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Consideration of Environmental Impacts on Temporary Storage of Spent Fuel After Cessation of Reactor Operation

Comment On: NRC-2012-0246-0456

Waste Confidence - Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel; Extension of Comment Period

Document: NRC-2012-0246-DRAFT-1089

Comment on FR Doc # 2013-26726

Submitter Information

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General Comment

As a citizen of San Clemente, and a professional hydrogeologist, I am concerned about the proposed long-term storage of spent nuclear fuel rods at the closed San Onofre nuclear power generating station. Storage of the spent fuel rods is not a safe long-term location, but simply the result of the inability of the United States and California government agencies to decide upon and implement a long-term storage location for spent nuclear fuel within the United States. Long-term storage of the spent rods at San Onofre was not planned when the nuclear power plant was constructed, and long-term storage should not be implemented at San Onofre just because another permanent nuclear storage site has not been identified. The citizens of San Clemente should not be subjected to the potential health risks of radiation release and loss of property value due to radiation release from an unexpected event such as an earthquake, tidal wave, or terrorist attack. If the U.S. does not plan on constructing a long-term storage facility for spent nuclear fuel within the continental U.S., then an intermediate storage facility should be identified somewhere in California that is not so close to a population center. San Clemente should not bear the risk of potential radiation release that could occur from an unforeseen event. The NRC should not implement a generic "one size fits all" approach to storing nuclear waste, but rather should make site-specific environmental reports and recommendations that take local conditions into account.