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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

CITIZENS OVERSIGHT, INC., a
California non-profit corporation;
PATRICIA BORCHMANN, an individual;

Petitioners and Plaintiffs,

Case No.

-vs.-

37-2015-00037137-

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION,

CU-WM-CTL

and DOES 1 to 100, et al.,

Respondents and Defendants.

California Coastal Commission Meeting
Excerpt Regarding Application No. 9-15-0228
October 6th, 2015
Audio Transcription

1 (Beginning of excerpt.)

2 MS. DETTMER: So, that does take us to Item
3 14-A, the application by Southern California Edison to
4 install and operate at the San Onofre Nuclear
5 Generating Station an independent spent fuel storage
6 installation facility to store spent fuel once used in
7 a nuclear reactor. For shorthand, we refer to the
8 facility as dry cask storage because spent fuel is
9 being moved to dry cask storage after it has initially
10 cooled in wet storage pools. Uh, the spent fuel is
11 considered high-level radioactive waste.

12 So, I'm gonna make some opening remarks and
13 then my colleague, Joe Street, to my left, will
14 complete the staff presentation.

15 In 2012, Edison fully shut down power
16 generation at SONGS. In 2013, it announced plans to
17 decommission the plant and, since then, has undertaken
18 a number of actions, including work that has required
19 permits from this Commission to prepare the site for
20 decommissioning. The full removal of Units 2 and 3,
21 including the wet storage pools that currently house
22 spent fuel, will be before you at a later date.

23 There is already a dry cask storage facility
24 at SONGS, approved by this Commission in 2001, and
25 it's located landward of the one proposed today.

1 Edison is proposing to construct a new one because the
2 existing facility will soon reach full capacity and
3 thousands of spent fuel assemblies remain in the
4 pools. All spent fuel material must remain at SONGS
5 until it can be moved to either an interim, off-site,
6 third-party facility that qualifies for nuclear
7 regulatory commission licensing or a permanent, off-
8 site repository established by the U.S. Department of
9 Energy.

10 The D.O.E. is under obligation to take
11 custody and accept the fuel for final disposal at a
12 federal repository. To date, though, it has not
13 established an off-site, permanent repository, nor are
14 there interim, off-site, third-party storage options
15 currently available.

16 There are spent fuel dry cask storage
17 facilities also at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power
18 Plant and at the site of the former nuclear power
19 plant at Humboldt Bay, both approved by this
20 Commission.

21 So, before I turn the mic over to Joe, I
22 want to make one very important point. The State of
23 California is preempted from imposing upon the
24 operators of nuclear power plants any regulatory
25 requirements concerning radiation hazards and nuclear

1 safety. The N.R.C. has exclusive jurisdiction over
2 the radiological aspects of the proposed project. The
3 State may however impose requirements related to other
4 issues and our recommended findings in the staff
5 report relate to conformity to applicable policies of
6 the Coastal Act and do not evaluate or condition the
7 project with respect to nuclear safety or radiological
8 issues.

9 I raise this because we have received
10 correspondence, included in your addendum, expressing
11 concern about the safety of the type of canisters
12 being proposed by the applicant to be used here --
13 safety concerns relating to the fact that the
14 canisters will house radiological waste -- and are
15 asking the Commission to either deny the application
16 or require use of a different storage system. The
17 question of what kind of canisters are to be used to
18 safely house radiological waste is exclusively within
19 the jurisdiction of the N.R.C.

20 And with that, I'm gonna turn the mic over
21 to Joe.

22 MR. STREET: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
23 Before I start, I'd like to point out again that there
24 is an addendum, um, which contains minor
25 clarifications and edits to the staff report, public

1 comments, and staff's response to comments.

2 As Alison said, this is a proposal by
3 Southern California Edison to construct and operate a
4 dry cask storage facility for spent nuclear fuel at
5 SONGS. Um, the facility, which is known as an
6 independent spent fuel storage installation, or ISFSI,
7 would hold the spent fuel in large, passively cooled,
8 steel casks, rather than in the existing spent fuel
9 pools in the SONGS Unit 2 and 3 complex.

10 Next slide, please. Uh, do I click the
11 slides or -- okay. Sorry. Oops, now, I'm going too
12 far. Well, that's okay.

13 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

14 MR. STREET: Can we go back one? Thank you.
15 Technical difficulties. Okay.

16 So, Slide 1 shows the location of SONGS on
17 Camp Pendleton in northern San Diego County, uh, and
18 also an aerial view of the site. The project would be
19 located within that yellow box, which is the, uh --
20 the SONGS North Industrial Area. It's the former site
21 of the Unit 1 power plant, which has been
22 decommissioned and removed.

23 If we zoom in on the SONGS site, you can see
24 the project site highlighted in yellow. Um, Units 2
25 and 3 are just to the southeast and they've got the

1 big dome -- the reactor domes there -- and the Units 2
2 and 3 are outlined in green. And I've indicated the
3 locations of the existing spent fuel pool buildings in
4 blue, um, only one of which is visible in this -- in
5 this slide.

6 The dry cask storage facility would consist
7 of a partially below grade concrete and fill berm
8 surrounding an array of 75 fuel storage modules, which
9 would contain -- would contain and protect the
10 stainless steel casks that hold the spent fuel. This
11 slide shows a schematic cross section of the facility,
12 giving a sense of the project design and the
13 elevations involved.

14 The next slide is a plan view of the
15 proposed facility, showing its location immediately
16 seaward of the existing spent fuel storage facility,
17 um, that Alison mentioned. That's outlined here in
18 green. The seaward edge of the new facility would be
19 approximately 100 feet inland of the existing seawall.

20 This is a cutaway view of the storage
21 system, um, showing its major components. Um, the
22 steel storage casks, um, would be inserted into these,
23 uh, cylindrical modules. And that's the storage cask
24 there.

25 This slide shows before and after views of

1 the project site from a vantage point on the SONGS
2 grounds just inland of the site.

3 Edison proposes to install the facility
4 beginning in 2016, complete the loading of the fuel by
5 2019, and operate the facility until 2049, when Edison
6 assumes that the federal Department of Energy will
7 have taken custody of the spent fuel. The facility
8 would then be decommissioned and the site restored by
9 2051.

10 At present, there are no feasible off-site
11 alternatives to the proposed project. There's no
12 permanent fuel repository or other interim storage
13 site and there are no near-term prospects for such
14 sites being developed. Existing storage facilities at
15 other nuclear power plants are not licensed --
16 licensed to accept outside fuel, even if they are
17 willing to do so.

18 S.C.E. evaluated several on-site locations
19 and (indecipherable) -- facility configurations and
20 found the proposed project to be preferable, in terms
21 of site logistics, geologic stability, security, and
22 costs, among -- among other considerations.

23 Staff agrees with this analysis, but also
24 notes that additional, and possibly superior onsite
25 locations, will become available once Units 2 and 3

1 are decommissioned and the structures removed, which
2 is expected to be completed in 2032.

3 Within Edison's proposed 35-year timeframe
4 for the project, the siting and design of the dry cask
5 storage facility would be sufficient to assure
6 stability and structural integrity and minimize
7 geologic hazards, consistent with Coastal Act,
8 including hazards such as ground shaking during
9 earthquakes, slope failure, tsunamis, flooding, and
10 coastal erosion, and would do this without requiring
11 shoreline protection.

12 However, the lack of an alternate permanent
13 or interim storage site means that it is unclear
14 whether Edison will be able to meet its timeline for
15 decommissioning the facility in 2051. If no federal
16 repository or other storage site emerges, or if it is
17 significantly -- significantly delayed, the facility
18 could be required beyond 2051, possibly for many
19 decades.

20 Over time, the site would eventually be
21 exposed to coastal -- and I should say in the absence
22 of shoreline protection -- the site would eventually
23 be exposed to coastal flooding and erosion hazards
24 beyond its design capacity, or else would re -- it
25 would -- or else it would require protection by

1 retaining, replacing, or expanding the existing
2 shoreline armory, which we believe would be
3 inconsistent with a number of Coastal Act policies.

4 The ability of the project to avoid
5 potential hazards also depends on the spent fuel casks
6 remaining in adequate physical -- physical condition
7 to allow for on or off-site transfer to another
8 storage location out of harm's way, thus allowing for
9 the removal of the ISFSI. At present, the N.R.C. has
10 certified the integrity of the proposed system,
11 including the casks, for 20 years.

12 In order to address these various
13 uncertainties and assure that the dry storage facility
14 remains safe from geologic hazards, and avoids adverse
15 impacts to coastal resources over its actual lifespan,
16 staff recommends Condition 2: to limit authorization
17 of the development to 20 years, to require Edison to
18 return for a C.D.P. amendment at the end of this
19 period to retain, remove, or relocate the dry cask
20 storage facility.

21 We also note that the amendment application
22 needs to be supported by an updated alternatives
23 analysis, which must include any off -- off-site
24 options that exist in 2035, as well as new on-site
25 locations made available by the decommissioning of

1 Units 2 and 3, including sites that may be further
2 inland or at higher elevations than the proposed site.

3 Edison would also need to reevaluate the
4 geologic hazards at that time using, um, new
5 information that may emerge over the next 20 years,
6 and if it proposes to retain the facility beyond 2035,
7 formulate a plan for managed retreat that would avoid
8 hazards and the need for shoreline protection. We
9 would also expect updated information on the condition
10 of the fuel storage casks and a maintenance and
11 moderning -- monit -- monitoring program in order to
12 ensure that the casks remain transportable.

13 Staff is also recommending a condition
14 requiring Edison to agree not to enlarge or replace
15 the existing seawall for purposes of protecting the
16 proposed project from coastal hazards, and a condition
17 requiring evidence of Edison's legal ability to
18 undertake the development as conditioned by the
19 Commission, and, finally, conditions requiring the
20 assumption of risk, liability for attorney's fees, and
21 restrictions on future development.

22 We've received a large number of public
23 comments on this project, some in support of the staff
24 recommendation, but most in opposition. Many of the
25 comments are contained in the addendum, but we have

1 received over a hundred additional comments in opp --
2 in opposition to the project that -- that did not
3 arrive in time to be placed in the addendum. The vast
4 majority of these objections are related to nuclear
5 safety and radiation concerns, as Alison mentioned.
6 Those that touch on Coastal Act concerns have not
7 caused us to modify our staff recommendation. The
8 staff responds to comments as contained in the
9 addendum.

10 The motion to approve C.D.P. 9-15-0228, with
11 conditions, is on Page 5 of the staff report, and that
12 concludes the staff presentation. Thank you.

13 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Um, are there any
14 ex partes on this matter?

15 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

16 MR. KINSEY: Um, Commissioner Cox.

17 MR. COX: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On
18 October 2nd, at, uh, 3:30 in the afternoon, um, I had
19 a -- a meeting in my office -- um, actually it was, uh
20 -- uh -- yeah, a meeting in my office with David
21 Neish, uh, and he was speaking on behalf of Southern
22 California Edison. Greg Murphy on my staff was there.
23 Uh, both David B. Neish and -- and David J. Neish were
24 -- were present.

25 They gave me a complete, comprehensive

1 description of communication content, uh, which has,
2 uh, been provided to the -- to the full Commission.
3 The applicant's representatives provided the overview
4 on the project plan and discussed the application,
5 history to date, a PowerPoint presentation, which was
6 also previously provided to staff, was presented that
7 I -- that identified project location, discussion of
8 the proposed project, description of the project,
9 purpose and benefits and a discussion of the impact on
10 coastal resources and regulatory oversight.

11 Uh, the applicants obviously support the,
12 uh, Coastal Commission staff recommendation for
13 approval and also the special conditions.

14 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Uh, Commissioner
15 Turnbull-Sanders.

16 MS. TURNBULL-SANDERS: Thank you, Chair
17 Kinsey.

18 On October 4th, at 10 a.m., I had a
19 teleconference meeting with Dave B. Neish and Dave J.
20 Neish. Um, the conversation was substantially similar
21 to, um, those that have already been provided.

22 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Commissioner Cox.

23 MR. COX: Yes. Uh, last night, I did
24 receive a, uh, phone call from, uh, my colleague on
25 the Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Dianne Jacob.

1 Uh, she, uh, apparently has provided a letter -- I
2 don't know whether it's been made available, uh, to
3 the Commission -- uh, her request, uh, was that the,
4 uh, Commission consider delaying action on Southern
5 California Edison's application until the County of
6 San Diego has received a (indecipherable) -- a
7 response from the Department of Energy regarding a
8 request that was made by the Board of Supervisors, uh,
9 that was, uh, a discussion on which I did not
10 participate because I knew that this item was coming
11 forward.

12 On September 15th, our Board of Supervisors
13 gave direction to our Chief Administrative Officer to
14 draft a letter for the Chairman's signature to the
15 United States Secretary of Energy urging the prompt
16 removal and relocation of the spent fuel currently
17 stored at the decommission San Onofre Nuclear
18 Generating Station and provide copies, uh, to our --
19 our legislative delegation and, uh -- uh, there was
20 also a request to add that to our county's legislative
21 program.

22 Again, I did not participate in that
23 discussion or that vote, uh, but, uh, the Supervisor
24 Jacob has requested that this item be delayed until
25 there's a response back from the Department of Energy.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Um, moving along.
3 Commission Luevano.

4 MS. LUEVANO: Uh, yes. On October 2nd, at
5 approximately 11:50, um, a.m., I had a phone
6 conference with both David B. Neish and David J.
7 Neish. Um, content was almost identical to what
8 Commissioners Cox and Turnbull-Sanders had.

9 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Commissioner
10 McClure.

11 MS. MCCLURE: Yes, thank you. This morning
12 at 10:30, I met with Dave Neish and Dave J. Neish and
13 we, um, discussed the project and the substance of
14 which has already been covered.

15 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. There no other ex
16 partes, I would note that a number of commissioners do
17 have ex partes on file from previous, uh, field trips
18 that have been taken.

19 Okay. Um, with that, uh, we will go to, uh,
20 public comment and, uh, speakers will have two
21 minutes. Uh, I -- the -- I do not have a speaker card
22 for the applicant, but I do have a speaker card for
23 Sir -- Mark Lombard, uh, from the U.S., uh, Nuclear
24 Regulatory Commission, and he will be followed by Ray
25 Lutz, who will have some time ceded to him.

1 Or -- uh, excuse me just one moment, uh,
2 Mister -- uh --

3 MS. DETTMER: I -- I think there may have
4 been a mistake because Edison would like to speak.
5 So, could they fill out a speaker card and --

6 MR. KINSEY: Did they fill out a speaker
7 card? Come on now. No, just kidding.

8 (Laughter.)

9 MR. KINSEY: Uh, would be happy. Tom, did
10 you want to come up? Uh --

11 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

12 MS. DETTMER: Thank you. We'll make sure
13 they fill one out.

14 MR. KINSEY: That's right.

15 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

16 MR. KINSEY: Eh, how much time would you
17 like actually?

18 MR. PALMISANO: Well, I'd like to -- to take
19 about eight minutes now. I want to play a short video
20 and then reserve ten minutes at the end for any
21 rebuttal comments.

22 MR. KINSEY: That'd be fine.

23 MR. PALMISANO: Okay, thank you. May I have
24 the first slide, please? Thank you.

25 Okay, I am Tom Palmisano. I'm the vice

1 president of decommissioning and the chief nuclear
2 officer for the San Onofre Generating plant. I'm here
3 on behalf of Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas
4 and Electric, Cities of Anaheim and Riverside
5 collectively. We have been the owners and are now
6 responsible for the decommissioning of the plant.

7 Uh, couple quick comments. I would like to
8 thank the staff. There's a lot of hard work behind
9 this staff report and a lot of work, uh, answering
10 public questions and comments and I appreciate what
11 that takes. We are fully supportive of the
12 recommendation and the special commission -- or,
13 conditions that the staff is advocating to the
14 Commission. So, we appreciate that.

15 Next slide, please.

16 Okay, this is a short video I'd like to
17 play, if you'd cue the video, please.

18 VIDEO FEMALE SPEAKER: Southern California
19 Edison has been safely managing used nuclear fuel at
20 its San Onofre nuclear plant for four decades. Now
21 that San Onofre is retired, we plan to put all of the
22 used nuclear fuel in an interim storage system until
23 it is removed from this site. This proven technology
24 is called dry cask storage. It has been used for
25 three decades throughout the United States, including

1 marine environments on the West and East Coasts.

