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To: California Energy Commission <docket@energy.state.ca.us>
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Subject: Comment for docket No. 11-IEP-1J

August 1, 2011

To: California Energy Commission
Fr: Steve and Jackie Netherby, San Clemente, CA
Re: Nuclear Insanity and San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station: Comment for docket No. 11-IEP-1J

Commissioners, it's always seemed insane that San Clemente has had a nuclear power plant and radioactive-waste repository just two miles from our southern doorstep. But now, thanks to the horrendous suffering of the good people of Japan, it should be obvious to us all that it is insane. We have an earth and an ocean far mightier than our concrete domes, cooling pools, and containment vessels. And Japan shows us in terrifying detail how their convulsions can far exceed our best precautions.

We 8.4 million souls in the plant's 50-mile evacuation zone hope and pray that San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), San Clemente's neighboring nuclear plant, won't one day be like a toy in the hand of an angry giant, but now we know it may well be.

And God forbid the executives of Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric should ever be in the situation their Japanese counterparts are in right now: apologizing to their countrymen and the world for partnering with nature in the destruction of their neighbors' fishing grounds, playgrounds, homes, schools, hospitals, shops, crops—their dreams, their lives.

And God forbid our neighbors and good friends who work at SONGS, despite their brilliance and best work, should ever be in the place their Japanese counterparts are in right now: livelihoods in ruin, risking their lives in a frantic war to put the nuclear genie back in the bottle.

We have a chance right now to stop the insanity before it destroys us. Before San Clemente, Oceanside, Camp Pendleton, South Orange and North San Diego Counties become the next Northeast Japan.

Germany and other countries have reacted to the Japanese disaster by shutting down their SONGS-era nuclear plants and turning from nuclear to healthy energy. It can be done and we must do it here.

All the citizens of California are majority stakeholders in the risks associated with SONGS, and we must demand it be shut down and its license reconsidered.

Japan, in its epic misery, has taught us a lesson we ignore at our extreme peril. With your help, we can close SONGS. We must. We have no other sane choice.

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