill the vacancy as provided by general law.

Section 203. Continuation of Office. Any person holding an office, either elective or appointive, on the effective date of this Charter shall continue in office pursuant to the provisions of this Charter.

ARTICLE III. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Section 300. General Law Governs. Except as expressly set forth in this Charter, the general law set forth in the Constitution of the State of California and the laws of the State of California shall govern the operations of the County of San Luis Obispo.

Section 301. County Ordinances Enacted by the Voters Remain in Effect. Ordinances of the County of San Luis Obispo adopted by the voters prior to the enactment of this Charter shall remain in full force and effect and may only be modified or repealed by a vote of the people.

Section 302. Severability. If any provision of this Charter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Charter, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

[END OF COUNTY CHARTER]

June 21, 2022	SUGGESTED LAST DAY San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors to adopt a resolution/ordinance placing a measure on the November 8, 2022, Consolidated General Election ballot.
June 23, 2022	BY THIS DATE the Elections Official shall send the Notice Calling for Submission of Primary/Rebuttal Arguments FOR and AGAINST the measure to be published.
July 22, 2022	PRIMARY ARGUMENTS DUE – LAST DAY for proponent(s) to change or withdraw Primary Arguments.
July 22, 2022	IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS DUE from County Counsel. FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT DUE from Auditor (if directed by B.O.S.)
July 23 - August 1, 2022	PUBLIC EXAMINATION PERIOD - Primary Arguments, Impartial Analysis, Fiscal Impact Statement (if applicable).
August 2, 2022	REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS DUE - LAST DAY for proponent(s) to change or withdraw Rebuttal Arguments.
August 3 – 12, 2022	PUBLIC EXAMINATION PERIOD - For Rebuttal Arguments Only.
August 29, 2022 *	ELECTION OFFICIAL'S DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF LOCAL MEASURE INFORMATION TO PRINTER: Submission of ballot/sample ballot material to printer by County Elections Official.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 (Not Scheduled)

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

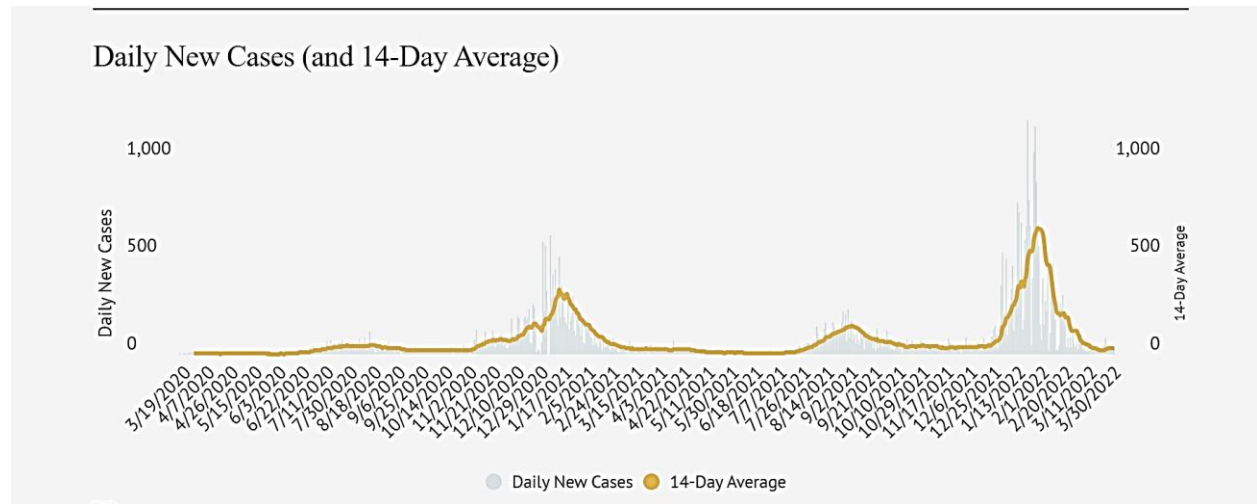
SLO Pension Trust Meeting of Monday, March 28, 2022 (Completed)

Item 11 - Monthly Investment Report for February 2022. As expected, returns became negative, as inflation, Federal debt, energy insecurity, war, tighter monetary policy, and other consequences of weakness and wokism undermined the economy and markets.

