

## Docket Optical System - Comments for docket No. 11-IEP-1J: California Nuclear Power Plant Issues

**From:** John Cant <jgcant@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** <docket@energy.state.ca.us>  
**Date:** 8/2/2011 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** Comments for docket No. 11-IEP-1J: California Nuclear Power Plant Issues  
**CC:** <bbyron@energy.state.ca.us>, <trout@foe.org>

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Dear Commissioners:

I am a resident and taxpayer here in California. Over the years I have attempted to have an open mind about nuclear energy despite recalling that in the 1960's there were plans to build a nuclear plant at Bodega Head, virtually on top of the San Andreas fault. It would be great if there were a genuinely safe way to generate electrical energy from nuclear plants.

Until the recent disaster in Japan, it seemed this could be done, judging from the example of France. In the aftermath of the Japanese catastrophes, disturbing information has been become publicly available: our own Nuclear Regulatory Commission has a revolving door arrangement with industry wherein top officials are assured plush jobs after they leave government. Not surprisingly, this pattern is causally related to lax regulation, including improper storage of spent fuel at several plants.

Here in California we have, or at least *should* have, particular concerns about aging reactors at Diablo Canyon and San Onofre which are near seismic faults.

Given the sorry performance of the N.R.C., the national failure to find a solution for spent fuel, and the vulnerability of reactors in California to earthquakes, I think the simplest and most environmentally sensible solution is to close reactors in this state and enhance efforts to establish clean energy sources, especially solar.

I wish to ask that the Energy Commission include three recommendations in its Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) for 2011:

- 1) Initiate research to determine how we could replace the electricity produced by the nuclear plants if they were rendered unusable by an earthquake or other disaster.
- 2) Review the original Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued for Diablo Canyon and San Onofre, taking into account newly available information on seismic vulnerabilities, increases in human population near the reactors, and the continuing lack of a permanent offsite solution to store safely highly radioactive waste.
- 4) Increase the emergency planning and evacuation zones around California's reactors from 20 to 50 miles and beyond. After the nuclear emergency in Japan, our N.R.C. recommended that residents near the Fukushima reactors voluntarily evacuate a similarly sized area.

Sincerely,

John G. H. Cant  
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