2 Southern California Edison's continued
3 commitment to safe storage of used nuclear fuel is at
4 the heart of our decision to promptly place this
5 radioactive waste in robust dry storage containers.
6 Our decision also reflects feedback from the
7 California Energy Commission and community leaders who
8 prefer dry storage of used nuclear fuel. No active
9 cooling systems are needed. Dry storage produces no
10 air emissions or discharges from operation. The
11 California Coastal Commission is reviewing our plan to
12 expand dry storage at San Onofre.

13 Today, about one-third of San Onofre's used
14 nuclear fuel is already in these steel and concrete
15 containers. The other two-thirds is stored and cooled
16 in what we call a spent fuel pool. This is known as
17 wet storage. Picture a concrete structure that is 40
18 feet deep, lined with steel and filled with water. We
19 have chosen a robust, partially belowground storage
20 system to expand fuel storage at San Onofre.

21 The storage casks will be made with a highly
22 corrosion resistant grade of stainless steel and then
23 encased in a concrete monolith. The design exceeds
24 California earthquake requirements and protects
25 against hazards such as earthquakes, water, fire, or

1 tsunamis. The casks are manufactured by a global
2 supplier, Holtec International. California has four
3 used nuclear fuel dry storage facilities, including
4 San Onofre, two Holtec systems at Humboldt Bay and
5 Diablo Canyon, and one near Sacramento.

6 Placing San Onofre's used fuel in sealed
7 canisters is a critical first step before it can be
8 accepted by an off-site storage facility. Southern
9 California Edison and the co-owners of San Onofre
10 support removal of the fuel from the site by the
11 Federal Government as required by law. We also
12 support alternatives to establish interim used fuel
13 storage sites in New Mexico and Texas.

14 Until licensed off-site storage is
15 available, we will continue to do what we have done
16 for the past 40 years, safely manage and store San
17 Onofre's used nuclear fuel.

18 MR. PALMISANO: Okay, thank you. Uh, could
19 we go to the next slide, please.

20 So, as the slide is teed up, again, the
21 staff has done a very thorough job in their report and
22 their recommendation and covered the key points in
23 their presentation, so I'm gonna be brief.

24 First, the purpose and need for this permit
25 is to continue the safe storage of fuel. We have

1 stored spent fuel at San Onofre for over 40 years, in
2 wet storage and now wet and dry storage, and we will
3 continue to do that.

4 In a decommission plant, which has no need
5 for an active spent fuel pool, which takes active
6 systems and people and water supplies and electrical
7 sources, it is much preferred to move fuel relatively
8 soon into dry cask storage. They are passive systems
9 with no outside need for water or cooling, or
10 electricity for cooling, and they are a superior
11 system in a decommissioned plant.

12 This permit allows us to do that, allows us
13 to do that by mid-2019, and it's also really the first
14 step in preparing the transfer fuel off site. We are
15 all aligned that the Department of Energy needs to
16 remove fuel from this site sooner rather than later,
17 very consistent with our discussions at the recent San
18 Diego County Board.

19 Next slide.

20 I want to show you a map. There -- there
21 are -- the country has years of experience -- over 30
22 years -- with dry cask storage installations
23 nationwide. Of particular interest on this map are
24 the number on the East Coast and the West Coast in
25 marine environments subject to very similar

1 environments to San Onofre. We have experience with
2 these environments. The canister systems and cask
3 systems are very similar, if not identical, to what we
4 currently use, and will use, and they have performed
5 excellently. There has been no leakage of radioactive
6 material from a cask or a canister in service.

7 Next slide. Next couple slides have been
8 covered. I'm just gonna skip through. Next slide.
9 Next slide. Next slide.

10 Okay. The milestones, the key thing here:
11 start construction January 2016, complete construction
12 mid-2017, have the pools offloaded by mid-2019, six
13 years after the plant was permanently closed.

14 Go to the next slide, please.

15 Couple quick closing comments. First, we
16 respectfully request that the Commission approve the
17 permit. A delay waiting for the Department of Energy
18 response is really not gonna serve any useful purpose.
19 That agency takes a long time to respond to anything.

20 Secondly, dry cask storage is a proven,
21 safe, passive technology. It is superior in a
22 decommissioning plant to wet storage in the fuel
23 pools. It is preferable for decommission plants. The
24 Union of Concerned Scientists, on April of 2015, made
25 a presentation to the California Energy Commission

1 urging decommissioned nuclear plants to empty their
2 spent fuel pools in nominally six years. This plant,
3 supported by this permit, does that. The other three
4 current, active plants preparing for decommission in
5 the country are all intending to empty their spent
6 fuel pools in a six-year timeframe. So, the general
7 consensus is emptying the pool sooner rather than
8 later is the appropriate way to manage spent fuel in a
9 decommissioned site.

10 Uh, last comment. Again, it is a first step
11 really to moving fuel off site and preparing to remove
12 the fuel from the San Onofre location to a more
13 suitable either interim storage location or final
14 repository.

15 With that, I'll be available for any
16 questions. Thank you very much.

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Okay. Mr. Lombard,
18 thank you for your patience and, uh, we'll invite you
19 up and then we'll follow with Ray Lutz.

20 MR. LOMBARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Thank you, misters. It's an honor to be before you
22 today to talk about the -- the UMAX system, the
23 interesting work that we've done to review this system
24 and also look -- oversee its deployment at the
25 Southern California Edison site.

1 I want to say that we appreciate and respect
2 the Commission's purview over this project and also
3 appreciate and respect the public comments that we
4 have received on the UMAX system Rev. 0, the Amendment
5 1 that was developed and submitted to us for review
6 that covers the seismic capacity of the system, as
7 well as other interactions that we have had over last
8 several months on dry cask storage systems in general.

9 I am the director of spent fuel management
10 at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The folks that
11 I work with review and make decisions about dry cask
12 storage systems that were submitted under application
13 and also dry cask -- I'm sorry, transportation systems
14 for spent fuel that are submitted to us as well.
15 We've -- we do about a hundred packages a year -- a
16 hundred cases a year between spent fuel storage and
17 transportation.

18 The work that we have done -- we do a
19 comprehensive safety and security review on each one
20 of those packages. The reviews entail technical areas
21 including thermal radiation shielding, containment,
22 structural integrity, criticality, and materials. We
23 took I think about 20 months to finish our review of
24 the Holtec UMAX system Rev. 0 and a few more months on
25 Amendment 1. So, it's not something that we do

1 lightly, it's not something we do quickly, and
2 something we do take a lot of time and really diligent
3 work on it.

4 At the end of the period when -- when we
5 complete our safety and security review, we publish
6 them as final rules, but we also allow for public
7 comments, and we did receive public comments on Amen -
8 - Rev. 0 and Amendment 1, and resolved those comments
9 before we finished and issued the final rule on each
10 one of those.

11 We are confident in the UMAX system. I've
12 spent time. I've -- I've looked at the system itself
13 on paper, the Southern California Edison plans to
14 deploy the system at San Onofre. I've been there
15 physically, took a tour of the area this morning, and
16 I'm confident that this system is -- will perform
17 safely and securely in the plans that they have at
18 Southern California Edison to deploy.

19 So, with that, I'm here for any questions or
20 comments and at your disposal.

21 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

22 (Buzzer sound.)

23 MR. KINSEY: Mr. Lutz, you have six minutes.

24 MR. LUTZ: Thank you. Ray Lutz with
25 Citizens Oversight. Uh, as a trained engineer, I'd

1 like to ask that the California Coastal Commission
2 deny the permit to allow the State time to review
3 other alternatives and to allow more thorough review
4 of the plan.

5 Uh, we did submit two documents to you last
6 week, which you should have review -- already
7 received. I'd like to briefly cover those today. Um,
8 the first one, entitled "Let's Find a Solution for
9 Nuclear Waste in California," covers why this is a bad
10 site and that the California Energy Commission policy,
11 embraced by the Blue Ribbon Commission, priority is
12 removal of spent fuel from shutdown sites.

13 The Blue Ribbon Commission estimated
14 permanent disposable -- disposal was available in
15 2048, not 2024, as you may hear. The nuclear waste
16 was not part of the public bargain to put this plant
17 in. So, the public does not expect for a nuclear
18 waste dump to exist at this site.

19 3.6 million pounds of waste is proposed to
20 be buried here. The industry says the technology is
21 proven, but many elements have never been proven, such
22 as transportation. There is no permanent disposal, so
23 there's many loose ends. This has never -- many
24 issues are still open.

25 Following that, we decided to look into

1 other, uh, locations -- and if you can scroll down in
2 the PDF, uh, a little bit -- um, sir, can I -- can you
3 scroll down to the first picture, please?

4 Okay, it's kinda hard to see here because of
5 the way it's -- it's presented, but if you'll look in
6 the document that you have at your disposal, what we
7 did was look for a site in California where this would
8 -- this could be built a better place.

9 We found a place in the desert on the, uh,
10 North American plate, not around, um, any earthquakes.
11 This is in -- in a desert region where there isn't
12 much around. Um, it is not in any, um, sites that --
13 that are designated as either, um, seismic hazards.
14 It -- the biggest hazard there is heat. It's not in a
15 tribal area or designated wilderness. It's right on
16 the rail line. So, it can be put on a railcar at San
17 Onofre and moved to a site like this and -- and placed
18 there versus leaving it one hundred feet from the
19 water and only inches above the waterline.

20 If you actually look at this proposal with a
21 clear head and say, should we put it on the coast, one
22 hundred feet from the water, only inches above the
23 waterline, for a million years, is it a good idea?
24 Because, really, once they get it in here, it probably
25 will never get -- come out. We need to stop this

1 permit now so that we can move forward.

2 Now, this site is called Fishel that we
3 found.

4 Can you move down a little bit in the
5 document?

6 It's in a -- just a blank valley with no one
7 around for 50 miles or more. Instead, the San Onofre
8 site has 8.4 million people. So, if a terrorist
9 wanted to attack the San Onofre site, they would
10 detonate a conventional weapon and you would have a
11 dirty bomb. We would have to evacuate all of Southern
12 California. In this area, why would you want to
13 attack that? No one lives around it. So, it
14 eliminates the terrorist threat.

15 Go down a little bit more in the document --
16 little more.

17 Okay, this shows you the earthquake, uh,
18 lines -- the fault lines -- and this is in a non-
19 earthquake area. We're putting it instead in an area
20 where there's, uh, lots of earthquake faults and lots
21 of risk. There's also tsunami risk. There's also
22 hurricane risk that we've seen now, lots of hurricanes
23 coming up -- surge water, storm water -- if you only
24 have 13 inches -- and in their own report, they said
25 that they -- the coast would erode 29 feet in the 35

1 years that they proposed. That's a third of the way
2 up to where it is. If you leave it there for a
3 hundred feet, you're gonna have this block of concrete
4 falling off into the ocean with radioactive casks in
5 it.

6 Can you scroll down a little bit more?

7 This shows you the Native American areas.
8 It's not in those areas.

9 Continue to go down a little bit more.

10 And this is -- this shows you the rail line,
11 roughly speaking, so you can review this in -- in more
12 detail.

13 One of the issues that we found was that
14 these canisters are too heavy to put on a conventional
15 railroad car. It takes a -- a really big railroad car
16 and you have to have really good tracks. So, all the
17 tracks would have to be improved.

18 The -- these canisters have not been proven
19 to be transportable. We need to take another look at
20 this, make sure that any canisters that are used can
21 at least be moved out of here because if you -- if you
22 designate these huge canisters, which weigh about
23 450,000 pounds or so, and most railroad tracks are
24 386,000 pounds -- is that in your staff report, a
25 review of the weight of the canisters and whether they

1 can be moved? No.

2 We just heard a excellent report of, uh,
3 bike trails and other things along the coast, where
4 someone spent their whole career working on it.
5 Where's the person's career working on this? We're
6 gonna put radioactive waste on the coast with only a -
7 - a few months of review, and it's gonna be there for
8 perhaps a million years? Please.

9 The Community Engagement Panel, that is
10 supposed to disseminate information that's run by
11 Edison, did not even notify us of this meeting.
12 They're supposed to be the ones promulgating
13 information. Therefore, a lot of the people that are
14 concerned about this were never informed. Why did
15 that happen? 'Cause Edison wants to sneak this
16 through without adequate review.

17 That's why I'm hoping that I can implore on
18 you today to at least delay this. There's no need to
19 rush into this. You've got 35 years of
20 decommissioning ahead of us. Is there a need to rush
21 this stuff out, and immediately throw it in these
22 unproven canisters, that are too big to transport on
23 rail lines, you don't even know where they're going,
24 and no one has a plan? No.

25 You should stop this right now and say we're

1 gonna have more review. Let's talk to the California
2 Energy Commission. It's their job to do this.

3 (Buzzer sound.)

4 MR. LUTZ: Make sure that they chime in.
5 Thank you very much.

6 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Uh, Maria --

7 (Clapping, cheering.)

8 MR. KINSEY: -- uh, Severson.

9 (Indecipherable).

10 You're gonna remember that, uh, we do ask
11 that folks not, uh, show their appreciation or their
12 rejection of ideas by clapping or calling out.

13 I'm gonna call up Maria Severson, Tara
14 Neider -- Neider, and then, uh, Patricia Borchmann.

15 And I'd ask for speakers -- we have a number
16 of speaker cards. I want to give everyone an
17 opportunity, so if folks who know they're gonna be
18 speaking next could get ready, I'd appreciate it.
19 Welcome.

20 MS. SEVERSON: Good afternoon,
21 Commissioners. My name is Maria Severson and I am
22 here as a public advocate, as a citizen of Southern
23 California, and as a mother of three children.

24 You are at a critical point in time. You
25 have been asked to approve entombing 3.6 million

1 pounds of toxic, radioactive nuclear waste. Now, they
2 -- you're here because Edison has put you in this
3 position, claiming that there are no alternatives.
4 So, what do they do? They pick the worst alternative:
5 putting it on our beaches, in a populated area of San
6 Diego County.

7 Now, Edison has operated for 40 years at
8 this plant, taking in billions of dollars in rates and
9 generating nuclear waste for 40 years, but it did
10 nothing during that time to determine what to do with
11 that waste. They say, this is not our problem, it's
12 the government's problem, we're waiting for somewhere
13 to put it, but this is because Edison made no plans.
14 They were here in 2000 asking you for an interim
15 storage facility and that's still interim. It's never
16 going to move if you do this today.

17 The Commission -- Edison has put this
18 Commission on the spot after greedy and irresponsible
19 behavior. When it didn't get a license, and it got
20 the big steam generators without approval, it then --
21 when it got in trouble and they failed after two of
22 the 40 years, went to Warsaw, Poland, and worked out a
23 deal. Because of their dishonesty, you cannot
24 reasonably rely on their representations. They ran
25 the business with no exit strategy.

1 We know that they got from the California
2 Public Utility Commission what they wanted through
3 improper influence, closed door meetings, ex parte
4 meetings, and contributions. They've scorched the
5 integrity of the P.U.C. Don't let that happen to this
6 Commission.

7 You have alternatives at this point in time.
8 Approve it and a suit will be filed because --

9 (Buzzer sound.)

10 MS. SEVERSON: -- there's no record, but the
11 better course is -- I'll finish up now, thank you --
12 do the hard work now.

13 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

14 MS. SEVERSON: Postpone this until they can
15 come up with alternatives, have a meeting in San Diego
16 County where it belongs --

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you for your comments.

18 MS. SEVERSON: -- and join the San Diego
19 County and wait for the Energy Department. Thank you.

20 MR. KINSEY: Tara Neider, Patricia Birch --
21 Borchmann and then Donna Gilmore and she will have,
22 uh, one speaker ceding time to her. Welcome.

23 MS. NEIDER: Uh, thank you. I'm Tara Neider
24 and I'm senior V.P. at AREVA and AREVA is the company
25 that has the -- has -- has designed and supplied the

1 systems that are existing at, uh, San Onofre today.
2 I'm a registered professional engineer and I want to
3 take issue with one thing that was said today and that
4 is that there's no potential alternatives in the -- in
5 the near future. I disagree with that.

6 We're currently working on a license. We
7 have a meeting tomorrow, another meeting with the
8 N.R.C. on the, um -- the -- the interim storage
9 facility at, uh -- in Andrews, Texas, uh, with waste
10 control specialists. That -- that facility will be
11 designed and licensed for taking the fuel at this
12 site.

13 Um, I also want to say that I've been out of
14 the -- I've been in the used fuel industry for almost
15 30 years, but I took the last four and a half years
16 and was working in the, uh -- the D.O.E. market and
17 the D.O.E. is taking -- is spending about 6 billion
18 dollars right now on indust --- on -- on, uh,
19 radioactive cleanup at all the D.O.E. sites.