	February	Year to Date 2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total Trust Investments (\$ millions)	\$1,705		\$1,775	\$1,552 year end	\$1,446 year end	\$1,285 year end	\$1,351 year end
Total Fund Return	-1.3% Gross	-3.1% Gross	15.2% Gross	8.9 % Gross	16.3 % Gross	-3.2 % Gross	15.5 % Gross
Policy Index Return (r)	-117%	-3.7%	12.8%	10.0 %	16.4 %	-3.2 %	13.4 %

EMERGENT ISSUES

Item 1 - COVID. The decline in cases and hospitalizations is now the lowest it has been since the pandemic first arrived in SLO County.



5 (0 ICU) SLO County Residents with COVID-19 in Hospital

Counterintuitively, and in violation of people’s basic rights, the State Legislature is pushing bills mandating vaccinations for everybody. See the attached commentary by Andy Caldwell below:

Two of the most evil bills ever!!! The sky is the limit on SB1390!!!!

COVID PLUS TWO HORRIBLE BILLS!

Our Cringe Worthy Maniacal State Government

The concept that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed is officially dead in California. Not merely dead, but really most sincerely dead. So, what's new you ask? The legislature is still using covid (and other excuses) to assert control on all facets of society even though the rest of the nation has moved on.

AB 1993, (technically “paused” at the moment), would mandate the COVID vaccine for everyone in the public and private sectors, including all employees and independent contractors who work in California. It imposes stiff financial penalties on employers who fail to comply. And there is no limitation on the number of boosters that would be required in the future.

SB 1464 was created because numerous sheriffs refused to enforce ridiculous lockdown orders. Instead, they were busy dealing with a bevy of serious crimes due to previous instances of the state legislature stuck on stupid, i.e., legislation which created a “crime does pay” in California mentality among the criminal class. SB 1464 would force law enforcement officials to enforce public health orders, hence, the creation of COVID police. The bill would prohibit state funds from being provided to any law enforcement agency that publicly announces that they will oppose or adopt a policy to oppose a public health order.

There are many other bills being considered that indicate that our state legislature knows no bounds having to do with the rights of parents to determine what is best for their children. SB 871 which would require all children, including infants to 17-year-olds, to get the covid vaccine to attend childcare or school. SB 866 would allow teens from 12 to 17 years of age to get the vaccine without parental consent, thereby exposing these children to the associated meteoric rise in myocarditis. SB 1479 would require schools to continue testing children on a regular basis.

The legislature is also attacking physicians with impunity. As Katy Grimes reports in the California Globe: AB 2098 would punish physicians and surgeons for “unprofessional conduct” for advocating for the potential benefits of early treatment with off-label drugs, or those who dare to ask questions about COVID vaccine safety. The bill would reclassify the sharing of COVID-19 “misinformation” by doctors and surgeons as unprofessional conduct that would result in disciplinary action. Under AB 2098, doctors would be subject to disciplinary actions by the Medical Board of California and the Osteopathic Medical Board of California if they do not adhere to the approved COVID treatment consensus.

Hence, in the name of “the science is settled”, the California legislature is on the cusp of outlawing the concept of second opinions, the once definitive preventative protection against medical malpractice. Too bad, there is no law against legislative malpractice!

A particularly reprehensible, non-covid related bill, is AB 2223 (introduced by Buffy the Baby Killer) which legalizes infanticide! As reported by LifeNews, if signed into law, former Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell, who murdered three infants born alive after botched abortions, could not be prosecuted. And incredibly, someone like Gosnell who helped a California mother kill her newborn after birth will have a cause of action to sue police for investigating the matter if AB 2223 becomes law.

Finally, one of the most loathsome agencies in modern times was the Stasi of East Germany fame. The Stasi was a most effective force of repression and terror, as one author put it, while

their people starved and plotted to escape from California- er read that, their clutches! Their core mission? Root out dissenting voices and prevent people from challenging the government. **Ergo, SB1390, “would punish disinformation or misinformation, including, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, information regarding medicine or vaccinations, elections, and conspiracy theories”!** As defined by whom you should ask!

