



LISA BARTLETT

CHAIRWOMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ORANGE COUNTY HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
333 W. SANTA ANA BLVD., SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701

MICHELLE STEEL

VICE CHAIR, SECOND DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 7, 2019

The Honorable Harley Rouda
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment
House Committee on Oversight and Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

SUBJECT: Subcommittee on Environment Field Hearing - San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station

Dear Congressman Rouda:

We would like to take the opportunity of your field hearing “examining America’s nuclear waste management, storage and the need for solutions” to share our concerns as members of Orange County’s Emergency Management Council, and to provide our recommendations. We are acutely aware of the potential danger posed by the storage of nuclear waste at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. That is why the County of Orange supports all efforts to fully decommission the San Onofre site and to expedite the removal of nuclear waste.

We are troubled to see reports over the past year of multiple incidents involving spent fuel storage operations. While we are encouraged that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will be conducting inspections of the waste storage process going forward, we do not believe that is enough. The NRC should have inspectors present at all times while waste remains on site.

As we’ve stated, all efforts should be made to remove nuclear waste from the beach as soon as possible. Congress should act quickly to fund assessment and implementation of the proposed consolidated interim storage facilities in New Mexico and Texas. Most importantly, it is time to act to approve a permanent storage facility for nuclear waste. Without a better option readily available, Congress should act to approve funding to restart the licensing process for Yucca Mountain.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bartlett
Chairwoman, Orange County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Fifth District

Michelle Steel
Vice Chair, Orange County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Second District