20 Um, they -- part of that money that they're
21 spending is emptying single-shell cask
22 (indecipherable) tanks that are underground and moving
23 them into double-shelled tanks because of water
24 intrusion and waste getting into the environment. We
25 now know that the double-shell tanks are also leaking,

1 though, so there is a way --

2 (Buzzer sound.)

3 MS. NEIDER: -- when you put things
4 underground, out of sight, that -- that things happen.
5 Nature is -- is a lot stronger than us and I -- and to
6 have things underground, right at the water level does
7 not seem to make --

8 (Buzzer sound.)

9 MS. NEIDER: -- sense to me. Thank you.

10 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Ms. Borchmann, uh,
11 then Donna Gilmore, then Richard Margel (phonetic).

12 MS. BORCHMANN: Good afternoon,
13 Commissioners. I'm a resident in Escondido and, uh,
14 most of my adult life I've been actively involved in
15 trying to keep up with what's going on at San Onofre.

16 Um, as you know -- uh, I'm sure you've all
17 been overwhelmed with all the technical reports and
18 complexity, uh, and reports by Edison's expert and the
19 consultants they retained versus, uh, report --
20 experts retained by, uh, independent, uh, consultants
21 who are outside of the nuclear industry -- um, makes
22 it difficult for you. And I agree with previous
23 speaker, uh, that Edison has unfortunately, I think,
24 placed this Commission in a very, uh, precarious
25 position.

1 Um, I don't think it's necessary, from my
2 observation of, uh, being a stakeholder since, uh, the
3 Community Engagement Panel was formed in the middle of
4 2014, um, Edison has pretty much preselected,
5 predefined their choice, uh, with, uh, the type of
6 cask that they've chosen to use Holtec UMAX stainless
7 steel, 5/8-inch-thick containers. Um, it's pretty
8 much, you know, their proposal. They've, uh, invested
9 a lot of money and a lot of time to have their
10 experts, uh, do analysis, to the extent that it's
11 possible.

12 I wish to reinforce to the Commission, just
13 to understand that, uh, unfortunately, N.R.C., uh, is
14 undertaking -- or is in the infancy process of
15 undertaking -- rule making to determine or to develop
16 rules that will ultimately apply to, uh,
17 decommissioning sites. Right now, the -- there are
18 no, uh, rules in place. So, we're going by guidance
19 and policy and, uh, nebulous things that sometimes
20 change. Uh, it's very difficult --

21 (Buzzer sound. Buzzer sound.)

22 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

23 MS. BORCHMANN: Thank you.

24 MR. KINSEY: Ms. Borchmann.

25 FEMALE SPEAKER: She -- she's Borchmann.

1 MS. BORCHMANN: Yeah, I'm Patricia
2 Borchmann.

3 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Uh, Donna Gilmore,
4 excuse me.

5 MS. GILMORE: How many minutes do you have
6 there?

7 MR. KINSEY: Uh, you have one speaker card,
8 you have four minutes.

9 MS. GILMORE: Uh, there was, uh -- uh, Jim
10 Heddle (phonetic), and, uh, Beverly, uh -- there
11 should've been two different people.

12 MR. KINSEY: Bever -- I have Beverly only
13 and who's the other one you said?

14 MS. GILMORE: Jim -- Jim Heddle.

15 MR. KINSEY: Okay. We'll give you six
16 minutes and I'll find Jim's --

17 MS. GILMORE: Okay.

18 MR. KINSEY: -- (indecipherable).

19 MS. GILMORE: All right, okay. Thank you.
20 Um, you have the slides. Okay.

21 I live about, uh, five miles, uh, from, uh,
22 San Onofre and, um, I appreciate the work that the
23 staff has done on that report. I've worked very, very
24 closely with them. They've given us a lot of great
25 information. Now, all we have to do is pay attention

1 to it.

2 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

3 MS. GILMORE: Little further away? Is this
4 okay?

5 MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

6 MS. GILMORE: Okay.

7 MALE SPEAKER: Perfect.

8 MS. GILMORE: All right. Um, go -- go to
9 the next slide. Okay.

10 In terms of jurisdiction, the Special
11 Condition 2 says, okay, we know eventually we're gonna
12 have a problem with this site -- for -- for the
13 coastal requirements, but if you promise to move it
14 before that happens, it will be okay. Well, how can
15 they even do that? The waste -- anybody that has a
16 waste is keeping it, you know. You know, they're --
17 that's the reality. We all know it. The staff report
18 clarifies that.

19 Um, so, to me, in terms of jurisdiction, the
20 N.R.C. may eventually, uh, approve the system, but
21 they're saying it's okay for 20 years, and we don't
22 look at anything that might happen to it after that.
23 Their own staff has information that these thin
24 canisters could crack. If they're cracked, they can't
25 be transported. So, you need -- your Coastal Act

1 requires you to look a lot longer range than what the
2 N.R.C.'s doing. So, I -- I don't think there's a
3 conflict with the Coastal Act and the N.R.C., but I
4 think there's a role where you can have some
5 requirements too.

6 And Edison can pick a bett -- a solution
7 that meets coastal requirements and N.R.C.
8 requirements and that's what they need to do. The --
9 the system they have picked is unproven. There has
10 never been an underground system like this anywhere in
11 the world. Uh, they claim Humboldt Bay is similar,
12 but Humboldt Bay takes their thin canisters and puts
13 them in thick casks, so it's not the same. So, this
14 is not a proven system. The only thing we do know is
15 that these canisters are subject to cracking and
16 that's from the N.R.C.'s own information.

17 They cannot inspect them or repair them,
18 according to the vendor that makes them. Um, and the
19 Special Condition 2 says, well, we'll give you 20
20 years to figure out how to inspect 'em, repair and
21 maintain 'em. Well, if that doesn't happen, they're
22 going nowhere. You can't transport those canisters.
23 And that's where the Coastal Commission cares. That's
24 where -- that's where that's -- that's -- it's our job
25 here to -- to care about that.

1 Now, Holtec, the company makes 'em, they got
2 a ten-year warranty on that big concrete understruc --
3 underground structure. Ten years. That really shows
4 they're putting their money where their -- you know --
5 and then the thin canisters, 25 years. That's it.
6 And then, they are gonna take the existing San Onofre
7 canisters, that may already have cracks -- they don't
8 know that they have cracks 'cause they can't look at
9 'em -- they can't look -- they're gonna -- oh, they're
10 gonna give those a big two years. So, there's your
11 confidence level right there.

12 Let's go to the next, uh, slide.

13 Okay, this is what they do in Germany.
14 They've been using thick cask technology, one cask,
15 use it for storage, use it for transport. You can
16 take the top off if you need to. They have remote
17 monitoring. They put it in a building for extra
18 environmental protection. They've been used over 40
19 years. How long has the UMAX been used? About, uh,
20 what, few months at Callaway they installed one. So,
21 a few months versus 40 years. Which one are you gonna
22 count on to protect our coastline? Fukushima --

23 Next slide.

24 Fukushima cask -- they have thick cask --
25 thick cask technology -- thick, storage transport

1 casks, not these thin, 5/8-inch-thick things.

2 Next slide.

3 Okay. Well, will they leak? Won't they --
4 you know, won't they crack? Will they crack? Won't
5 they crack? Diablo Canyon, two-year-old canister has
6 all the conditions for cracking. Koeberg Nuclear
7 Plant, located in the same environment as us, through
8 wall leak in 17 years -- failed in 17 years, same
9 environment, onshore winds, lots of moisture, lots of
10 fog.

11 The N.R.C., in their approval, says anything
12 after 20 years, we're gonna pretend we don't care.
13 So, we aren't even gonna consider these canisters are
14 designed for any aging management. That is the N.R.C.
15 approval process. Hopefully the Coastal Commission
16 will use some common sense and do better than what the
17 N.R.C.'s giving us.

18 The next slide.

19 Now, this is the difference between what
20 Edison wants to use and what they can use. They can
21 choose. They don't have to choose the thin ones.
22 They can use -- choose canisters that meets coastal
23 requirements and N.R.C. requirements. Uh, they won't
24 crack, you can repair 'em, you can inspect 'em, they
25 have early warning maintenance, um, you know, on and

1 on and on, the scope --

2 Next slide.

3 One thing that isn't addressed in this
4 report 'cause one -- one of the special conditions,
5 too, is, well, they need to come up with a way to deal
6 with problems in 20 years. You don't have to tell us
7 what you're gonna do now, but in 20 years. Okay.
8 It's not 20 years. San Onofre has had casks since
9 2003. So, that means, in eight years, they should
10 have a plan. Well, they should have a plan before and
11 they don't. So, that needs to be addressed in here.
12 Waiting 20 years to know what they're gonna do isn't
13 gonna work.

14 Next slide.

15 Now, in terms of, uh, the -- the -- the TN-
16 24 cask is one example of a thick cask technology.
17 These are -- this is just a list of all the countries
18 and areas they're used. These are used in the United
19 States. They're, um -- these and some thick German
20 casks, they're the longest used. They're the most
21 proven technology available. They -- they're -- they
22 still work --

23 (Buzzer sound.)

24 MS. GILMORE: -- and, um -- and then -- one
25 more slide.

1 If you're gonna listen to San Ono -- to
2 Edison, believe their promises, they have the worst
3 safety complaint record for over six years. These are
4 employees that complained to the N.R.C. because San
5 Onofre wouldn't take care of -- of a safety issue or
6 problem that --

7 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

8 MS. GILMORE: That red line --

9 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

10 MS. GILMORE: -- is -- so, don't believe a
11 company that has that lack of creditability. Thank
12 you.

13 MR. KINSEY: Richard Margel (phonetic), uh,
14 then Jasper Margel (phonetic), and Gary Headrick.

15 MR. R. MARGEL: Hello, I'd like to share my
16 time with Jasper Margel, my son, so the two of us
17 together. Um, I have a handout, uh, that looks like
18 this if you'd like to find it. Um, my name is Richard
19 Margel and, uh, I live in Ramona, California. I'd
20 like to share with you a little history about the
21 North Industrial Area, the site where the S.C.E. is
22 proposing to locate its ISFSI being discussed today.

23 Years ago, the site was -- this site was the
24 location of the SONGS 1 reactor. The attached photo,
25 taken in 2005, right here that you have, uh, shows the

1 containment sphere of SONGS in between the old, new
2 homes, a ISFSI in the ocean.

3 In the backside of the attached photo, if
4 you flip over and look at the attached photo that I've
5 sent you, there's a page that looks like this. And if
6 you look towards the left-hand side of the picture,
7 you can see a sphere. That sphere is the location of
8 SONGS 1, where it was before they decommissioned it.
9 Um, a former, uh -- a former N.R.C. inspector tipped
10 me off to the fact that S.C.E.'s ISFSI is proposed to
11 be built right on that -- right next to the monolithic
12 subterranean concrete superstructure used to support
13 SONGS 1's containment sphere.

14 Uh, is that a big deal? Well, maybe. Some
15 of that superstructure is still there, uh, it residing
16 eight feet below the current grade and was the source
17 of, um, radioactive tritium detected during the
18 decommissioning of SONGS 1. During the SONGS 1
19 decommissioning, several sample wells were drilled
20 near SONGS 1 and each high tide brought increasing
21 tritium concentrations. Take a look at how close the
22 12.5 foot deep ISFSI excavations are going to be next
23 to the SONGS 1 dec -- uh, decontaminated -- or, uh,
24 containment sphere.

25 Uh, this tritium rich soil is going to be

1 repurposed, uh, and backfilled, uh, for the ISFSI in
2 the proposed attachment for the C.D.P. The soil was
3 expose -- will expose the surrounding environment,
4 workers, and beachgoers, um, to, um, potential
5 tritium.

6 I don't know how, uh -- I would like to know
7 what safeguards, uh, S.C.E. should include in their
8 ISFSI plans to ensure that the contaminated soils,
9 known to be deep within -- underneath SONGS 1's site,
10 uh, will not impede beachgoers access to the ocean,
11 some hundred feet away this ISFSI's development. How
12 can you say that you're going to, uh, support Coastal
13 Act Chapter 3, Article 2, Section 3021, where the
14 proposed development will not interfere with the
15 people and their access to the ocean at that site? It
16 doesn't seem feasible. Please deny today's act.

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

18 MR. R. MARGEL: I'd like my son to be able
19 to talk. I believe I only got three minutes total.

20 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Yep, if your son would
21 like to speak, we'll give him one minute.

22 MR. R. MARGEL: Thank you.

23 MR. KINSEY: Welcome Jasper.

24 MR. J. MARGEL: Hi. I am Jasper Margel
25 (phonetic) and I am from Ramona. And I am here to

1 talk about the dry cask storage at San Onofre. Okay.
2 Let's get to the problem.

3 Since the canisters are too heavy, that
4 means that they're trapped at SONGS and my generation
5 is need -- is going to need to move the canisters
6 because salt corrosion might make it so that one of
7 them breaches. Once one breaches, there will be no
8 beach access and then we'll have to move them. So, I
9 think you should deny any permit that includes putting
10 casks that are too heavy in the ground. Thank you.

11 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Gary Headrick, Mary
12 Beth Brangan, and then Rita Conn.

13 MR. HEADRICK: Good afternoon, my name's
14 Gary Headrick. I'm founder of San Clemente Green,
15 which is a group of concerned citizens, mostly about
16 sustainability but, um, in 2010, we were contacted by
17 whistleblowers -- or, concerned workers actually at
18 the power plant saying that the -- the steam generator
19 project was not being, uh, tested properly and they
20 were concerned, but they were being retaliated against
21 by management. So, they came to us, which was
22 shocking.

23 Uh, since then, we've been following this
24 story and trying to make sure the right things are
25 done by a industry that -- like was said before -- has

1 the worst safety record of all nuclear power plants in
2 the United States. It was also mentioned that, um,
3 some of their dealings with the C.P.U.C. are
4 questionable in terms of the leg -- legality of the
5 way they've been coming up with the settlement. Uh,
6 and even the N.R.C. is questionable because they --
7 they turned down the opportunity to investigate what
8 actually happened with the steam generator project, so
9 that kind of a way for them to bypass any
10 responsibility they may have had too.

11 So, my concern -- and, um, you know, I
12 represent about 4,800 local citizens that share these
13 concerns -- about, um, who's gonna protect us from
14 these kind of ideas. And I know there's certain
15 jurisdiction you have that don't apply to radiation or
16 safety, but, um, if you allow the plan to proceed as
17 suggested, it's almost certain that we will end up
18 with a nuclear power, um -- nuclear waste site
19 permanently, as far as we're concerned, indefinitely.

20 So, what we're asking is, if you're -- if
21 you're applying conditional, um, approval in this
22 case, then the things that we think should be, um --

23 (Buzzer sound.)

24 MR. HEADRICK: -- part of this -- I'm sorry
25 -- was they should be inspected, maintained,

1 continuous monitoring, make sure they're
2 transportable, and make sure they don't crack. Please
3 include those.

4 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Mary Beth, then
5 Rita, and then Jeff Steinmetz (phonetic). Welcome.

6 MS. BRANGAN: Hi, Steve. Um, Mary Beth
7 Brangan, Ecological Options Network, EON. Plus, I
8 will be speaking for the National Nuclear Free
9 Campaign of the Sierra Club, who, uh, also recommends
10 that the California Coastal Commission deny the
11 application for this experimental, unproven spent fuel
12 dry storage system.

13 Um, in addition to all the comments that
14 have already been made, uh, which we agree with, I
15 wanted to bring out that, uh -- uh, huge consideration
16 is that these Holtec, um, proposed systems have high
17 capacity. They want to put 37 fuel assemblies in
18 these canisters with high burnup fuel. That means
19 they may need to be in dry storage to -- uh, 45 years.
20 Even if there were a place to move it now, it would be
21 45 years before they'd be cool enough to move. So,
22 that means you've got to have the right storage system
23 for them now.

24 Um, also, the, uh, current Holtec license
25 doesn't meet the current N.R.C. UMAX license of the

1 current system because they're using a different
2 thickness of canisters that's in the current, uh,
3 license, and, uh, they also haven't, uh -- the seismic
4 valuation that the N.R.C. UMAX license was predicated
5 on, uh, was for fully underground, uh, systems, not
6 partially underground system.

7 Um, so, we -- we definitely, uh, want you to
8 think carefully. This possibly is the most long-
9 lasting decision that the Coastal Commission --
10 Commission will ever have to make and the one that
11 will have the greatest impact on the population,
12 health, and also --

13 (Buzzer sound.)

