



DIANNE JACOB

CHAIRWOMAN, SECOND DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 28, 2017

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The Honorable Darrell Issa
U.S. House of Representatives
2269 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Issa:

On behalf of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, I write to convey our support for your legislation, H.R. 474, the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2017.

The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) has been operating in the northwest corner of San Diego County for more than 45 years. In June of 2013 the station ceased all operations. Today, years after decommissioning, 1,609 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel remains stored onsite at SONGS.

In addition to being in close proximity to the more than three million people who reside in San Diego County, SONGS sits 200 yards from the Pacific Ocean and 250 yards from both a major rail line and Interstate 5. Should an earthquake, terrorist attack, or other calamity damage the storage units at SONGS, there is a potential significant impact to the health and safety of this region.

It is the responsibility of the federal government to develop a disposal facility for the long-term management of used uranium fuel from SONGS and other U.S. nuclear power plants. At this time, the federal government has failed to designate a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel. This radioactive material needs to be removed from San Diego County and disposed of safely away from population centers.

By allowing for contracts to be entered into for the interim storage of spent nuclear fuel, H.R. 474 is an important first step to a long term solution for the storage of spent nuclear fuel in this country.

In order to protect the residents of this region, the San Diego Board of Supervisors supports H.R. 474, and we thank you for your leadership on this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Geoff Patnoe, the County's Director of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (619) 531-5202.

Sincerely,

DIANNE JACOB
Chairwoman