Docket Optical System - Comment for docket No. 11-IEP-1J

From: Patricia Jackson <patricialee@earthlink.net>
To: <docket@energy.state.ca.us>
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Subject: Comment for docket No. 11-IEP-1J

California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: July 26, 2011 Public Meeting on Nuclear Power in California

I will not be able to attend and would like my comments noted and included in the public comment filings.

PG&E built Diablo Canyon four decades ago near two active faults, the Hosgri and the Shoreline, to withstand only a 6.75 earthquake, and later retrofitted to withstand a 7.1 quake. The Shoreline fault runs just a few hundred feet from the power plant. Fault lines can combine to cause greater earth shakings, and a 7.2 quake on the combined faults could cause ground shaking at Diablo at a magnitude of 7.5 In the past emergency procedures and equipment were disabled for an 18-month period without operators or inspectors realization. A recent inspection at Diablo Canyon revealed 20 safety problems including a backup cooling pump failure. One of the security systems used to monitor the San Onofre nuclear plant stopped working Saturday, July 16, 2011; it is unclear what equipment was affected. As of July 19, several generators *considered low-level nuclear waste* are being readied for cross-country transport from the San Onofre plant. These will be trucked through highly populated counties in California to a disposal site in Utah. Workers at San Onofre are afraid they will be retaliated against if they bring up safety problems.

All power plants store spent nuclear fuel rods, which require billions of gallons of water to prevent their melt down. The US stores 80% of these rods: 5% more than plants were designed to contain. Each reactor in every plant makes 500 pounds of plutonium a year with a half-life of 24,400 years. Currently, there is no safe disposal of nuclear waste. Systems designed by General Electric which failed at Fukashima Daiiichi are the same systems contained in many of the 104 plants in the US- all built in the ‘60s and ‘70s; including Diablo Canyon. These plants were built to last only 40 years. New information about fault lines, the fact that both Diablo Canyon and San Onofre are located close to large populations, and no adequate plans exist for evacuation in case of earthquake or tsunami mandates that these plants be closed. These plants supply only 15.3% of our energy needs. The technology exists to supply our needs with safer, sustainable, renewable energy.

Sincerely,
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(For organizational indentification purposes only)

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