14 MS. BRANGAN: -- the environmental --

15 (Buzzer sound.)

16 MS. BRANGAN: -- and economic health of this
17 area. Thank you.

18 MALE SPEAKER: (Indecipherable).

19 MR. KINSEY: Rita, then Jeff, then, uh,
20 Jorgen Johnson (phonetic) -- or Torgen.

21 MS. CONN: Um, just wanted to let you know
22 that Dr. Conn (phonetic) cedes his time to me.

23 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Has he filled out a
24 speaker card?

25 MS. CONN: Yes, he has.

1 MR. KINSEY: Okay, thank you. You have four
2 minutes.

3 MS. CONN: Thank you. Good afternoon,
4 Commissioners. My name is Rita Conn. I am chairwoman
5 of Let Laguna Vote. And your staff is really smart --

6 MALE SPEAKER: (Indecipherable).

7 MS. CONN: -- and, um, they recognize in
8 this application that there are lots of uncertainties
9 and that they have their doubts and that's probably
10 why, at the end of every category, they have inserted
11 one or two clause -- one of two clauses. Either
12 they're eliminating liability for the Coastal
13 Commission or they say something like this, staff
14 proposes to mitigate this doubt with special
15 conditions that must be met in 20 years. And 20 years
16 is a long time and a lot of really bad things could
17 happen in that time.

18 So, why 20 years when there is current
19 technology available today that would mitigate all of
20 those concerns and that is licensed in the U.S.?
21 Take, for example, the dry cask storage systems that
22 were used at Fukushima. Surprisingly, they -- they
23 were -- they survived intact, the, um -- the
24 earthquake of a 9.0 and the tsunami that was 47, uh,
25 feet tall.

1 They're vastly different than the kind that
2 Edison is proposing today and I brought you a visual.
3 The -- the thickness of the walls of the canisters
4 that survived Fukushima are this thick. The thickness
5 of the walls that Holtec plans to use are this thick.
6 It is -- yeah, right -- you can hardly see it. It's a
7 big difference and it makes a big difference as well.

8 In addition, this system is installed above
9 ground, in a hardened structure, so there would be no
10 need to harm our precious bluffs. They also are both
11 a storage canister and a transfer canister, which
12 means that there will be no questions, it will be
13 ready when the Department of Energy comes to get it,
14 and we can restore that site again and enjoy it.

15 There -- there's no history of this lasting.
16 There's no history of the infrastructure that they
17 want to put it in lasting because it's never been used
18 before anyplace in the world in these marine, uh,
19 conditions.

20 So, let's pay attention to not only what
21 Edison tells us but also what Edison doesn't tell us.
22 Like, I believe that according -- they did not tell
23 you this about their -- their vendor -- that according
24 to the Department of Justice and the Office of the
25 Inspector General, Edison's selected vendor, Holtec,

1 was the first vendor to be debarred as a U.S.A.
2 contractor after a T.V.A. power plant, uh, manager
3 pleaded guilty to felony -- felony charges of
4 accepting a bribe. This doesn't speak well for their
5 integrity.

6 And when the Chief Dry Cask Storage
7 Inspector for the Chicago N.R.C., Ross Landsman, was
8 asked to sign off on Holtec's quality assurance, he
9 refused, stating, "This is the same kind of thinking
10 that lead to the NASA space shuttle disaster. As far
11 as I'm concerned, Holtec has no quality assurance."

12 The findings of the report that the
13 government did in Fukushima said that that was a
14 manmade disaster, yes, due to the collusion between
15 the governing bodies and between the utilities
16 companies. It could have been prevented.

17 This is your chance. There's other
18 technologies available. God forbid an emergency could
19 be prevented by asking Edison to supply you with all
20 of the options, not just the one.

21 Please deny --

22 (Buzzer sound.)

23 MS. CONN: -- this permit.

24 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Jeff Steinmetz
25 (phonetic). Jeff will be followed by Torgen, then

1 Audrey Prosser.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Two minutes?

3 MR. KINSEY: Two minutes.

4 MR. JOHNSON: Never enough. My name is
5 Torgen Johnson (phonetic). I'm an urban planner,
6 Harvard trained, two graduate degrees from Harvard.
7 I'm in North County San Diego.

8 On June, uh, 2013, I helped organize a
9 public conference titled "Fukushima: Ongoing Lessons
10 for California." It was held down at the County
11 Administrative Offices in San Diego. My wife and I
12 invited the former Prime Minister of Japan, Naoto Kan,
13 who was the Prime Minister in Japan at the time of the
14 nuclear disaster to Fukushima. Prime Minister Kan, on
15 the many conversations that we had on that trip and
16 five other conferences that I joined him with, here
17 and in Japan, emphasized that it was the fuel storage
18 that he and his nuclear experts feared most during
19 that disaster in 2011.

20 Now, Edison uses the term safety all the
21 time they talk about fuel, whether it's in pools or
22 whether it's in dry casks. Safety is a relative term
23 when Edison uses it and be cautious. I urge you to
24 err on the side of caution. There's no penalty if you
25 deny the permit because you are erring on the side of

1 caution because there's nothing that deprives the
2 public of its use and enjoyment of a public beach more
3 than an industrial accident at a nuclear fuel storage
4 facility, like the one that you're reviewing right
5 now.

6 You have no jurisdiction over radiological
7 disasters, but you do have jurisdiction over
8 protecting the use of the beaches, and I would urge
9 you to deny the permit because this proposed system is
10 experimental, it's unproven, um, others have come
11 before you with well-researched, uh, facts about the
12 deficiency of this system and the questions of this
13 system. So, if anything, you should have, uh -- uh, a
14 shadow of a doubt about the integrity of this system.
15 Edison's proven in the past that it has a deep
16 contempt for a public that has concern over its safety
17 and protection of its property.

18 (Buzzer sound.)

19 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Two minutes is too short, too
21 important of an issue for two minutes.

22 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Okay. Audrey will
23 be followed by Leah Vasquez (phonetic) and A -- Ace
24 Hoffman (phonetic).

25 MS. PROSSER: Good afternoon, Commissioners.

1 Um, in 2014, November, uh, I learned of the
2 plan to bury 1,632 tons of nuclear waste and I got
3 involved. Um, and that -- I've spoken at bipartisan
4 policy meetings, C.E.P. meetings, and one of the most
5 interesting meetings was in Washington, D.C., with the
6 representatives from Nevada, when they were told that
7 everything was okay about Yucca Mountain. Well, the
8 State of Nevada hired their own biologist and
9 determined that their water was about to be
10 contaminated and they sued and they protected there.
11 I expect the -- that the Coastal Commission to do the
12 same thing, to err on the side of safety.

13 I urge you not to let the gravity of a
14 decision to use thin canisters to store dangerous
15 nuclear waste unnecessarily fall on the Commissioners.
16 When there are leaks on the bluff, or the bluff fails
17 for any reason, it will litter our precious ocean and
18 beaches and all of these containers could end up on
19 the beach or in the ocean. And I'm not speaking of
20 just radiological. That would be a hazard to even
21 navigating those waters.

22 There are too many unknowns in the
23 applicant's proposal. When a decision requires as
24 many conditions as the staff recommended, it is
25 further proof that you need a better proposal.

1 Approving the proposal today is premature and not best
2 business practices. At a minimum, the rods needs to
3 be placed in casks that can be inspected and
4 transported or the Coastal Commission will be in the
5 unique position to be in the removal -- the roadblock
6 to removal when the D.O.E. does come after them.

7 And the D.O.E. is considering removing the
8 waste to the interim locations right now. I have a
9 letter from the D.O.E., while I will include for the
10 record, uh, that states that.

11 Congressman Darrell Issa, that serves the
12 district, just introduced a bill co-sponsored by Texas
13 Cong -- Congressman that represents the district that
14 wants the fuel. Senator Feinstein and Boxer sponsored
15 a bill calling for the removal. This is a bipartisan
16 movement finally.

17 Page 9 of the staff report states off sites
18 are unavailable in the near term. I disagree. Texas
19 has -- has the desire to get the waste, the political
20 will, and the approval of the people. They now have a
21 low-level site and it could be ready in five years,
22 which is much shorter than what we're anticipating
23 here.

24 The same paragraph, there's no other site
25 under S.C.E.'s control. S.C.E. is not responsible for

1 removing this waste; the Department of Energy is. And
2 if S.C.E. is allowed to place it in these thin
3 canisters, they will obstruct the ability of the
4 D.O.E. to transport it out of there.

5 We can't reply -- we can't rely on vendor
6 reports. Has an environmental impact report been
7 performed? I'm calling for an E.I.R. report to be
8 performed prior to your approval of this agenda item.
9 We need facts, not promises, from a vendor.

10 Thank you for your time and please vote no
11 today.

12 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Leah, followed by
13 Ace, and then Barbara Metzger (phonetic).

14 MS. VASQUEZ: Thank you, Commissioners. I
15 have a little different report for you. And I was
16 very touched, and I can see you were, by the young man
17 who testified. I'm very concerned and I should be and
18 so should you be. There's a famous picture, "What, Me
19 Worry? You Bet." We all should be worried, extremely
20 worried.

21 I don't want to see you come under fire or
22 have liability, but I don't want to see the public
23 disappointed in your actions. So, we here are very
24 concerned with the reports and expert testimony we've
25 read and heard, and we urge you, this entire

1 Commission, to demand that Edison use only proven
2 systems for storing nuclear waste that can be
3 inspected. It needs to be maintained and have
4 continuous monitor -- monitoring. It has to be
5 transportable and doesn't crack.

6 Shockingly, Edison's proposal does none of
7 these things. In order to protect our coastal assets
8 well into the future, all these criteria should be met
9 before getting your approval. And we all know that
10 SONGS is located at shoreline, in both earthquake and
11 tsunami zones. It's vulnerable to any offshore or
12 flyover targeting.

13 The public is really not aware. They don't
14 taste it, hear it, see it, or feel it. They are not
15 warned, nor aware, of their proximity to hazardous
16 waste, contaminated sand, or ocean waters where our
17 children swim, any more than in 1956, when my mother
18 was filming --

19 (Buzzer sound.)

20 MS. VASQUEZ: -- in Utah --

21 (Buzzer sound.)

22 MS. VASQUEZ: -- and everyone was exposed
23 and she had cancer. So, it's --

24 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

25 MS. VASQUEZ: -- very personal to me. I

1 (indecipherable) --

2 MR. KINSEY: Thank you for your comments.

3 MS. VASQUEZ: Thank you very much. Please
4 do the right thing.

5 MR. KINSEY: Mr. Hoffman (phonetic) and
6 then, uh, Ms. Metzger (phonetic) and then Johanna
7 Fedler (phonetic).

8 MR. HOFFMAN: Hi, my name's Ace Hoffman.
9 Uh, I've been following this issue for decades. About
10 four years ago, I went to a N.R.C. hearing and I gave
11 out cop -- about a hundred -- or fif -- 80 copies of
12 this book to the staff and to any activist and anyone
13 else who wanted one, uh -- the staff of Southern
14 California Edison.

15 And a few months after that, one of them
16 came to me and he said that he was very worried. He
17 had 25 years experience at San Onofre. Before that,
18 he worked at Los Alamos and before that he was a
19 (descriptive sound) sniper in Vietnam. And he said
20 that they're not welding the casks properly, that the,
21 uh, automated welding system that puts the -- the tops
22 on and -- or the bottoms, or the seams -- were not
23 always being calibrated right, and when they weren't
24 right, they weren't adjusting them and they weren't
25 redoing them because of worker intimidation, which,

1 uh, Donna Gilmore mentioned.

2 Now, when I was up at the Diablo Canyon a
3 couple a weeks ago, the C.P.U.C. had a joint meeting
4 with, uh, a -- uh, state senator and a few other
5 people, and they were adamant that they're no longer
6 gonna say that they don't -- that they're not gonna be
7 involved with safety. They've been saying it, the
8 same as you are saying it now, and they decided
9 they're not gonna do that anymore.

10 Now, I admit that at some point they did
11 say, well, we have to defer to the N.R.C., but you can
12 at least consider it and I don't think you're even
13 beginning to. You've got to consider safety. That's
14 what your job is, is to consider whether or not these
15 flimsy dry casks and (indecipherable) I submitted a
16 letter to Joseph Street this morning, which goes over
17 dozens of problems with these dry casks.

18 So, you've -- you've gotta give -- you've
19 gotta do your job, which is to protect our coast, and
20 nobody else can protect our coast like you can because
21 you can simply say no and I hope that you will. And
22 I'm gonna submit copies of this book so you can see
23 what it was that the, uh -- I mean, nobody ever came
24 to me and said that they found significant errors in
25 this book. In fact, I haven't had anyone tell me

1 there are errors in it. Thank you very much.

2 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

3 (Buzzer sound.)

4 MR. KINSEY: Barbara, Johanna, and then, uh,
5 Barbara, uh, Kan -- Kansteiner.

6 MS. METZER: I share all the concerns that
7 you've been hearing this afternoon and I want to just
8 say that -- that relying on promises of -- of future
9 technology is exactly what got us in the position
10 we're in today.

11 We were promised that the nuc -- that the
12 spent nuclear fuel from our power plants would be
13 taken to a permanent repository and that was decades
14 ago and we still don't have one. I hope that we're
15 not gonna make the same mistake again by -- by, uh,
16 allowing 20 years to develop a way to get these
17 canisters out of the ground.

18 The staff report mentions but doesn't
19 evaluate some existing alternatives to the proposed
20 canisters that may be more durable, inspectable, and
21 ultimately transportable. I hope that you will reject
22 this proposal and encourage Edison to solve all the
23 technical problems before the spent fuel is moved.

24 MR. KINSEY: Yes, uh, Johanna, then Roberta.

25 MS. FEDLER: Johanna Fedler (phonetic).

1 What is not included in this report are the
2 effects of the expected El Nino and its effects on the
3 water table. If the bluff fails, there would be 107-
4 uh-57 ton canisters falling into the ocean and this
5 must be prevented.

6 It is ludicrous that you cannot consider the
7 possibility of a leak. So, let's not consider what
8 would happen to the 8,841,000 people in the 50-mile
9 San Onofre evactions -- uh, evac -- evacuation zone if
10 there is a leak. But you can consider what effect
11 bluff failure or contamination into the ocean will
12 have on the marine life.

13 Please deny this permit.

14 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Roberta will be
15 followed by Darryl Gale (phonetic) and then Lorraine
16 Auger (phonetic).

17 MS. KANSTEINER: Good afternoon. My name is
18 Roberta Kansteiner and I'm speaking on behalf of
19 Laguna Canyon Conservancy. I'd like to ask a few
20 questions.

21 One is, has a stability analysis been done?
22 What did it reveal? Are the bluffs -- the bluffs are
23 unconsolidated sand. Will the excavation go into the
24 bedrock and how deep?

25 Two is, has an environmental impact report

1 been made? Is it based on geology and engineering
2 analysis?

3 Three, will it contaminate the migrating
4 groundwater located at the terrace bedrock contact?

5 Four, cement is permeable. Will the vault
6 be lined with lead or a similar dense element? How
7 thick will that lining be?

8 Five, what monitoring system will be used to
9 measure radiation leaks?

10 Six, if the vault is located near sea level,
11 what will prevent it from contaminating the ocean?

12 Um, I agree with most that's been said and
13 I'd like to add that this legacy is something that we
14 don't want to regret, so I ask that you please vote no
15 and get something more reliable. And thank you for
16 your time and service.

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Darryl. Okay. Oh,
18 excuse me, uh -- thank you. Welcome.

19 MS. GALE: Good afternoon. Darryl Gale
20 (phonetic), Los Angeles.

21 Everyone who lives near or visits the beach
22 understands the concept of corrosion. Just look at
23 common items like bicycles and patio furniture. It is
24 easy to see the effects of sand, salt, water, and
25 wind.

1 Now, we all know that Edison is nothing like
2 TEPCO, but they need some help, some encouragement,
3 and I know that the Coastal Commission is much more
4 enlightened than the Japanese government. TEPCO
5 didn't plan for future con -- contingencies, but we
6 can. We've been very lucky here. We haven't had any
7 recent earthquakes or tsunamis. We haven't had the
8 problem that the East Coast has. Look at what's going
9 on with Sou -- with, uh, Southern, uh -- South
10 Carolina and look at what happened with Hurricane
11 Sandy.