Andy Caldwell

COLAB IN DEPTH

IN FIGHTING THE TROUBLESOME, LOCAL DAY-TO-DAY ASSAULTS ON OUR FREEDOM AND PROPERTY, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THE LARGER UNDERLYING IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC CAUSES



THE SHEER MADNESS OF TODAY’S LEFT

When ideologues demand power but cannot achieve it politically because they are cruel ideologues, expect more of their insanity to follow.

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

"Madness! Madness . . . madness!"

— The Bridge on the River Kwai

With that exclamation, director David Lean ended his epic film about a dutiful but vainglorious British officer who sought to display to his Japanese captors superior British discipline and morale in a prisoner of war camp. As proof of British engineering superiority, he pursues his agendas by ordering his POWs to build for their Japanese captors a strategic bridge that otherwise they could not have built—only to try to destroy the efforts of fellow Allied soldiers sent to blow-up his masterpiece. For the delusional ideologue, reality must never intrude.

So it is now. When the rock of green and woke ideology hits the hard place of reality, sheer madness always results.

The world prices of oil and natural gas are skyrocketing. At the time of a major war in Ukraine, the Western democracies have framed the conflict as existential, with a Russia/Mordor on the attack against a declining West/Gondor.

A subtext of the struggle is that the world's illiberal regimes—fossil-fuel exporting Russia, Venezuela, Iran, and the various Middle Eastern autocracies—are getting richer by the day while destroying Mother Earth, as noble gas and oil importing green Western nations can scarcely afford to drive or heat their homes.

Normally, the mad Left would not object terribly to the ensuing fuel price hikes. Remember, Joe Biden *bragged* on the campaign trail that he would end fossil fuels during his tenure.

Obama's soon-to-be Energy Secretary Steven Chu said during the 2008 campaign he wished to see American gas prices match those in Europe (i.e. \$9-10 a gallon). And then President Obama himself did not disagree. He meekly added that such increases should be "gradual." He had also warned that his cap-and-trade initiatives would necessarily "skyrocket" electricity prices—without suggesting that his off-guard brag was even a gaffe of unexpectedly telling the truth.

So green orthodoxy dictates that the highest possible fossil fuel prices are good. Unaffordability will hasten the end of gas and oil, ensuring currently subsidized but uneconomical green energy as the only remaining alternative.

But like most leftist top-down agendas, the details and consequences are usually hidden. After all, green wokeism usually exempts the lifestyles of its elite advocates. The Obamas currently are building a most un-green luxury Hawaiian beach mansion (their third such estate). And Al "Earth in the Balance" Gore got rich selling his failed cable outlet to a carbon-fueled Al Jazeera.

Nonetheless exorbitant gas and heating prices are toxic politically to the middle class. Worse yet for the Left, we are currently in a Biden-created inflationary spiral, in the middle of a savage Ukrainian war, and facing a catastrophic Democratic wipeout in the upcoming November midterms.

The result of green theory meeting cruel reality is sheer madness. As a good green, Joe Biden in one of his first acts sought to cancel the critical EastMed pipeline that is planned to feed over 10 billion cubic meters per year of natural gas into southern Europe. That clean burning fuel would enhance the suppliers, our allies Greece, Cyprus, and Israel.

Yet Biden also dropped all sanctions against the Russian-German Nord Stream 2 pipeline, enriching Vladimir Putin with profits from global exports. Biden talked a good game, Corn Pop-style, to Putin—but acted in ways throughout 2021 that would appease Russia until it subsequently invaded Ukraine.

What other than sheer madness is the logic of helping enemies like Putin and hurting our Mediterranean allies?

When Biden entered office, the United States was the largest gas and oil producer in the world. Yet he immediately began jawboning the oil and gas industry about their fated doom on the horizon, pressuring lending agencies not to aid the American frackers, canceling pipelines, ending ANWR, and stopping all new federal gas and oil leases.

