

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Sep 14, 2012 09:41

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-12-0482

LOGGING DATE: 09/04/2012

ACTION OFFICE:

EDO

AUTHOR: Mayor Richard Bloom (City of Santa Monica)

AFFILIATION:

ADDRESSEE: CHRM Allison Macfarlane

SUBJECT: Concerns regarding San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station and to urge action on the part of the NRC in order to safeguard public health in the region

ACTION: Signature of Chairman

DISTRIBUTION: RF, SECY to Ack.

LETTER DATE: 08/21/2012

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: Commission Correspondence

NOTES: cc: Senator Barbara Boxer on response

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 10/04/2012

DATE SIGNED:



Mayor Richard Bloom
Mayor Pro Tempore Gleam Davis
Councilmembers

Robert Holbrook
Kevin McKeown
Pam O'Connor
Terry O'Day
Bobby Shriver

August 21, 2012

Dr. Allison M. Macfarlane
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Macfarlane:


On behalf of the Santa Monica City Council and the city's residents I am writing to express concerns regarding the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) and to urge action on the part of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in order to safeguard public health in the region.

Santa Monica is a coastal community located in Los Angeles County approximately 80 miles northwest of SONGS. Since the tragic earthquake and tsunami that struck the coast of Japan in March 2011 and destroyed the Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear plant, attention in Southern California has focused on concerns about the safety of SONGS.

While the nuclear energy industry has generally provided electricity safely and reliably, accidents at nuclear generating stations can have widespread and devastating consequences, as witnessed at Chernobyl and last year in Japan. There have been several operational safety issues over the years at SONGS, most recently on January 31, 2012 with the release of radioactive vapor due to a leak in a steam generator tube. Following that incident your agency determined that premature operational wear in the steam generator tubes in SONGS units 2 and 3, which had been installed within the past two years, present a significant a safety risk and both units have been shut down.

In light of the potential catastrophic consequences to human life and the environment from an accident at SONGS the City of Santa Monica urges the NRC to go beyond its current focus of resolving the safety issue with the worn steam generator tubes and instead conduct a comprehensive study of SONGS that includes a public and transparent licensing amendment process before either unit is brought back online. The consequences of an accident at SONGS are far too great not to take this time to ensure that the facility does not present a danger to the residents of Southern California. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely


Richard Bloom
Mayor

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

AUGUST 14, 2012

A regular meeting of the Santa Monica City Council was called to order by Mayor Bloom at 5:35 p.m., on Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at City Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Richard Bloom
Mayor Pro Tem Glean Davis
Councilmember Robert T. Holbrook
Councilmember Pam O'Connor
Councilmember Terry O'Day

Absent: Councilmember Kevin McKeown
Councilmember Bobby Shriver

Also Present: City Manager Rod Gould
City Attorney Marsha Jones Moutrie
Assistant City Clerk Denise Anderson-Warren
City Clerk Maria M. Stewart

CONVENE/PLEDGE

On order of Mayor, the City Council convened at 5:35 p.m., with Councilmembers McKeown and Shriver absent. Councilmember O'Connor led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSED SESSIONS

There was no one present for public comment for closed sessions. On order of the Mayor, the City Council recessed at 5:36 p.m., to consider closed sessions and returned at 6:52 p.m., with Councilmembers McKeown and Shriver absent, to report the following:

1-A: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation: Richard McDonald and Golden State Collective v. City of Santa Monica, Los Angeles Superior Court Case Number SS 0022090.

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie reported that this item was heard with no reportable action taken.

1-B: Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: Consideration of whether to initiate litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c): 2 cases.

DOWNTOWN POST OFFICE

Councilmember O'Connor returned at 10:18 p.m.

13-B: Request of Mayor Bloom and Mayor Pro Tem Davis that the City Council respond to a plan to sell the post office at the corner of Fifth and Arizona Streets and relocate retail services to an annex facility by directing staff to communicate to the United States Postal Service that Santa Monica's downtown post office at 1248 Fifth Street should remain open to the public and continue to provide retail and mail services, was presented.

Members of the public Zina Josephs, Jerry Rubin and Valerie Griffin spoke in support of the request.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, seconded by Councilmember Holbrook, to approve request. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote, with Councilmembers Shriver and McKeown absent.

SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Councilmember O'Day was excused at 10:24 p.m.

13-C: Request of Mayor Bloom and Mayor Pro Tem Davis that the City Council direct staff to communicate its support of a full California Public Utilities Commission investigation of the cost and reliability of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station and compare it to other energy sources used today and throughout the licensing duration and in addition urge the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to conduct a licensing amendment process that is transparent and includes public hearings, was presented.

Councilmember O'Day advised that although he is not legally required to recuse himself, his company owns a number of power plants that may be impacted by the subject matter, so for that reason requested to be recused to avoid the appearance of the conflict of interest.

The following members of the public spoke in support of the request: Zina Josephs, Jerry Rubin, Valerie Griffin, Denise Barton, Christel Andersen, Harvey Eder, Torgen Johnson, Ace Joffman, Gary Headrick, Diane Moss, Bruce Campbell, Myla Reson, Cris Gutierrez, and Randy Ziglar. Member of the public Marc Olson, representing Edison, provided an update on Edison's efforts related to safety.

Motion by Mayor Bloom, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Davis, to approve request. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote, with Councilmembers Shriver, McKeown, and O'Day absent.

RECOGNITION OF MILITARY SERVICE CASUALTIES

Councilmember O'Day returned at 10:55 p.m.

13-D: Request of Councilmember Holbrook that staff consider an appropriate form of recognition for the 97 Santa Monica service men and women who were casualties of the five wars that occurred since Santa Monica's incorporation and return to Council with recommendations, locations and cost estimates, was presented.