12 But we've had another major problem and it's
13 collective denial. A 20-inch-thick cask -- cask
14 manufactured by Sylincamp (phonetic) is probably the
15 best we can do right now till we have the political
16 will and backing from the State of California, the
17 N.R.C., and the D.O.E., to develop a more workable
18 solution in transportation and storage, whether it be
19 regional or national.

20 Coastal Commission, please take the lead and
21 help us in Southern California find a better solution.
22 Use your influence. Protect all of us here. We can't
23 afford to take this potentially horrible risk of
24 contaminating and decimating our beautiful, tourist-
25 friendly beach communities and the people, animals,

1 and plants who live here. Let us all commit to
2 working on a safer solution, no matter what it costs.
3 Prevention is a lot easier and cheaper than crisis
4 mitigation. Please deny. Thank you.

5 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Lorraine Auger
6 (phonetic) and then, uh, Les, uh, Mickley (phonetic)
7 or something like that.

8 MS. AUGER: Good afternoon, Coastal
9 Commission. I spoke at the C.E.P., Community
10 Engagement Panel, meeting and was not informed of this
11 meeting today by my trusted energy provider, Southern
12 California Edison. How is that for transparency?

13 At the C.E.P. meeting, I had provided my
14 email address directly to Holtec president Dr. Singh,
15 who failed to provide the requested technical
16 documents I had directly requested him to provide.

17 I speak today not only for myself, but for
18 my daughter, who is in college, and on behalf of my
19 family members who cannot be here present today, due
20 to work obligations. I also speak on behalf of my
21 unborn grandchildren, who have no voice today, since
22 your decision will directly impact the millions of
23 people who live near and along our environmentally
24 sensitive California shoreline, which you have all
25 pledged to protect for future generations.

1 I am here to oppose the approval of
2 application of Agenda Item 14-A. The California coast
3 is not a suitable site for the proposed temporary or
4 permanent storage of nuclear waste. The approval of
5 Agenda Item 14-A appears to set a precedent that
6 approvals for storage of high-level radioactive waste
7 can be granted based upon speculative, unforeseeable
8 and unknown assumptions that the federal Department of
9 Energy will take custody of all the SONGS spent fuel
10 by 2049. However, we all know the facts at present
11 that no long-term storage facilities exist in the
12 United States for the storage of spent nuclear fuel.

13 This is a nationwide issue of grave
14 consequence to the American citizens. It is
15 imperative that the Coastal Commission not approve the
16 permitting of the poorly proposed designed, thin,
17 Holtec-manufactured storage casks to be used for
18 nuclear fuel storage, since the approval of thin casks
19 would be premised upon a mere assumption that the
20 nuclear waste can and will --

21 (Buzzer sound.)

22 MS. AUGER: -- be relocated. I urge a no
23 vote. Thank you.

24 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

25 MR. KINSEY: Les Milclusky -- McCl --

1 MR. MCCLOSY: McClosy (phonetic).

2 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Welcome. And then, uh -
3 - go ahead, please.

4 MR. MCCLOSY: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
5 My name is Les McClosy. I'm a resident of Laguna
6 Beach and a registered professional engineer in the
7 State of California. Um, I'm familiar with this
8 program by reading, of course, the literature.

9 Uh, there are four requirements that are
10 necessary to make this a successful, safe, dry
11 storage. They are: the canisters have to be
12 inspectable; they have to be maintainable; they have
13 to be repairable; and they have to be, most
14 importantly, transportable.

15 Um, I'm going to offer you three special
16 conditions that we can add to the staff report to --
17 to perhaps, uh, find a way forward because Holtec does
18 not meet any of those conditions. The
19 (indecipherable) -- the criteria for success in this
20 matter is that those four conditions be met, among
21 others. Those are the big ones.

22 There are alternatives out there, uh, so
23 here are the four -- here -- or here are the three
24 special conditions I'd like you to consider.

25 Uh, first one is to substitute for the

1 Holtec containers -- for the Holtec dry storage
2 containers -- uh, the European version -- or there's
3 also one being used one right now -- it's Surry Power
4 Station in Virginia that has -- that has been approved
5 and used.

6 Uh, enough -- the second special condition
7 would be to -- to apply, uh, that -- that con -- that
8 -- to take that, uh -- let's see -- couple things I
9 wanted to say -- uh, to take the new containers that
10 they're using there and fast track them for -- for
11 approval, for certification and approval.

12 And the third thing would be to move this
13 dry storage site off of the, uh, north area --

14 (Buzzer sound.)

15 MR. MCCLOSKEY: -- north industry area because
16 that's in a floodplain and in the future, uh, be much
17 better to locate that where Units 2 and 3 are.

18 Thank you very much.

19 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Barbara Miller
20 (phonetic), then Bruce Campbell and then Sue -- uh,
21 Dr. Sue Sabory (phonetic).

22 MS. MILLER: Barbara Miller. I live in
23 Laguna Beach.

24 Um, your decision today is a huge
25 responsibility. If the canisters fail, the risk of

1 harm to people in property within San Diego and Orange
2 County is significant. This is a gamble we cannot
3 afford to take. Will the canisters fail if there's an
4 earthquake? Will the bluff maintain its integrity?
5 Will the canisters fail if there's a tsunami? Will
6 the location of the canisters erode? Will the
7 canisters maintain their integrity? For how long? Do
8 you know?

9 Mr. Palmisano from Edison's, in his
10 presentation, he talked about this being a safe,
11 secure, and economical suggestion and plan. Are there
12 thicker canisters which might be safer but perhaps
13 less economical? Do we know? The ten-year warranty
14 is meaningless. What is the plan for monitoring?
15 What will be done if the canisters fail?

16 The bluff is too fragile to allow this plan
17 to move forward. We need to keep beaches accessible
18 without the dangers inherent in this unproven and
19 risky scheme. I urge you to deny this application and
20 to seek a safer option. Thank you.

21 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Br -- Bruce and
22 then Dr. Sabory (phonetic).

23 MR. CAMPBELL: Good day, Commissioners. I'm
24 Bruce Campbell from L.A. I'm not a Sierra Club
25 spokesperson on this issue, but I am on a couple

1 chapter committees and have worked on nuclear power
2 issues since 1979. I was happy to see that the
3 National Nuclear Free Campaign of the Sierra Club has
4 submitted a letter just last night in oppose -- in
5 opposition to S.C.E.'s rad. waste scheme.

6 A fellow who gets 95 percent of his info
7 from S.C.E. claims to be endorsing the S.C.E.
8 application on behalf of a Sierra Club taskforce, yet
9 no committee in the Angeles chapter approved any
10 wording regarding San Onofre rad. waste. Yet, in
11 email exchanges, Glenn Pascall was unhappy that
12 someone accused him of endorsing the Holtec UMAX rad.
13 waste system, which he said he never did. Apparently,
14 he liked the general concept of storage, but has no
15 position on the chosen canisters.

16 By the way, dry cask storage must be in a
17 cask, not a thin canister. Also, dry cask storage
18 should have a good chance to stay dry, but it will not
19 stay dry due to the poor design of the Holtec UMAX
20 system with its vents and drain. Plus, Holtec
21 canisters cannot be repackaged into a cask and, thus,
22 cannot be transported. This site will not be
23 decommissioned by 2051 because of the high burnup fuel
24 has to cool down longer in order to be transported.
25 Holtec canisters cannot be transported and cracked

1 canisters cannot be transported.

2 If the plan won't work, then reject the S.C.
3 -- S.C.E. application. Please use common sense as to
4 whether it sounds like a viable proposal. Rejecting
5 an unviable proposal is not judging the subject on the
6 radiation issue.

7 Now, consider the thickness of casks again.
8 The German cask, 20 inches thick, contain 24 spent
9 fuel assemblies. So, uh -- and then the 5/8 of a inch
10 thick, but where they contain one -- maybe one
11 assembly? No, they want 37 assemblies. This is a
12 cheap -- cheapskate utility --

13 (Buzzer sound.)

14 MR. CAMPBELL: -- trying to pull wool ov --
15 over our eyes --

16 (Buzzer sound.)

17 MR. CAMPBELL: -- to get a permanent rad.
18 waste dump while acting like they're gonna move the
19 waste out soon.

20 Here is a letter from the Topanga Peace
21 Alliance I want to submit to the record. And -- and
22 they also oppose the application.

23 MR. KINSEY: Thank you.

24 MR. CAMPBELL: Who -- who would get this,
25 please?

1 MR. KINSEY: You could hand that -- at the
2 (indecipherable) here. Dr. Sabory (phonetic). Okay.

3 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

4 MR. KINSEY: And delete. Okay. So, we
5 don't have any, uh, additional speaker cards. Uh,
6 I'll bring it back to the, um, applicant, uh, Southern
7 Cal., you want to have your, uh, additional time?

8 MR. PALMISANO: Perfect. Thank you.
9 Certainly if the Commissioners have any questions, I'd
10 certainly, uh --

11 MR. KINSEY: That -- that would be
12 understood.

13 MR. PALMISANO: Yep. Uh, a couple comments.
14 Uh, I certainly appreciate the perspective of the
15 different -- different speakers. This is a
16 challenging issue. There are different opinions.
17 People look at facts and come up with different
18 conclusions and I respect that. A couple comments to
19 clarify.

20 First, the -- the UMAX system for Holtec is
21 designed and licensed for storage and transport. They
22 are currently licensing the transport cask, which will
23 transport these canisters with the San Onofre fuel, so
24 let's make that clear.

25 Secondly, there was a comment about 40 years

1 to transport this fuel. The design of the UMAX system
2 allows to transport our fuel with its burnup by 2030.
3 So, the cooling time will continue to 2030 and be
4 ready within 15 years to move all the fuel off site,
5 presuming there's a location.

6 Couple other comments.

7 Experimental, unproven design, I can
8 appreciate the comment. The canister system itself is
9 -- is based on 800 canisters Holtec has designed and
10 loaded in -- in a successful service. They are very
11 similar to other designs by AREVA, by NAC, in this
12 country. What's referred to as a thin-wall, steel
13 canister design is common and it's proven.

14 The cooling flow path, the paths of cooling
15 system in the UMAX system, is -- is very similar and
16 based on U -- on Holtec's other systems and service at
17 Diablo Canyon, for example, with the aboveground
18 vertical system. So, most elements of this design are
19 proven, proven not -- not just in short term, but in
20 long-term service.

21 The nature of the underground structure is
22 relatively new. A prototype of the structure
23 certainly in use at Humboldt Bay -- cooling system's
24 different. System has been approved and licensed by
25 the N.R.C. and is installed and loaded at Callaway and

1 it reflects a post-9/11, uh, element of design to
2 provide enhanced protection from, not only external
3 events, but terrorist events, quite frankly, with its
4 lower profile, below grade or below (indecipherable).

5 Um, the aging management plan -- we need an
6 aging management program. It's an N.R.C. requirement
7 for the second 20-year increment of the license. Our
8 50 loaded canisters of the horizontal AREVA system,
9 thin-walled canisters on a concrete structure, will
10 need an aging plan -- management plan by 2022. We
11 will have an aging management plan for that system and
12 Holtec before that date. That will include
13 inspection, repair, and how you handle a crack-like
14 indication in a canister. It's an imp -- and it's
15 part -- it's an important requirement of the N.R.C.

16 Design life: 60 years. Service life:
17 expected to be a hundred years. Licensing life:
18 initially 20 years and then the N.R.C. reviews
19 relicensing in 20 to 40 year increments. They have
20 been relicensing systems like this, thin wall
21 canisters in concrete overpacks, for 20 years, and up
22 to 40 years, in some cases, in similar environments.

23 So, a couple key comments there.

24 The comment about not knowing about the
25 meeting, we added 153 names to the interested parties

1 list for the Coastal Commission staff, including some
2 of the speakers that spoke today. So, we have tried
3 to ensure this permit was widely advertised and people
4 had adequate opportunity to participate in the process
5 because that is important. That is in conjunction
6 with 18 months of discussion in the Community
7 Engagement Panel meeting.

8 Um, I think a key point -- there's been a
9 lot of comments and I certainly won't try to touch on
10 every one. I think the real situation we're faced
11 with here, uh, is we have fuel in the fuel pools,
12 2,668 assemblies, that need to be moved to dry cask
13 storage. I would argue that, in our situation, the
14 fuel is better kept in dry cask storage than it is
15 continuing for an indefinite period of time in a fuel
16 pool.

17 There's been some interesting suggestions
18 about Castor cask or thick-wall cask. One of the
19 comparisons is a bit misleading, in my opinion. You
20 need to compare the 5/8, stainless steel, high-
21 strength canister, enveloped in a concrete overpack.
22 Our current system -- I have 50 thin-walled canisters.
23 The concrete provides protection, structural
24 integrity, radiation shielding, protection against
25 external events. That's what the concrete monolith in

1 the UMAX system does. So, it's quite frankly not a
2 fair comparison to take 5/8 inch compared to 20 inch.

3 Um, I have experience with a thick-walled
4 canis -- cask system at the Prairie Island Nuclear
5 Plant, which I used to manage. The vendor who
6 provides that system -- it's the only plant in the
7 country continuing to use that system. The vendor did
8 not propose that when they bid. They proposed their
9 thin-walled canister system and their horizontal
10 concrete overpack.

11 One of the reasons is that system's not big
12 enough for SONGS fuel. It's too short. It's not
13 designed for the enrichment, not designed for the
14 burning. So, we -- we did not exclude a thick-walled
15 system. None of the three vendors who bid bid a
16 thick-walled system -- cask -- cask system.

17 I also investigated the German, uh, you
18 know, cask, that has been eluded to and talked about,
19 the Castor cask. Twenty-six of them are loaded at the
20 Surry plant. They were starved in the late 80's.
21 Surry has since stopped using and loading them. They
22 were licensed only for storage only. The vendor never
23 applied and completed an N.R.C. transportation
24 license, so they simply cannot be moved. The vendor
25 had a license -- a general license available from 1990

1 to 2010. Nobody bought it in this country and they
2 let their license expire.

3 So, I brought Castor over here to discuss
4 that. Uh, they really -- uh, quite frankly, they'll
5 tell me they can design anything, but they have
6 indicated no interest in really entering the U.S.
7 market.

8 The vendors we looked at -- NAC, AREVA, and
9 Holtec -- NAC and AREVA each have about 45 percent of
10 the domestic market, NAC on the order 10, small,
11 growing percentage. We looked at three very viable
12 vendors and, uh, made a good selection.

13 With that, you know, again, what I would
14 urge the -- the Commission to do -- it's a difficult
15 decision, I think -- the staff has been thorough, the
16 conditions of staff are proposing give the appropriate
17 checkpoints. I think it's important to realize that
18 fuel is better off in a dry cask storage system than
19 it is sitting in a pool for an extended period of
20 time. And with that, I'll close. Thank you.

21 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Bring it back to
22 the staff, uh, be able to respond to questions or
23 other information you gleaned during the public
24 comment, and then we'll bring it to the Commission.

25 MS. DETTMER: Sure. Thank you. Um, just a

1 few comments.

2 Um, we -- we appreciate this is difficult.
3 Um, frankly, it hasn't been easy on staff either. Um,
4 but as stated by a number of the speakers, you know,
5 for now, uh, there is no place else but this site to
6 store this material.

7 Uh, in listening to a lot of the speakers
8 today, you know, many of them were discussing what we
9 consider to be radiological safety issues that are
10 within the jurisdiction of the N.R.C. For example,
11 there's a lot of comments and questions about what
12 kind of casks to use. And, again, we think that is
13 within the jurisdiction of the N.R.C.

14 The N.R.C. has reported to us that, um, its
15 their conclusion that for the 20-year licensing term
16 that the facility meets their federal safety
17 requirements. We are also recommending to you that we
18 limit this permit to 20 years and that we will
19 revisit, um, site conditions at that time, and, if
20 necessary, if there is no off-site place to put this,
21 that there may be another option -- there should be
22 another option at that point onsite that is more
23 landward and at a higher elevation -- and this is at
24 the location where there's currently Units 2 and 3 --
25 and by that date, those facilities are supposed to be

1 removed.

2 And I want to remind you again that we did
3 do a hazard analysis in your staff report under
4 Coastal Act, Section 30253. We looked at the suite of
5 site hazards that this Commission typically looks at.
6 Um, your technical staff, Dr. Johnson and Dr. Ewing
7 (phonetic), who are here today to answer any of your
8 questions, looked at various issues, including bluff
9 stability, and we have concluded that for the 20-year
10 term of the permit, that, you know, this site, um, is
11 going to be safe. And, with that -- you know,
12 regarding the issues that we can look at under the
13 Coastal Act, not radiological safety.