So Biden achieved his goal of higher prices and less U.S. production. But now politics wars with green dogmatism. And madness once again ensues. As a result, Biden has variously in the past months begged, but been rebuffed by Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela to help out the Democratic cause by pumping their filthy, smelly, hot gas and oil, all of which we too have in abundance, but are too clean and too noble to tap. Finally, after trying to destroy the U.S. natural gas industry, he is on his knees begging it to export American supplies to fuel-starved green Europe—that has also mostly outlawed fracking.

Here in California, Governor Gavin Newsom has gone mad. He reigns over the most expensive gas and diesel prices in the history of the United States, at over \$6 and \$7 a gallon respectively in most parts of the state.

Californians suffer under the highest gas taxes in the nation and are shutting down nuclear plants. They seek reductions in clean burning natural gas generators at a time of drought when hydroelectric production is constrained.

So what does Newsom do? To fuel his state, and keep a shrinking middle class sustainable, does he tap California's huge gas and oil reserves? They are the seventh largest of the 50 states and might bring down prices in a state that consumes more fossil fuels than any state but Texas.

No, that would be green heresy. So instead Newsom has proposed spending \$11 billion in subsidies to drivers—at \$400 per registered vehicle—so that the state's drivers can buy more smelly, dirty gasoline and diesel fuel that they otherwise would not at the prohibitive, but secretly desirable, \$6-7 a gallon price.

Post-reset Democratic orthodoxy now says Putin and the Russians are evil. That narrative fueled the Russian collusion hoax, the Alfa-Bank hoax, and the Hunter Biden Russian disinformation hoax.

But what if sealing a new “Iran Deal” is critical before the midterms to show something—anything—of substance after a string of Biden foreign policy disasters? In other words, which agenda reveals the greatest clout: Biden's demonization of Putin as a “killer,” “bully,” “war-criminal,” and “butcher” or positioning Putin as the suddenly needed Iranian Deal 2.0 fixer?

That is a tough call between Joe's foreign policy “accomplishments” and Putin slaughtering Ukrainians. But in the end, nonetheless, we have asked the Russians to adjudicate a new Iran deal that almost certainly will pave the way to an Iranian-fossil-fueled nuke.

Remember that Obama in 2012 invited the Russians into the Middle East after a 40-year hiatus. Biden will trump that disaster by ensuring Putin becomes the nuclear protector of the old Obama vision of a Persian-Iran-Shiite-Syrian-Lebanon-Hezbollah-Axis from Tehran to the Mediterranean—likely to be protected by nuclear Russia as an apparent counterweight to U.S. allies in the Gulf and Israel.

Enraging Contradictions

The southern border since late January 2021, for all intents and purposes, has ceased to exist. That is unless we are talking about Cuban and Russian refugees who seem to the Left to be too politically independent to embrace as victim constituents needing left-wing permanent government patronage.

Yet the midterms loom. One of the most unpopular of Joe Biden's initiatives is his welcoming of nearly 2 million impoverished, unvaccinated, unaudited, and untested illegal immigrants to cross the southern border. By any fair measure, Biden deliberately violated his oath of office by failing to enforce U.S. immigration laws. Political agendas outweighed his own promises to uphold the sanctity of federal law.

Yet he fears polls. Of all the Biden failures, the southern border and illegal immigration seem to infuriate Americans of all persuasions the most.

So what to do? Spring is here. Warmer weather ushers in a huge new influx. Over 140,000 illegal immigrants entered in a cold February alone—at an annualized rate of nearly 1.7 million that will likely soar even higher over the summer.

The collapsing world economy and stagflation will send record numbers northward. They will simply walk illegally into U.S. sovereign territory anywhere the detested Trump wall remains (intentionally) unfinished.

Homeland “Security” Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas has shackled the border patrol and destroyed its morale, turning a once effective border deterrence force into agents of their own humiliation as they watch thousands simply walk past them.

Adding insult to injury, Biden—in the fashion of his rush-to-judgment support of the faker Jussie Smollett—was quick to condemn his own federal employees as mounted criminals who “whipped” illegal aliens from their horses.

