

**Docket Optical System - RE: The true cost of nuclear power**

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**From:** Ellen Rhoda <erhoda@cox.net>  
**To:** 'Docket Optical System' <docket@energy.state.ca.us>  
**Date:** 8/1/2011 10:53 PM  
**Subject:** RE: The true cost of nuclear power

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Comment for docket No. 11-IEP-1J

Thank you.

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**From:** Docket Optical System [mailto:docket@energy.state.ca.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 1:28 PM  
**To:** Ellen Rhoda  
**Subject:** Re: The true cost of nuclear power

<b>DOCKET</b>	
<b>11-IEP-1J</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<u>AUG 01 2011</u>
<b>RECD.</b>	<u>AUG 01 2011</u>

Please include the docket number in your comments.

Siting/Dockets Unit  
 California Energy Commission  
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>>> Ellen Rhoda <erhoda@cox.net> 7/31/2011 7:55 PM >>>

To the California Energy Commission:

Dear, respected and powerful commissioners,

I only want to offer one more voice and one more bit of encouragement to you to do what I pray, hope and trust that you will do.

I have lived in San Clemente for most of my life, and many friends and acquaintances are employed at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. I love them dearly, and absolutely do not want to in any way jeopardize their livelihood, but they are among the loved ones for whose lives I fear so strongly. Even those who do not acknowledge the risk will be victims of its fallout.

I have one son who is just now 15, born and raised in San Clemente. I was brought here by my parents when I was 2 years old, and we have lived within 5 miles of the plant for half a century. An inordinate number of our friends have contracted, and many died of, cancer. We can't say with certainty which, if any, environmental factors contributed to their demise, but neither we can dispatch the suspicious fear. My own father just died in May.

We have lived in denial, suppressing the inevitable result of admitting reality in regards to San Onofre. We have always known that the risks are astronomical, but we had not seen the actuality until the terrible tragedy that just befell Japan.

There is no way out where I live. The sole freeway that passes through between Los Angeles and San Diego is regularly sluggish and frequently jammed at various hours of every day by the millions of people who live and work in Southern California, and the tens of thousands who travel here to see and enjoy our spectacular vistas and exceptional climate. We have always known this. We also know that we live on an enormous fault and that a devastating earthquake is a certainty for our future. When the incident at San Onofre becomes the disaster so ardently prevented, we hold no hope of survival unscathed, and no doubt that we will lose everything dear or valuable in this physical place.

We hold out hope that now is finally the time that nuclear energy will no longer be generated, and lethal wastes will no longer be stored, in this paradise where we live. We have resigned ourselves that, if this is not the case, we will be forced out of our homes in order to preserve our lives.

I am so frustrated by the ongoing debate. Really, it seems so elementary. Regardless of any benefits of nuclear energy, the risks are very simply too excessively great. This nuclear experiment has just plain failed. We just can't do it without possibility of human error, nor can we adequately protect our plants against acts of terror or acts of God--it can't be done! We have yet to develop proper methods and placement for disposal of wastes that need to be constantly monitored and have half-lives of many hundreds of years. We have already created a ponderous legacy that we will leave as the burden of our children and our children's children. Surely now we should stop and make no more.

I beseech you, who have the position and authority to truly make a difference in the future of California, please, please, please put a stop to this insanity! Please, please, please return California's beautiful habitat to the people who love it and live here! Please, please, please eliminate the constant threat that looms over us of the immeasurable catastrophe that will--not might--WILL result, in the event of human error, failure of manufactured products, attack by national enemy or savvy terrorist, or any number of natural, geographical occurrences in our earth or our sea!

Please see us, hear us, acknowledge us, and take this action on our behalf. We are depending on you!

Most sincerely with reliance,

**Ellen**

Ellen Rhoda

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