14 Um, and I don't know if anyone else has
15 anything to add. No? I guess that concludes staff
16 remarks.

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Uh, we'll bring it
18 back to the Commission and I'm gonna invite, uh,
19 Commissioner Cox, uh, to speak and then Commissioner
20 Shallenberger, then Commissioner Bochco.

21 MR. COX: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is,
22 uh -- this is a very difficult issue. Uh, obviously
23 as a resident of San Diego County and having to pass
24 by San Onofre on a -- on a fairly regular basis, it's
25 something that you think about as you go by it every -

1 - every time, as far as, uh, potential hazards that
2 are out there.

3 And -- and now with the decommissioning, you
4 know, how do you -- how do you perfect, uh, a safe and
5 permanent closure at the site, but also, how do you
6 ultimately, uh, do something that I think all of us
7 want to see done sooner rather than later, and that's
8 to see a permanent, uh, storage site, uh -- uh,
9 provided for, uh -- uh, the spent nuclear fuel. And,
10 obviously, that's the crux of the -- the problem.

11 I mean, the Federal Government has failed to
12 designate a permanent, uh, repository for the spent
13 nuclear fuel, something they've been working on for --
14 gosh, I don't know, 20 or more years -- uh, and it's
15 not something that is unique to -- to SONGS. It's
16 something that a number of other, uh, closed nuclear
17 power plants across the country are having to deal
18 with --

19 (Buzzer sound.)

20 MR. COX: -- and -- oh, my time's up.

21 (Laughter.)

22 FEMALE SPEAKER: Sorry.

23 MR. COX: Was I going on too long?

24 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.

25 MR. COX: Oh. Well, I'm gonna continue.

1 Um, and -- and I do hope, uh, at the end of
2 whatever action we -- we take today, uh, that would --
3 would do something which my colleagues on the Board of
4 Supervisors did, and that is to -- to really send a
5 letter to the United States Secretary of Energy
6 urging, uh, in the most expeditious way we can, a
7 prompt removal and relocation, uh, plan for spent
8 nuclear fuel, that's not only at SONGS, but, I mean,
9 also at other closed nuclear facilities across the
10 country.

11 Uh, having said that, I think, you know, I'm
12 -- I -- I appreciate the staff report. I appreciate
13 the people that have been here to -- to speak on this
14 item today. But, I do have to conclude, I think the
15 worst, uh, scenario is to leave, uh, this material in
16 the -- in the spent fuel pool. I think that's the --
17 the worst of all the alternatives that are out there.
18 I wish that there were other op -- options that we had
19 available now, but, frankly, I don't see them.

20 Uh, we may talk about another potential site
21 somewhere else out in the desert, uh, but let's face
22 it, if, uh -- if that was a viable option, it would
23 probably take 15, 20 years to get the necessary
24 approvals through all the different regulatory
25 agencies, and that's not to say we shouldn't start,

1 but we've got a more immediate problem that I think we
2 have to deal with, uh, right now.

3 And I -- I appreciate and have confidence in
4 the staff and the work that they've done and the
5 evaluations -- the independent evaluations. I
6 wouldn't rely just on, uh, and I don't just rely on,
7 what Southern California Edison has laid out. I
8 think, uh, our staff has done a good job within the --
9 the confines of what we can do to evaluate, uh,
10 different alternatives, to evaluate the proposal that
11 is before us, and I think with the, uh -- uh, dry
12 storage canisters and -- and certainly embedding them
13 in -- in, uh, concrete, uh, at this particular site,
14 is probably the best option we have in the short term.

15 And when I say short term, when you're
16 talking about, you know, things like nuclear, uh --
17 spent nuclear, uh -- uh, materials, uh, long term is a
18 long term. Uh, and short term is, you know, probably
19 15 or 20 years, as we've seen in just trying to get
20 some of these other things done.

21 So, uh, I don't -- I don't like being in
22 this position, but I think we have a responsibility to
23 take the most appropriate action that we can to
24 protect the public and to ensure that there is a safe,
25 uh, storage facility on an interim basis until a more

1 permanent, uh, storage site is located, uh, certainly
2 not in the coastal zone, and hopefully not anywhere
3 near any of the -- the issues we're -- we're having to
4 deal with here. Uh, but I -- I do think it's the
5 right thing to do at this point in time.

6 So, therefore, uh, I would move that the
7 Commission approve, uh, Coastal Development Permit 9-
8 15-0228, subject to the conditions set forth in the
9 staff recommendations specified bel -- uh, by staff
10 and I would recommend a yes vote.

11 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Uh, Commissioner
12 Bochco, would you -- Vice Chair Bochco, would you like
13 to make any comments?

14 MS. BOCHCO: I actually just have a couple
15 of questions. Um, there's so much talk about, you
16 know, the nature of the canisters, and I realize that
17 that is not within our jurisdiction, and yet, since
18 it's all been put on the record, I would love to know
19 if, um -- if you, as staff, looked into whether or not
20 you think these alternative canisters would be a
21 better alternative if -- if we had the opportunity to
22 choose.

23 MS. DETTMER: No.

24 MS. BOCHCO: No?

25 MS. DETTMER: Because it wasn't within our

1 jurisdiction, we didn't look at --

2 MS. BOCHCO: So, you just didn't even look
3 at it, okay. Uh --

4 MS. DETTMER: Not -- not in any --

5 MS. BOCHCO: Any significant way.

6 MS. DETTMER: -- serious analytical way.

7 MS. BOCHCO: Um, could I talk to the
8 gentleman from San Diego, uh --

9 MR. KINSEY: Yep, Mr. Palmisano.

10 MS. BOCHCO: Yeah, Mr. Palmisano. Could --

11 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

12 MS. BOCHCO: You -- you were very eloquent
13 in what you were saying. It just went by so fast that
14 I was having difficulty catching up with you.

15 MALE SPEAKER: (Indecipherable).

16 MS. BOCHCO: That's okay. I understand.
17 Um, can you explain to me, just in simple terms, what
18 the difference between the two casks are and why you
19 chose not to use them.

20 MR. PALMISANO: Cer -- certainly.

21 MR. KINSEY: And -- and if you would, just
22 state your name again for the record. It helps us.

23 MR. PALMISANO: Yeah, sure. I'm Tom
24 Palmisano, Vice President Decommissioning Chief
25 Nuclear Officer.

1 In -- in this country, generally there's two
2 types of -- of dry storage cask. That's a generic
3 term systems use. Uh, a cask is generally a thick-
4 walled metal vessel. Uh, they're -- that the -- their
5 fuel assemblies are put inside the cask. There's no
6 internal canister, if you will, and -- and they're
7 bolted. They use two bolted lids typically. I have
8 experience with that from the Prairie Island Nuclear
9 Plant in Minnesota. Okay.

10 Uh, that was one of the designed used
11 earlier in this country -- had some advantages. Uh,
12 that -- that was when the thought -- especially in the
13 late 80's, early 90's, when we started using in
14 Minnesota -- that there would be a relatively short
15 onsite storage time and the D.O.E. would take 'em.

16 Uh, over the years, as the D.O.E.'s failed
17 to perform, a couple things have occurred. The D.O.E.
18 was heading down the path of a multi-purpose canister
19 that would be pulled out and go into a transportation
20 overpack. So, the designs generally tended to evolve
21 by AREVA, by Holtec, and by NAC, for a canister system
22 in a concrete overpack.

23 So, the canister is a very strong,
24 corrosion-resistant, stainless steel canister, 5/8 --
25 1/2 inch to 5/8 inch thick, that is sealed and it's

1 welded. It's not bolted 'cause bolted lids on the
2 thick cask have gaskets that leak. The -- the -- the
3 welded canisters generally have more integrity from
4 leakage. And it goes into a concrete overpack. And
5 the concept is that's pulled out, never opened again,
6 and put in a transportation overpack, and shipped by
7 rail. That is where the vendors have evolved in this
8 country.

9 MS. BOCHCO: I see. I understand.

10 MR. PALMISANO: A few sites still use our
11 old cask systems, but again, when we went for bid, the
12 three vendors all proposed the canister-based system.

13 MS. BOCHCO: Right. So, you -- what you're
14 saying is it's a canister within a canister?

15 MR. PALMISANO: It's a canister in a
16 concrete overpack.

17 MS. BOCHCO: Right.

18 MR. PALMISANO: The canister is the key
19 boundary for the fuel. The overpack provides
20 protection, strength against external events --

21 MS. BOCHCO: And there were a number --

22 MR. PALMISANO: -- and radiation.

23 MS. BOCHCO: -- I'm sorry but -- there was a
24 number of people who said that -- that these casks are
25 so heavy that they're not transportable. So, in other

1 words, we get stuck, but --

2 MR. PALMISANO: But they -- they --

3 MS. BOCHCO: -- it would seem that what
4 you're saying is these are --

5 MR. PALMISANO: (Indecipherable).

6 MS. BOCHCO: -- must be lighter than the
7 big, thick ones, right?

8 MR. PALMISANO: Well, taken out of the
9 concrete, the canister's lighter, but they go -- do go
10 into a very heavy overpack, so they need to be
11 transported by special purpose railcar.

12 MS. BOCHCO: I see.

13 MR. PALMISANO: Those railcars -- this
14 country has shipped nuclear fuel before, particularly
15 in D.O.E. and Navy nuclear programs and they know how
16 to ship similar loads. D.O.E. is actually out for bid
17 to design the railcars to move these types of
18 canisters.

19 MS. BOCHCO: I see.

20 MR. PALMISANO: So -- so the -- it's right
21 that rail lines need to be inspected, possibly
22 upgraded, but these are transportable by rail.

23 MS. BOCHCO: (Indecipherable). And there's
24 -- there's a shocking number of these facilities
25 across the nation. I didn't realize we had so many.

1 Um, is the primary storage onsite in what we're doing
2 here or is it more aboveground or thicker canisters --

3 MR. PALMISANO: Uh, first of all, you know,
4 the primary storage at all the operating plants is
5 still in the spent fuel pools. Virtually all the
6 operating plants have had to add dry cask storage as
7 we did.

8 MS. BOCHCO: I see.

9 MR. PALMISANO: So, the primary storage are
10 aboveground systems, either the vertical or horizontal
11 type. The below grade system is a relatively new
12 design and there are a few oddities like Fort Saint
13 Vrain, but generally, the storage to date has been
14 above ground. The UMAX system is really a post-9/11
15 design, with, quite frankly, the consideration of
16 enhanced security features with a lower profile.

17 MS. BOCHCO: Right, right, I see.

18 MR. PALMISANO: And generally, uh, the older
19 systems tended to be maybe the thick cask. The -- the
20 more recent systems -- and I'd say prevalent today --
21 is the canister -- thin-walled canister in a concrete
22 overpack.

23 MS. BOCHCO: Okay. Um, all right. Well, I
24 think that's all my questions. Well, thank you very
25 much.

1 MR. PALMISANO: Thank you.

2 MR. KINSEY: Commissioner Shall --
3 Commissioner Shallenberger.

4 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Yes, thank you, Chair
5 Kinsey.

6 Um, I'll state the obvious. This is always
7 difficult and very frustrating, um, given, uh, the
8 jurisdiction that we don't have. Uh, on the other
9 hand, we do clearly have jurisdiction over protecting
10 coastal access and protecting, uh, marine resources
11 and, uh, as somebody said fairly clearly, uh, a
12 radioactive leak onto one of our beaches, uh, would
13 definitely have an impact on coastal access.

14 (Clapping, cheering.)

15 MS. SHALLENBERGER: I think there's a nexus
16 there that, um -- that I don't think we should, uh,
17 necessarily shy away from.

18 Um, having said that, I -- I look at, uh,
19 Special Condition No. 2, and, uh, if I'm reading this
20 properly, we're -- uh, what is being proposed is that
21 it be a 20-year, uh, permit application and 6 months
22 before that -- in other words, 19 years and 6 months
23 from now -- um, the project applicant would provide us
24 with all of the studies and analysis and evaluation A
25 through D.

1 And -- and I want to focus particularly on
2 D, which says that the -- we are asking them to
3 provide us with evidence that fuel storage casks will
4 remain in physical condition sufficient to allow off
5 (indecipherable) -- off-site transport and a
6 description of the maintenance and (indecipherable) --
7 inspection program designed to ensure that the casks
8 remain transportable for the full life of the amended
9 project. I would like that information now.

10 (Clapping, cheering.)

11 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Sorry, this is actually
12 the Commission's time for us to deliberate.

13 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

14 MS. SHALLENBERGER: I appreciate the
15 support, but I'm on my own up here now.

16 Um, so, all of this, including the effects
17 of the visual resources, why -- why, if we have the
18 authority to condition the permit, to ask for this
19 information in 19 and a half years, why isn't it a
20 condition of finding the permit complete before we
21 proceed?

22 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

23 MR. KINSEY: Is that -- that is actually not
24 a rhetorical question?

25 MS. SHALLENBERGER: That is not rhetorical.

1 It's a real question.

2 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

3 MR. KINSEY: So, uh, maybe you could repeat
4 the question.

5 MS. SHALLENBERGER: The question is, if we
6 have the authority to, uh, on a 20-year permit, uh,
7 add Special Condition 2, and specifically 2-D, why is
8 it we're not asking for that information prior to
9 issuing this permit?

10 MS. DETTMER: Well, if I understand your
11 question correctly -- so, we analyzed the effects for
12 20 years and determined that it is gonna remain in a
13 physical condition. We're hoping that after 20 years,
14 hopefully the stuff will be gone, but what we're
15 basically saying is, at that time, we need to do a
16 reevaluation of the site conditions then 'cause things
17 could change in 20 years and that we would want new
18 data and a new evaluation then regarding seismic
19 hazards, bluff stability, sea level rise, flooding
20 hazards, things like that.

21 MS. SHALLENBERGER: So, you have done an
22 analysis of the --

23 MS. DETTMER: Correct.

24 MS. SHALLENBERGER: -- physical condition --

25 MS. DETTMER: Yes, which is in the staff

1 report, of the physical conditions now for the 20-year
2 term of this permit. Yes. And Dr. Ewing (phonetic)
3 and Dr. Johnson looked at those hazards.

4 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Okay. Because what I
5 thought I read in the project description was that, um
6 -- that the project proponent was saying that they
7 didn't actually -- and I won't be able to find it
8 because I didn't highlight it -- are not actually able
9 to do, um, adequate inspection of these, uh --
10 physical and visual inspection of these casks now.

11 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

12 MS. DETTMER: So, then you're referring to
13 the casks? The -- the --

14 MS. SHALLENBERGER: I guess I am, yeah.

15 MS. DETTMER: So, you're referring to the
16 specific casks and whether they're safe -- whether --

17 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Well, D does refer --
18 Special Condition D, fuel storage casks, and yet in
19 the -- we're asking for evidence, in 19 and a half
20 years, that those casks are remaining in a physical
21 condition, uh, allowed to be tran -- so they could be
22 transported. In -- and then we're wanting a
23 description of the maintenance and inspection. And
24 yet, I read further in the staff report, that right
25 now, they are unable to come up with a program where

1 they can physically inspect these casks. Am I wrong
2 about that?

3 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

4 MR. KINSEY: Please, I'm gonna ask the
5 public to allow the conversation to occur between the
6 Commission and staff.

7 MS. DETTMER: So, the -- the -- the issue
8 that we want to look at at 20 years is -- is to make
9 sure that they are movable.

10 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Am I wrong --

11 MS. DETTMER: Regardless of what is inside
12 of them -- right, because -- because there could be
13 these other potential coastal hazards that we look at
14 under 30253 -- so, we believe that that's our
15 jurisdiction. So, we would want a reevaluation at
16 that time to make sure that there aren't cracks or
17 conditions that would cause them to potentially not be
18 transportable, for whatever they're gonna apply for in
19 20 years. Say they apply for another 30 years.

20 MS. SHALLENBERGER: No, I understand why we
21 want it in the future. I'm just concerned and -- uh,
22 maybe I will cede my time and once I find it -- I'm
23 concerned that we don't have an adequate inspection
24 program in place right now.

25 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

1 MS. DETTMER: So, you might want to ask
2 Edison -- the N.R.C. has certified and reported to us
3 that, in their view, these will be safe under federal
4 requirements and will not crack and will -- there will
5 not be a problem within the 20 years.