There was clear evidence that the agents were trying to block entry, did not whip any illegal alien, and were using long reins to maneuver panicking horses. No matter: Biden shot off the cuff with, “I promise you, those people will pay. There will be an investigation underway now and there will be consequences. There will be consequences.”

Mayorkas then piled on against “those people” as weaponizing their horses.

So how is that circle squared? On the one hand, Biden must encourage more illegal aliens from the south, but he also must alter the optics of such a summertime flood of illegal immigrants on the eve of the midterms.

Or in starker terms, how does one galvanize a border patrol that the president had promised will pay for their purported sins when he temporarily needs such good team players to pose as orderly accommodators of the new influx for a few months?

Answer? Mayorkas is calling for an emergency “DHS Volunteer Force” that will provide the appearance of “order” to an otherwise riotous mob-like scene at the border.

Stranger still, the Left is demanding an end to a “Title 42” provision—the public health order during the COVID-19 pandemic that allowed for a quicker deportation of illegal aliens right at the border.

Yet, at the same time, federal health officials and many in the administration are warning that COVID-19 is *not* over. With his accustomed gloom and doom, Dr. Anthony Fauci warns that the new variants of the Omicron wave may threaten to send us into yet another cycle of pandemic social distancing, masking, and quarantining.

Who wins this left-wing agenda war—the Faucites who want permanent COVID-19 emergency powers, or the coalition of the La Raza-istas, the hard Left, and labor-hungry employers who want millions more of illegal aliens—when their shared open border agendas spell catastrophe in seven months at the polls?

These contradictions that lead to insanity enrage Americans. They believe the fiascos of 2021-2022 were almost a case study how to destroy a great nation economically, materially, culturally, socially, politically, and militarily in just 14 months.

Yet madness is predictable when the unchecked left-wing’s demand for limitless and endless power collides with a hated, but unremorseful ideological agenda utterly divorced from reality. Put simply, when ideologues demand power but cannot maintain it politically because they are cruel ideologues that destroy what they touch, expect more of their insanity to follow.

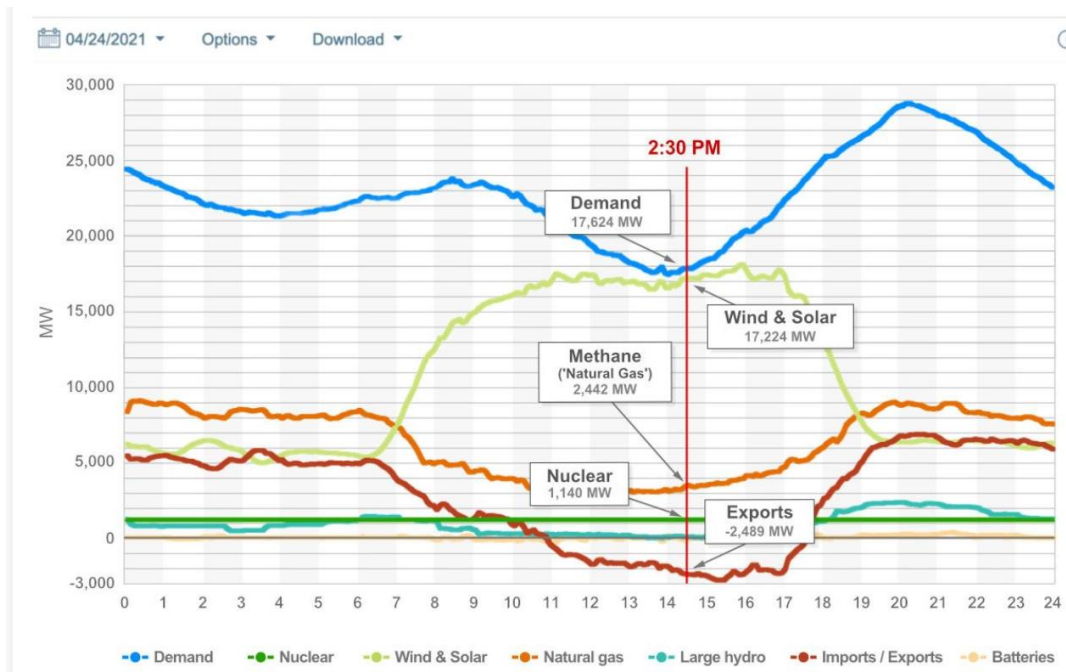
*Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness and the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. He is an American military historian, columnist, a former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of **The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won**, [The Case for Trump](#) and the newly released [The Dying Citizen](#). This article first appeared in the March 28, 2022 edition of American Greatness.*



