



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 14, 2017

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Issa:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of October 17, 2017, providing your views on the issue of onsite nuclear waste storage and forwarding correspondence from two of your constituents posing a number of questions to the NRC regarding the safety and security of spent nuclear fuel storage at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The NRC staff will soon respond directly to your constituents. The NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) will provide your office with a copy of that response.

The NRC agrees that ensuring the safety and security of spent nuclear fuel stored onsite at nuclear power plants is very important. Nuclear plant licensees use proven technology that for decades has enabled spent nuclear fuel to be safely and securely stored on their sites, either in spent fuel pools or dry storage casks. In addition, through our ongoing regulatory oversight process, we continue to examine the performance of these onsite storage systems to provide for early discovery of any issues and appropriate mitigation if issues develop. The NRC has concluded that storage of spent fuel at reactor sites (and at away-from-reactor sites) can safely continue until a repository becomes available.

We appreciate the opportunity to address your constituents' questions about NRC activities and recognize that local communities have a strong interest in the decommissioning of nuclear power plants within their boundaries.

If you need anything additional, please contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of OCA, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

Kristine L. Svinicki