6 MS. SHALLENBERGER: I found it. Uh, on Page
7 13 -- and I may be misreading this -- on Page 13,
8 second from last paragraph, which begins, in summary,
9 uh, Southern Cal. Edison's intended aging management
10 program would include -- which is to say, if the
11 grammar's correct, it does not now include -- the
12 monitoring of environmental conditions, uh, visual
13 observation -- and then it goes on to say, however,
14 the non-destructive examination techniques, remote
15 surface inspection tools, and N.D.E. methods
16 implemented, blah, blah, um, for the utility, for the
17 maintenance and monitoring -- has not been
18 demonstrated --

19 (Cheering, clapping.)

20 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

21 MS. SHALLENBERGER: -- nor is it clear when
22 these techniques, tools and standards would become
23 available for use at SONGS.

24 My non-technical reading of that is that
25 what we're being asked to approve something, that

1 there isn't adequate, uh -- that they're admitting
2 that they don't have a monitoring environmental
3 conditions, that they don't have visual observation
4 abilities, and that they don't have, um, a way of
5 doing non-destructive examination techniques.

6 And then it -- I won't read -- read your own
7 staff report, but I'm -- I'm missing something here
8 because it sounds as if we're hoping that in the next
9 19 and a half years, this kind of monitoring is -- is,
10 uh, developed, but we don't have it now, which is to
11 say it would not be in place for the next 20 years.

12 MS. DETTMER: Could we perhaps have Edison
13 address some of this?

14 MR. KINSEY: Will you --

15 MS. DETTMER: I -- I do believe --

16 MR. KINSEY: -- will you (indecipherable)
17 asking this gentleman?

18 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Uh, I'd actually --

19 MS. DETTMER: Is that --

20 MS. SHALLENBERGER: -- rather hear from
21 staff, if you don't mind, first anyway, because it's
22 their recommendation, which is based on this in --
23 these monitoring not being here now.

24 MR. PEDERSON: Uh, my understanding, that at
25 least part of the concern here -- and I don't purport

1 to be an expert on these technical issues -- is these
2 issues pertain to radiological safety matters and
3 that's an area where federal law, uh, limits our
4 authority.

5 So, staff's focus has been on the safety of
6 the structures from geologic hazards and whether --
7 and it's reviewed and evaluated the safety of the site
8 from geological hazards for the 20-year period that
9 this, uh, permit would establish. But it's also my
10 understanding it has evaluated those risks further
11 out, but this is a 20-year permit, and has evaluated
12 whether at the end of that -- or is requiring that at
13 the end of that 20-year period there be a reevaluation
14 of the site, a reevaluation of alternatives in terms
15 of whether there are preferable geologically safer
16 locations for the waste to be disposed.

17 Uh, but the staff's focus, because of the
18 limitations that federal law imposes on us, has not
19 been to evaluate the radiological safety issues
20 related to the design of the casks, uh, but -- uh,
21 Southern California Edison may have more to say about
22 some of the -- the technical details on that.

23 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Thank you. I understand
24 that and it was 2-D that raised the flag for me
25 because I don't think that is consistent with what you

1 just said. So, actually what I'd -- I'd like to hear
2 from the, uh, man who was here testifying from the
3 regulatory -- U.S. Regulatory Commission, Mark
4 Lombard. Can you help me on this? There's probably
5 nobody more of an expert in this room than you are.

6 MR. LOMBARD: (Indecipherable) Department of
7 Energy (indecipherable). So, first, let me understand
8 exactly what the question is, okay. (Indecipherable).

9 MS. SHALLENBERGER: All right. The question
10 is, in our staff report, it says -- oh, I said Page
11 13, that's right -- it says -- and I will try and
12 summarize, but it's hard to summarize technical stuff
13 when you're not a technician -- the Southern Cal.
14 Edison's intended A -- that -- Southern Cal. Edison's
15 intended aging management program would include --
16 now, that grammar to me means that it doesn't exist
17 now, that it will exist at the end of the permit --
18 um, A, monitoring, uh, of environmental conditions,
19 and then it has some examples; B, visual observation,
20 surface measurements, and other inspection techniques
21 to provide information on the physical condition of
22 the M.P.C.'s, uh; C, uh, using an empty cask and --
23 and then it ends with, however, the non-destructive
24 examination techniques, remote surface inspection
25 tools, and N.D.E methods, employment methods,

1 qualifications process, (indecipherable), goes on and
2 on and on, uh, and that sentence ends with, and the
3 utility for the maintenance and monitoring of the
4 spent fuel casks has not been demonstrated.

5 Now, my read of that par -- that is that,
6 um, these are all things that we don't know now, at
7 the time we're being asked to approve and, at the time
8 you were asked to approve, um, but that, uh -- and
9 it's also not clear when these techniques, tools, and
10 standards would become available for use at SONGS.
11 So, there's a huge disconnect for me here. I'm not
12 hearing that you, in your jurisdiction, or we, in our
13 jurisdiction, are protecting coastal resources,
14 actually have adequate information before us to be
15 sure that we would be doing that.

16 MR. LOMBARD: I understand. If I could go a
17 little bit in the history of the renewal process that
18 we've put together for ISFSI's and certificate
19 compliance, which, under the general license
20 provision, the UMAX system is a certificated
21 compliance that we've approved that a general
22 licensee, like Southern California Edison, can then
23 take that and deploy it at their site.

24 We have -- we looked at the renewals that we
25 had approved over the last 10 to 12 years and we

1 decided that the systems that we had in place, the
2 provisions, the regulatory guidance, weren't strong
3 enough for us to be able to approve an additional 20,
4 or up to 40 years, for those renewals.

5 So, the three renewals that -- one has been
6 approved last October -- it was Calvert Cliffs, it's
7 on the Chesapeake Bay. Uh, another one is Prairie
8 Island, which was mentioned by Mr. Palmisano. Prairie
9 Island is almost ready to be approved. They were
10 contingent so we had to have contingents to be
11 resolved. And those two ISFSI, site-specific ISFSI's,
12 and certificate compliance of ESE-24, helped us to --
13 we built a new regulatory guidance structure, a
14 regulatory framework, and it includes very aggressive
15 aging management programs. Because when you renew a
16 certificate of compliance or a site-specific ISFSI
17 license, you have to have an aging management program
18 and time-limited aging analyses.

19 But the aging management program is where we
20 put our focus on to require very specific methods to
21 be put into place and to push the industry -- I'll use
22 that term push 'cause that's really what we did --
23 encourage, folks might say encourage is a nicer word -
24 - we really pushed them over the last two years to
25 come along with us and collaborate very -- very

1 intricately on this guidance framework that we put
2 together, so it involves new inspection techniques to
3 get in there.

4 When you look at the 2,200 or so systems
5 that are sitting on the ground today -- dry cask
6 storage systems -- about 70 percent are canistered
7 systems. So, there's a lot of them sitting on the
8 ground. Some of them are in marine environment, some
9 are not.

10 So, we've been pushing them very, uh,
11 aggressively to develop these N.D.E.'s, these non-
12 destructive examination methods, to be able to look at
13 the surface of the cask, that it has the heat-effected
14 zones -- the weld areas are the areas that you're
15 really concerned about. So, we want these little
16 robots -- what they really are are miniature robots --
17 with the inspection technologies, to be able to detect
18 if there are cracks in those stainless steel canisters
19 in the weld areas 'cause that's really the areas,
20 again, you're -- you're worried about.

21 They've come a long way in the last year and
22 a half, that they've aggressively, the EPRI -- EPRI
23 Power Research Institute, which you have been
24 contingent here in California -- they've been working
25 very aggressively on these N.D.E techniques.

1 So, are they to the point where we're happy
2 with them yet? Are they able to detect cracks? And
3 invar -- will characterize not only finding a crack
4 but how deep is a crack, how far through wall --
5 they're not quite there yet, but they are very, very
6 close.

7 We had a demonstration at the Palo Verde
8 plant about two weeks ago and the -- the robotic
9 technologies have tremendously improved over the last
10 six months even. So, that's probably why you're
11 seeing it's not a new thing because even we're not
12 comfortable with the technologies that exist today,
13 but it's very soon in the future that those
14 technologies will exist that will be good enough to
15 built to detect cracks and also detect how deep those
16 cracks are, if that answers your question, part of it
17 anyway.

18 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Um, well, let me just
19 ask a simpler question. Did you have before you at
20 the time you approved this an aging management
21 program?

22 MR. LOMBARD: No, it was not required. It
23 was the initial period --

24 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Okay.

25 MR. LOMBARD: -- of that 20-year period.

1 MS. SHALLENBERGER: So -- so, as the
2 technology improved, which you say is happening very
3 rapidly, you're still gonna wait 20 years to require
4 that they provide it to you; is that right?

5 MR. LOMBARD: For this system, yes.

6 MS. SHALLENBERGER: That's the only one
7 before us.

8 MR. LOMBARD: I understand. I'm sorry.

9 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Okay.

10 MR. LOMBARD: I understand. The mechanisms
11 -- because the -- we've done a lot of work in this
12 area. The industry's done a lot of work. EPRI's done
13 a lot of work. And the mechanisms involved for --
14 when you look at stainless steel canisters exposed to
15 marine environments (indecipherable) --

16 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Yeah. Well, this is
17 exactly what concerns us.

18 MR. LOMBARD: Yes, yes.

19 MS. SHALLENBERGER: And -- so, I appreciate
20 that. Um --

21 MR. LOMBARD: Well, can I say, just for the
22 San Onofre area, there's some work that EPRI has done.
23 The report was issued some time ago -- I don't think
24 it was last fall, maybe the fall before -- but it
25 looked at crack growth, once cracks initiated. It

1 didn't talk about how long it takes to initiate, but
2 once they grow, there's a -- a range of years in the
3 30 to 40 year range before they go to a through wall
4 crack, which is what we're worried about, maintaining
5 that radiation inside the canister. So, you have
6 time. The key is, there's time available.

7 MS. SHALLENBERGER: All right. Thank you.

8 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you.

9 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Well, uh, let me just
10 say to staff and my fellow Commissioners, uh, I'm very
11 uncomfortable -- I understand the dilemma we're in --
12 we're in. Um, I understand the jurisdiction
13 difficulties. I also understand that our job is to
14 protect marine resources, coastal resources, and
15 coastal access.

16 And I do believe that the things, that the
17 studies that are being called for, um, in, uh, Special
18 Condition 2, um, 19 and a half years is way too long.
19 Um, as far as I'm concerned, I'd like to see these
20 studies updated every -- you name the date, but, um,
21 every three years -- at the farthest out, every five
22 years -- but 19 and a half years, at the rate
23 technology is changing, is way too long, when we're
24 dealing with something -- the potential of radioactive
25 contamination.

1 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Uh --

2 MR. PALMISANO: Commissioner, may -- may --
3 may I add to -- to clarify? The current system in San
4 Onofre -- this -- this plan is due by 2022. So, the
5 50 loaded canisters today, which are stainless steel,
6 thin -- thin-wall canisters, has -- has the
7 requirement to have this developed by 2022.

8 Based on a number of public comments of the
9 Communication Panel meeting, I've accelerated that
10 work, and I've accelerated the Holtec work, to develop
11 the techniques that Mr. Lombard talked about. We're
12 an active participant driving the development of the
13 technology. We're gonna have that available, and in
14 place, well before 20 years, well before 2022. And we
15 certainly will share that. So, thank you.

16 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

17 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Commissioner
18 Uranga, then Commissioner McClure.

19 MR. URANGA: Thank -- thank you, Chair
20 Kinsey.

21 So, that was -- that brought up an
22 interesting point, uh, at -- right now, in terms of we
23 have a -- a permit that we're looking at and
24 considering for 20 years. Uh, is -- is it, uh,
25 written in concrete that we have to do this, uh,

1 evaluation or assessment in 20 years to determine if
2 there are any cracks or there's any opportunity to
3 move them?

4 Uh, having said that, uh, I know being --
5 working in -- in government, that it doesn't move very
6 fast. It's very slow. Uh, we know that there has
7 been some, uh, concerns about, uh, location. Where
8 are we gonna move these, uh -- these rods to? Uh,
9 there's been lawsuits about, uh, the -- as I was
10 reading the report -- uh, there was a -- a proposal to
11 go to Yucca Valley. There was a lot of complaints.
12 Uh, Nevada complained.

13 And so now we have the potential for storage
14 facilities to be in Texas and I guess New Mexico, I
15 think are two, uh, possible sites to move these --
16 these -- these, uh, rods to -- but again, the --
17 knowing how slow government moves, I'm not sure that,
18 uh -- that will even happen, you know, within 20
19 years.

20 It's already been -- we're -- we're
21 experiencing 20 years before we have 20 years, that we
22 might have 20 more, uh, the way -- the way this thing
23 is going. So, I think that, uh, having a, uh -- an
24 opportunity to evaluate these casks, uh, within five -
25 - every five years, let's say, uh, you know -- this --

1 this is a problem that's not going away -- go away.

2 I have to agree with, uh, Supervisor, uh --
3 uh, Cox, in respect to, you know, doing nothing today
4 doesn't help the problem. It just kicks it down --
5 down the road a little bit. We have to agree to do
6 something today. Uh, doing nothing doesn't do
7 anything for anybody and we -- and while it is our
8 mission and goal to protect the coast, uh, doing
9 nothing just keeps it -- keeps it out there in danger.

10 So, we need to have something in place that
11 will provide us with that, uh, security, that we are
12 doing something, that there is going to be something
13 coming down later on down the pike, and that we're
14 gonna be aggressive.

15 And I heard, uh, So. Cal. Edison saying that
16 they're -- they're, uh -- uh, partners in -- in
17 searching, uh, for solutions that are gonna work and -
18 - and -- and I -- and I -- I have to trust that. I
19 mean, I have no other alternative than to be able to
20 agree that, uh, you're gonna be aggressive on working
21 for a solution, that you're gonna be working
22 aggressively with our, uh -- our Federal Government to
23 find a location because we have a need.

24 Uh, we're closing -- we're decommissioning
25 this plant. Uh, although there's a 60-year, uh,

1 overall opportunity to do this, you're looking at 20
2 years, which is great. I mean, you're -- you're being
3 aggressive in that respect, but having -- not having
4 that location where to go to, that -- that's a
5 concern.

6 So, I -- I would, uh -- uh, I wonder if it's
7 possible, but, uh, perhaps have a friendly amendment
8 that -- that we, uh, institute some kind of inspection
9 or some kind of -- of, uh, opportunity to visit these
10 casks every five years, uh, or seven -- or maybe
11 halfway through -- ten years as opposed to 20 -- and
12 then determine at that point the technology is
13 changing, uh, casks are being, uh -- uh, upgraded, um,
14 perhaps the -- the, uh, company that was
15 (indecipherable) that did not apply or let their
16 permit expire would decide to come back, seeing that
17 there's now an opportunity to incorporate their
18 technology, that we can also adapt, or use, or I guess
19 have them do it -- uh, excuse me -- or do it, uh, as
20 we move forward.

21 Uh, the bottom line is that our hands are
22 tied. We know that. Uh, there are regulatory
23 agencies involved here that conflict, uh, or that one
24 supersedes another, and we do have to maintain that
25 balance of being able to get along with one another

1 and move -- move something forward that's going to be,
2 uh, addressing the concerns of our -- of our citizens
3 and our residents.

4 So, I'm thinking that if we could do that,
5 there's a way to amend, uh, the staff, uh, report, or
6 -- or the -- or the condition of the permit as opposed
7 to 20 years -- we could keep the 20 years, but say
8 within a 10-year process, to do another inspection.
9 Would that be possible?

10 MR. PALMISANO: All right. I think what --
11 what's appropriate again -- we've heard a lot of
12 public comment on this over the 18 months and it's
13 certainly an important point to the Commission and I
14 appreciate it. We certainly are willing to commit to
15 develop by 2022 and provide to the staff the
16 inspection protocol, the inspection technology and
17 capability that is needed for the current system, and
18 that will be less than five years after cask --
19 canisters are placed in service for the new system.

20 If you had listened -- in listening to Mark
21 Lombard, there's high assurance on the part of the
22 safety regulator of the first 20 years. This will get
23 inspection protocol in place less than five years
24 after they're in service and I think that's an
25 appropriate commitment for us to make. So, thank you.

1 MR. URANGA: I -- I appreciate your
2 willingness to, uh -- to listen and to, uh, pay
3 attention to what, uh, we've heard this afternoon
4 because it's important, obviously, and we want to be
5 able to address your needs, but also address the needs
6 of the community and what they want. And, uh, I
7 appreciate that. That's all I have to say, uh,
8 Commissioner Kinsey.

9 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Um, I just want to
10 confirm, uh, with that, uh, offer can be then
11 incorporated into the staff's recommendation?