THE FAILURE OF CALIFORNIA ELECTRICITY POLICY IN ONE IMAGE

Veteran energy watchers know that a time-graph of electricity consumption on an electrical grid tells a story

BY CARL WURTZ,



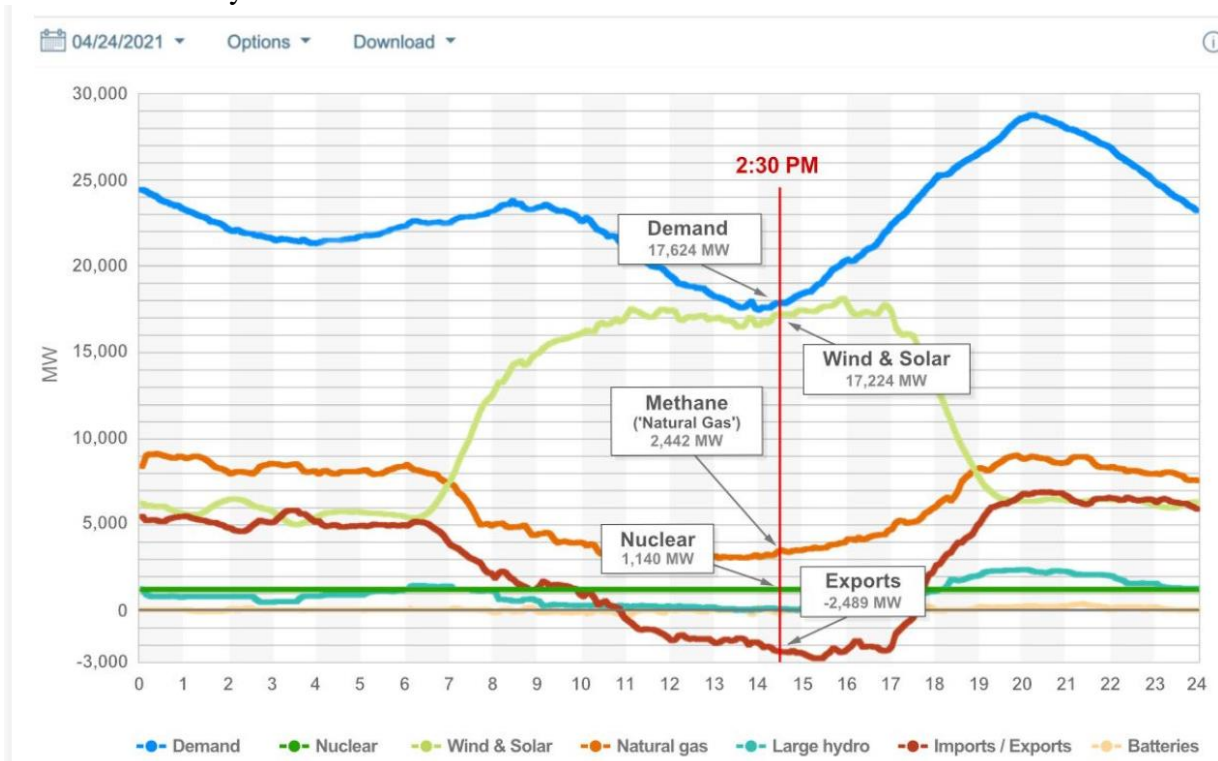
In a few weeks it will be one year since the article “California just hit 95% renewable energy. Will other states come along for the ride?” appeared in the Los Angeles Times. Its author, reporter Sammy Roth, had learned that California briefly generated 95% of the electricity consumers were using from renewable sources a few days earlier, and he was elated. Either he believed, or he wanted us to believe, that it was only a matter of generating 5% more of our energy from wind turbines and solar panels and California would cease emitting greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. We would achieve something no other country, city, or community worldwide had achieved before.

