

BILL HORN

SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

September 22, 2015

The Honorable Ernest Moniz Secretary United States Department of Energy 11000 Independence Ave. SW Washington DC 20585

Dear Secretary Moniz,

On behalf of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, I write to urge your Department to take action to remove spent nuclear fuel from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS).

For more than 47 years SONGS operated in the northwest corner of San Diego County and in June of 2013 the station ceased all operations after excessive vibrations and other issues degraded tubes in the steam generators. Today, more than two years after decommissioning 1,400 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel remains stored onsite at SONGS.

In addition to being in close proximity to the more than three million people who reside in San Diego County, SONGS sits 200 yards from the Pacific Ocean and 250 yards from both a major rail line and Interstate 5. Should an earthquake, terrorist attack, or other calamity damage the storage units at SONGS, there is a potential significant impact to the health and safety of this region.

It is the responsibility of the federal government to develop a disposal facility for the long-term management of used uranium fuel from SONGS and other U.S. nuclear power plants. At this time, the federal government has failed to designate a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel. This radioactive material needs to be removed from San Diego County and disposed of safely away from population centers. We understand that legislative measures are also necessary to move this endeavor forward, and we hope that all levels of the federal government understand the importance of taking action quickly.

In order to protect the residents of this region, the San Diego Board of Supervisors respectfully urges you to take prompt action to remove and relocate the spent nuclear fuel at SONGS outside of the San Diego region.

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BILL HORN Chairman

County of San Diego

Cc:
Governor Jerry Brown
California Congressional Delegation
California State Legislative Delegation
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
California Energy Commission

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