12 MALE SPEAKER: That's right. We can
13 incorporate that into our recommendation.

14 MR. KINSEY: Yes. And, Chris, did you want
15 to add anything?

16 MR. PEDERSON: Uh, well, I just wanted to
17 clarify, once we receive that report, what happens --
18 what's the action that follows upon the submittal of
19 that report?

20 Um, one possibility, would staff then
21 provides the report to the Commission and the
22 Commission, in light of its evaluation, can make a
23 determination about whether the conditions of this
24 permit would need to be amended, in light of whatever
25 the outcome of that report that's submitted in 2022.

1 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Uh, you know, I --

2 MR. PEDERSON: For the Commission's
3 consideration or --

4 MR. KINSEY: So --

5 MR. PEDERSON: -- the applicant's.

6 MR. KINSEY: -- so, the idea would be that
7 when the report is submitted, it would be presented to
8 the Commission to confirm whether it's consistent,
9 whether it requires amendment of the permit?

10 MR. PEDERSON: Yeah. If -- if the
11 information provided in that report -- if the
12 Commission believes that the information in that
13 report, um, is such that an amendment to this permit
14 would be necessary, the Commission could make a
15 decision at that point, once it has that information
16 about how to proceed. Uh --

17 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Mr. Palmisano, would you
18 come up and just confirm your willingness to accept
19 that, including that idea that it would be reported
20 back to this Commission?

21 MR. PALMISANO: Uh, yes, I will confirm
22 that. We will provide the aging management plan,
23 consistent with the N.R.C. requirements, that will
24 demonstrate the ability to inspect canisters for
25 evidence of corrosion and -- and appropriately

1 characterize that -- and I think a Commission briefing
2 is certainly appropriate to explain what the plan
3 entails. Is that consistent with what you're
4 thinking?

5 MR. KINSEY: It -- it -- well, the question
6 was to the extent that you provide that information,
7 it be reported back to the Commission, and if the
8 Commission would have the opportunity to consider
9 whether any, uh, appropriate amendment to the --

10 MR. PALMISANO: Cert --

11 MR. KINSEY: -- action --

12 MR. PALMISANO: Certainly.

13 MR. KINSEY: -- taken today.

14 MR. PALMISANO: Certainly. I think that's
15 appropriate.

16 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Thank you. Thank you
17 for that.

18 MR. PALMISANO: Thank you.

19 MR. KINSEY: Uh, Commissioner McClure.

20 MS. MCCLURE: Yes, I -- that was good
21 problem solving. I think that -- that we -- that we
22 did some great work just then.

23 I, um, have a question in relationship to
24 Special Condition 3, which is the, uh, shoreline
25 protective devices. I -- I -- I know that we want to

1 have planned retreat, and I know that personally I am
2 not a fan of shoreline protected devices, but if I am
3 protecting thousands of pounds or gallons of spent
4 fuel --

5 MALE SPEAKER: Tons.

6 MS. MCCLURE: Tons. I -- I really don't
7 want shore -- the shoreline to fail and that to be the
8 catastrophic event that, uh, doubles down on the -- on
9 the fear that people have, so I was -- I was
10 relatively miffed when it says that we won't allow any
11 -- we won't allow them to, um, have any, uh -- any
12 additional revetment or any management and I -- that
13 just may be -- made me pretty nervous. And, so, I
14 would like an explanation because I would rather it
15 not be -- I would rather it be a planned revetment and
16 protection, than an emergency revetment and
17 protection, because I don't think those go quite as
18 well as if we have a plan.

19 MS. DETTMER: Well, we did do the analysis
20 and determined that over the next 20 years, uh -- we --
21 -- we analyzed it as though a seawall wasn't there.
22 And so we determined that the site is safe for the 20
23 years. And so the -- one of the reasons why we put in
24 the 20-year, uh, limit was to -- to reevaluate this at
25 this time, and that we do believe that there are gonna

1 be options available to Edison in the event that the
2 fuel does need to stay onsite, that it could be moved
3 potentially further backward, that you would never
4 need to rely on a seawall, and they have been willing
5 to accept this condition that says, in this 20-year
6 term, that they're not going to apply for a seawall.
7 And, in fact, based on our analysis, we do not think
8 that they would need one -- or need an expansion or --

9 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

10 MS. MCCLURE: But if there's failure, then
11 it has to come back as an emergency permit?

12 MS. DETTMER: Yes.

13 MS. MCCLURE: And -- and that's what I'm --
14 I'm trying to think that we should try to move around
15 because I think that it -- if, um -- if we cite that
16 there's a possibility of failure, I think that it
17 needs to be -- that whole area needs to be inspected,
18 just like the aging plan, that we need to have kind of
19 an aging plan for our -- for this, uh, the revetment
20 that's already there and the, um -- the steel sheet
21 wall and all of that stuff that's already there.

22 I'm just -- I'm concerned that with sea
23 level rise and, uh -- and a, um, king tide and a huge
24 storm event, are we wrestling with losing these
25 canisters or exposing these canisters to the

1 possibility that they -- that they could be, um,
2 weakened and possibly leak? Because that to me is the
3 biggest deal when we've got it on a bluff there.

4 FEMALE SPEAKER: Commissioner McClure, there
5 -- there is a condition allowing for repair and
6 maintenance to the existing structures that are there.
7 The condition is to not expand or increase the
8 structure that is there.

9 MS. MCCLURE: Right.

10 FEMALE SPEAKER: And the structure is -- is
11 now, um -- (indecipherable) just being effective for
12 the next 20-year conditions, if it's maintained and --
13 and kept in its current condition, so --

14 MS. MCCLURE: So, you believe --

15 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- the --

16 MS. MCCLURE: -- that the current condition
17 will withstand a king tide storm event, and sea level
18 rise, all rolled into one day? That's my --

19 FEMALE SPEAKER: (Indecipherable) --

20 MS. MCCLURE: -- my concern is that we're
21 gonna possibly see that kind of, uh, event happening
22 and -- and will it withstand that?

23 FEMALE SPEAKER: It -- I mean, the -- the
24 way it's been designed, it should. And if it's
25 maintained, that's --

1 MS. MCCLURE: Okay.

2 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- then it should continue
3 to withstand those conditions.

4 MS. MCCLURE: Okay. That was my -- that was
5 my fear. Thank you.

6 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Commissioner
7 Howell, you look ready to speak.

8 MR. HOWELL: Well, I'm -- just -- just
9 quickly. I agree with Commissioner, uh, McClure, is I
10 -- I don't -- you can't be too safe and I think I'd
11 rather have that condition removed and, uh, have, uh -
12 - uh, have Edison feel comfortable putting in another,
13 uh, seawall if they feel that's necessary. Ten years
14 down the road, people just might look at this permit
15 and say, well, we are where we are and, uh, I'd rather
16 them err on the side of safety.

17 MR. KINSEY: Okay. Well, you know, if you
18 want to do that, then I think you'd better, uh, seek a
19 -- an amending motion and see if you can get that.

20 MR. HOWELL: I would make the amending
21 motion to remove, uh, Condition No. 3, saying no
22 feature shoreline protective devices to protect the
23 proposed development.

24 MR. KINSEY: Hearing no second, uh, I think
25 we will leave it at that. We do have a, uh -- we do

1 have a motion and a second to approve the permit, uh,
2 as recommended by staff, with the additional provision
3 of a report within five years or by 2022, actually,
4 uh, that would allow for the report to be reviewed and
5 come -- brought back to this Commission for potential
6 amending action.

7 Uh, Commissioner Cox, did you want to make
8 any additional comment?

9 MR. COX: Yeah, I just had one -- one
10 question that came up in the discussion that, uh,
11 Commissioner Shallenberger was -- was dealing with and
12 maybe if Mr. Lombard could come back up for just a
13 second.

14 Of your, uh, comments, is it there's --
15 there's technology that's being developed right now
16 that would -- would be, uh, hopefully implemented
17 fairly soon to, uh, do a better job of detecting
18 possible cracks or leaks, but it's -- it's not quite
19 there at this point, is that a fair summation of --

20 MR. KINSEY: And if you could just state
21 your name again for the record --

22 MR. LOMBARD: (Indecipherable) --

23 MR. KINSEY: -- Mr. Lombard.

24 MR. LOMBARD: -- we thank you, Chairman
25 Kinsey. Mark Lombard, on the -- Director of Spent

1 Fuel Management at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

2 That -- the delivery technology, the
3 robotics, are pretty good right now. We're seeing
4 that they're able to crawl into the, you know, the
5 systems with very tight tolerances between the
6 canister and the concrete overpack and actually get
7 into there. But the detection of cracks and the depth
8 of cracks is where we're continuing to encourage
9 industry to make further gains in that area. So,
10 that's the piece that's still missing is the ability
11 to detect the crack and characterize it, how deep it
12 is.

13 MR. COX: Care to venture a -- a guess on
14 how long it might be before that, uh, is perfected?

15 MR. LOMBARD: For Calvert Cliffs, they are
16 required to conduct their first inspection in a pretty
17 short timeframe of similar to the -- the timeframes
18 that Mr. Palmisano just described, around the 2022 --
19 2018 to 2022 timeframe -- to start doing inspections,
20 so I -- we are again encouraging industry.

21 We want to see more advances made in the
22 next year or so, and actually calendar year 2016.
23 They've already done three pilot inspections and now a
24 demonstration project at Palo Verde. We want them to
25 be able to move it to the next level and further

1 display the technology in the calendar year 2016.

2 MR. COX: That'd be something that would
3 ultimately -- the technology, is that something that
4 would ultimately be improved or get the seal of
5 approval, for lack of a better term, from the Nuclear
6 Regulator Commission?

7 MR. LOMBARD: So, as part of the aging
8 management program, that's really where opportunities
9 lie to -- to actually have a seal of approval on the
10 inspection technology.

11 So, as Calvert Cliffs starts to implement
12 their aging management program, towards the latter
13 part of the -- in the 2020 timeframe, that'll be our
14 opportunity to inspect that, oversee it, and then
15 provide feedback on their technologies, and -- and
16 give them feedback, are they actually achieving that
17 goal of detecting cracks and detecting how deep the
18 cracks are.

19 MR. COX: Okay. Uh, and then maybe if I --
20 thank you very much. I appreciate your comments.

21 Could I get the representative from Southern
22 California Edison up?

23 Um, we talk about the year 2022, when you --
24 you have to --

25 MR. PALMISANO: Yes, sir.

1 MR. COX: -- come back on the -- the other,
2 uh -- uh, storage devices, and I know the reference
3 was that's five years, that's actually seven years,
4 uh, from now.

5 Um, if -- if there is the development and
6 perfection of what Mr. Lombard was just talking about,
7 uh, and it came in a quicker timeframe, would you be
8 willing to have a, uh, modification to the condition
9 that you would, uh, working with our staff, implement
10 that technology on a -- on a, uh, shorter timeframe?
11 In other words, once -- once it's there and -- and it,
12 uh, is acceptable, is that something that, uh,
13 Southern California Edison would agree to, uh, working
14 with our staff, begin to implement, uh, in a shorter
15 timeframe?

16 MR. PALMISANO: Yeah, we certainly -- just -
17 - just to be clear, we will implement it once the
18 technology is developed and available -- the delivery
19 technology, the inspection technology. 2022 is when
20 it's required for the current system, so that's where
21 I pick that date, and that's four year -- you know,
22 less than five years after the new system, should it
23 be approved to be loaded. Certainly when the system's
24 available, we intend to start using it.

25 MR. COX: Okay. And that's something that

1 is part of the conditions now or you would agree to?

2 MR. PALMISANO: Uh, we -- we can certainly
3 agree to appropriate language. What I can't tell you
4 if that's 2017 or 2019. We need to get through 2016,
5 as Mr. Lombard explained, to continue the development
6 of this, but certainly, uh, appropriate wording to say
7 that when the technology is then developed, we will
8 then update the Commission on it.

9 MR. COX: Okay. And that's -- and that's
10 (indecipherable) --

11 MR. PALMISANO: Whatever wording we need to
12 put in there that's appropriate.

13 MR. COX: Okay. And that's something staff
14 can handle. Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. PALMISANO: Thank you.

16 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. Okay. I'm just
17 gonna thank everyone for participating. You know, we
18 can't have too many eyes and too much thinking about
19 this. This is really important. Um, I appreciate the
20 hard work of our staff, as well as the cooperation of,
21 uh -- uh, Edison and, um, I'm gonna ask, at this time,
22 uh, the makers of the motion are asking for a yes
23 vote. Is there any unwillingness for unanimous yes
24 vote? Seeing none, uh, no opposition, then --

25 MR. COX: Mr. Chairman? (Indecipherable) --

1 MR. KINSEY: Commissioner.

2 MR. COX: If I could, I would like to do a
3 follow-up, uh, motion, if that's appropriate.

4 MR. KINSEY: Uh --

5 MR. COX: Not -- not --

6 MR. KINSEY: -- an amending motion?

7 MR. COX: Not on the action we took, but,
8 uh, some direction to -- to ask, uh -- uh, that a
9 letter be prepared to the Secretary of -- of Energy,
10 on behalf of the Commission, uh, urging, uh -- uh, the
11 prompt action to have a system of removal and
12 relocation of spent nuclear fuel, um, that is
13 currently stored at, uh, San Onofre, uh, and, um, that
14 we send that communication and provide copies of that
15 to the Governor and to the, uh, California Energy
16 Commission, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

17 MR. LESTER: Wait -- Chair Kinsey, we'd be
18 happy to send such a letter if that's the consensus of
19 the Commission, um, to convey that desire that this
20 nuclear waste issue be dealt with as expeditiously as
21 possible and it not end up with, uh, waste in the
22 coastal zone.

23 MR. KINSEY: Very good.

24 MR. COX: And that we see a copy of that
25 too.

1 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.

2 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

3 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

4 MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

5 MALE SPEAKER: Please have a roll call vote
6 on this, not a request for unanimous. I want to see
7 everybody vote and I don't want (indecipherable) --

8 MR. KINSEY: Hey, listen, thank you very
9 much for your thoughts, but this is not public comment
10 opportunity. Okay, uh --

11 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

12 MR. KINSEY: I'm gonna ask for -- I'm gonna
13 ask for a roll call, but would you sit down, sir?
14 Would you sit down, please? Please, sit down, sir.

15 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

16 MR. KINSEY: Thank you very much, sir.

17 (Indecipherable; audience speakers.)

18 MALE SPEAKER: Sir, please sit down. Yep.

19 MR. KINSEY: I'm gonna ask for a roll call
20 vote.

21 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

22 MS. MILLER: Commissioner Bochco?

23 MS. BOCHCO: Yes.

24 MS. MILLER: Bochco, yes. Commissioner Cox?

25 MR. COX: Yes.

1 MS. MILLER: Cox, yes. Commissioner Howell?
2 MR. HOWELL: Aye.
3 MS. MILLER: Howell, yes. Commissioner
4 Luevano?
5 MS. LUEVANO: Yes.
6 MS. MILLER: Luevano, yes. Commissioner
7 McClure?
8 MS. MCCLURE: Yes.
9 MS. MILLER: McClure, yes. Commissioner
10 Mitchell?
11 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
12 MS. MILLER: Mitchell, yes. Commissioner
13 Shallenberger?
14 MS. SHALLENBERGER: Yes.
15 MS. MILLER: Shallenberger, yes.
16 Commissioner Turnbull-Sanders?
17 MS. TURNBULL-SANDERS: Yes.
18 MS. MILLER: Turnbull-Sanders, yes.
19 Commissioner Uranga?
20 MR. URANGA: Aye.
21 MS. MILLER: Uranga, yes. Commissioner
22 Vargas?
23 MR. VARGAS: Yes.
24 MS. MILLER: Vargas, yes. Chair Kinsey?
25 MR. KINSEY: Yes.

1 MS. MILLER: Kinsey, yes. The vote is
2 unanimous.

3 MR. KINSEY: Thank you. We then, uh, hereby
4 approve the coastal development permit for the
5 proposed project and adopt the findings associated
6 with it.

7 (Indecipherable; multiple speakers.)

8 MR. KINSEY: Thank you all for everybody's
9 attention and, uh, we'll take a five-minute recess and
10 take up the next item. Thank you.

11 (End of excerpt.)

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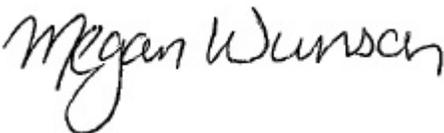
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by: Megan Wunsch