Like the rings of a tree, veteran energy watchers know that a time-graph of electricity consumption on an electrical grid tells a story. All of its curved lines, from one moment to the next, are interrelated – when one goes down, it might cause another to go down; two others might appear to be linked – but every shape has a part to play. Though I knew Sammy’s claim wasn’t true, I had to know *why* it wasn’t true – why it couldn’t have happened, even for four seconds.

I started by downloading graphs of what happened on April 24, 2021 – precise figures for supply (generation) and demand (consumption), available at the website of the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). As you’ll see, it didn’t require much investigation before the monument to solar and wind energy Roth had erected would start to crumble.

The graph below was cobbled together from several others. Some explanation:

- Time moves from left to right. The left side corresponds to 12:00 AM on April 24, the right corresponds to 12:00 AM the next morning.
- The blue line at the top shows electrical demand, measured in megawatts (MW) – the amount of power California consumers were using at each moment of the 24-hour day.
- The other lines below it show supply – how CAISO is meeting demand (at any time, the heights of all the other lines combined is equal to the height of the blue one).
- For four seconds at about 2:30 PM (red vertical line), California solar and wind generated 94% as much electricity as customers were consuming.
- At the same moment, however, natural gas plants were generating 3,442 MW and Diablo Canyon Power Plant was generating 1,144 MW – together with renewables, there was too much supply.
- If supply doesn't precisely match demand on an electric grid, it can cause a system-wide outage. Thus California had to export 2,489 MW to keep the grid from going down (dark red line).
- Because Arizona, Nevada, and Oregon didn't need or want our electricity, we had to pay them to take it (euphemistically labeled “negative pricing”). It's an expense borne by California electricity customers.
- During peak consumption (8 PM), wind and hydro are the only significant renewable resources available. Solar is providing no electricity at all.
- At that time, when electricity is most expensive, California is forced to import more than 1/4 of its electricity from other states.



Q: Why are natural gas plants running at all, if there's too much renewable electricity?

A: Because solar and wind are unpredictable, fast-starting gas turbines must operate in “spinning reserve” to smooth their output. If a cloud covers the sun over a solar farm gas turbines must

ramp up to fill in the gap in generation. Or, if the wind suddenly picks up at a large wind farm, they must ramp down to prevent overloading the grid.

Q: Then we can't just power the grid with solar and wind?

A: That's correct. Powering a grid with either requires natural gas to be at the ready, to smooth out any abrupt changes that may occur.

Q: Why does solar energy flatten out in the middle of the day, when the sun is high in the sky?

A: Because solar would produce too much electricity at mid-day, system operators are forced to curtail solar – to request operators shut their farms down. And solar farms are paid to turn off their output – another expense borne by California electricity customers for which they receive nothing of value.

Q: So, having "free" solar and wind is more expensive than without it? And having renewables on the grid actually forces us to burn more fossil-fuel gas?

A: Yes, and yes.

Q: What about batteries? Can't they fill in the blanks for solar and wind?

A: No. Electricity produced by all grid-scale batteries in California is shown by the yellow line (it's hiding behind the graph's x-axis). For the purpose of making any significant contribution to grid electricity, batteries are useless.

California's nuclear plant, Diablo Canyon, is scheduled to permanently close in November 2025, to allow investors to build other more profitable ways to generate electricity. Now, when they tell you their ways will lower carbon emissions and you tell them they're wrong, you'll be able to tell them why.

Carl Wurtz, President of non-profit Californians for Green Nuclear Power, grew up within a strong pro-nuclear culture not far from Argonne National Laboratory and FERMILAB in Chicago. Carl is a lifelong environmentalist and clean-energy advocate, and credits his pro-nuclear leanings to spending his youth in a state which generates more than half of its electricity with nuclear energy. This article first appeared in the California Globe of April 2, 2022.



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