

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Cindy Bladey
Office of Administration, NRC
Mail Stop: 3WFN-06-A44M
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Laguna Beach, which is located within the 20-mile area subject to permanent relocation in the event of a radiation accident at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), I was alarmed to learn that the decommissioning plan for the plant involves storage of its spent nuclear fuel rods on site for 60 years or indefinitely until the government removes them to a final deposit repository.

It's my understanding that the spent fuel stored on the site will remain highly radioactive for tens of thousands of generations and that the plant was closed because of faulty steam generator replacements and had a history of safety complaints from its employees and contractors. The site is not a safe place to store spent fuel. It is situated in a recognized tsunami, earthquake, and firestorm zone and is vulnerable to climate change and terrorist attack in a densely populated area on the ocean. If there were a radiation accident there, we here in Laguna might escape with our lives, but we would never be able to come back to the homes we love.

The people of California were promised that the spent fuel rods would be removed, and it's imperative that that happen as soon as possible.

I urge you (1) to work with the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to create a secure interim location—perhaps on a military base or in some other sparsely populated location—for the spent fuel rods from SONGS and require that they be moved and safely stored there before decommissioning funds are depleted on site restoration activities; and (2) to hold Southern California Edison responsible for safety and security at SONGS as long as the spent fuel rods remain there.

Sincerely,

Name: *William Atkins*

Address: *263 San Joaquin St Laguna Beach, CA 92651*

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