

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-02
A RESOLUTION OF THE TORREY PINES DEMOCRATIC CLUB

WHEREAS, members of the Torrey Pines Democratic Club (TPDC) live within a 50-mile radius of the shuttered and de-commissioned San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) along with 8.5 million people who live within the 50 mile emergency evacuation zone of SONGS, as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); and

WHEREAS, there are 3.6 million pounds of high-level radioactive waste stored on-site at SONGS, and at very low elevation within 108 feet of the Pacific Ocean, in low-quality, thin-walled waste canisters, that are subject to damage from gouging, corrosion, and cracking; and that presents unacceptable risks of radiation release into the surrounding environment; and

WHEREAS, the operators of SONGS have not presented a scientifically-validated repair method or alternate storage procedure in the event of canister failure yet they are scheduled to demolish the last remaining handling facility known as the "spent fuel pools"; and

WHEREAS, the existing storage canisters are designed for 60 years of useful life in optimal conditions, yet the storage at the SONGS coastal site is not optimal and the radiation waste will remain hazardous over several thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, the storage location is vulnerable to damage from the effects of climate change, including wildfire, coastal erosion, landslide, seismic activity, tsunami and sea-level rise; and

WHEREAS, the current radiation monitoring systems in use at SONGS is not sensitive enough to provide advanced warning of leakage from damaged or deteriorated canisters but there are enhanced methods for monitoring damaged or deteriorated canisters identified by UC San Diego; and

WHEREAS, the radiation hazard from leakage of these storage canisters could cause potentially deadly illness and disease among tens of thousands of nearby residents; create severe disruption to the environment; long term closure of the Interstate 5 transportation corridor, the busiest corridor along the West Coast; decades-long damage to nearby residential, commercial, and industrial properties; cripple military readiness and use of the U.S. Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton; and—according to some economic models—result in economic damages of \$13.4 Trillion or more over a fifty years period;

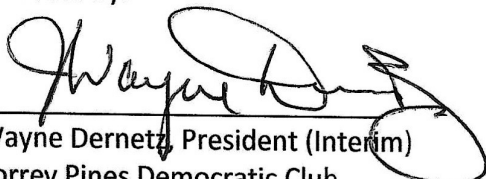
THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

The Torrey Pines Democratic Club strongly urges local agencies, including the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, and the State of California, to take actions holding the SONGS operators accountable for the costs of emergency responses and provisions for public safety in the event of radiation leakage at SONGS; and to prepare plans and provide budget allocations for emergency responses, including the following:

- a. A joint effort by the County of San Diego, in concert with City of San Diego and other cities, and working in partnership with UC San Diego, to fund and implement a public regional, real-time radiation air monitoring system to provide immediate warning of any nuclear waste releases at SONGS.
- b. The adoption of requirements for planning and preparations for possible radiation hazard releases by local, regional, and State Coastal Commission agencies, in their annual work plans, Local Coastal Plan amendments, and Climate Change Adaption Plan updates in respect to coastal erosion, sea level rise, surface and ground water quality, air quality, and potential impacts on fish and wildlife.
- c. The promotion of adoption by federal and/or State agencies requiring that SONGS operators be held liable for the costs of public agency responses in the event of the release of hazardous radiation; accountable for developing scientifically validated canister maintenance, repair and replacement procedures in the event of damage or deterioration to canisters; the construction of a dry transfer facility for canister storage, repair, and eventual replacement with more robust, state-of-the-art thick-walled transportable containers; and require the immediate relocation of the existing nuclear waste to elevations inland, such as "The Mesa" site east of Interstate 5 now used by the operators.
- d. Urge Congressional action to quickly approve and open a consent-based, permanent national repository for the long-term safe disposal of the nation's nuclear waste.

APPROVED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE of the members of the Torrey Pines Democratic Club present at its regular meeting held on June 24, 2021.

Attested by:



Wayne Dernetz, President (Interim)
Torrey Pines Democratic Club