

**Resolution in Support of Movement of Nuclear Waste to Safer Location
and in Support of the HELMS Storage Criteria**

WHEREAS the San Onofre Nuclear Plant has been permanently shut down since 2012, and has approximately 3.6 million pounds of high-level and extremely toxic nuclear waste stored on-site, with about 2/3 located in spent fuel pools, and 1/3 located in dry storage, and

WHEREAS the Department of Energy has the responsibility for nuclear waste generated by commercial nuclear plants according to the Nuclear Waste Act, the repository which was to accept waste in 1998 now nearly 20 years overdue, and

WHEREAS in October 2015, Southern California Edison (SCE), received a 20-year California Coastal Commission (CCC) Development Permit to build and operate a new dry-storage facility to house the toxic nuclear spent fuel still in the fuel pools; the new facility located only about 100 feet from the sea wall and only inches over the high-tide water mark, and

WHEREAS SCE and the community mutually agree that the facility only 100 feet from the ocean for storing such toxic nuclear waste is far from an optimal location, and therefore the waste should be moved as soon as possible to another safer location, preferably away from water resources, earthquake risks, tsunami risks, and dense populations, and

WHEREAS nonprofit Citizens' Oversight sued the CCC and SCE regarding the new facility, resulting in a settlement agreement announced on August 28, 2017, which sets up an action plan whereby SCE will, with commercially reasonable effort, hire a team of experts to develop strategic and transportation plans, with the aim of moving the waste to a safer place, and implement that plan, and

WHEREAS the containers used for dry storage are 5/8" stainless steel canisters which are now known to develop stress corrosion cracks when subjected to the salt air of the ocean once they cool to below 70°C (158°F), the cracks breaching the containment boundary and allowing the release of radioactive particles and endangering populations near them, and making transportation and handling difficult, and

WHEREAS the waste must cool on the surface for many decades or centuries before they will be cool enough to place in any deep geologic repository, should such ever be opened for use, and

WHEREAS Citizens Oversight has proposed that any storage facility should meet the HELMS criteria, that is Hardened, Extended-life, Local, Monitored Surface storage, likely using a double-wall container design to avoid cracking of the interior canister, and provide 7/24 electronic monitoring and crack detection by detecting the release of pressure from the outer container.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council and City of _____ California supports the San Onofre Waste settlement agreement to determine a strategic and transportation plan to move the waste at San Onofre to a safer place, and to then implement that plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that SCE use all diligence to move the waste from the coast and should not seek, nor should the Coastal Commission grant any extensions to the 20-year permit, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the nuclear industry the public should embrace the HELMS proposal, including double-wall containers and 7/24 monitoring, while moving waste from water resources, high-populations, and other risk factors, and upgrade any canisters in use to these criteria, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that emergency planning for surrounding areas should be maintained and funded to assist jurisdictions that will need to continue to plan for radioactive emergencies.