

Letter from the City Manager

Though not an ideal solution for nuclear waste, the major dismantlement work at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), has Southern California Edison (SCE) transferring used nuclear fuel from steel-lined concrete pools into concrete-encased steel canisters and placed on-site until a permanent facility is opened. The U.S. has not created a permanent storage facility for spent nuclear fuel. It is the federal government's duty (which oversees consolidated waste storage and nuclear policy) to take responsibility, find an alternative location for permanent storage of the waste and move it out.

At the City Council meeting on March 21st public comments were made urging the council to have a discussion with legislators to prioritize this. Mayor Pro Tem Tim Brown said, "The federal government can't take waste anywhere if there is nowhere to take it to." He also mentioned that if this entire council and all the residents of San Clemente and everyone in the state voted to get rid of this it would not make a difference since there is no where to permanently place the waste. The California Coastal Commission gave permission to transfer the wet storage to dry storage and if we look at the *Fukushima* nuclear accident, the only waste that was not affected was that which was contained in dry storage containers.

Also at the meeting, under council discussion, Councilmember Lori Donchak referenced the Interim Storage Act and suggested researching whether the City of San Clemente can obtain consent status using the Price Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act which allows for cities within proximity to nuclear plants (where interim storage is a lifetime), to find a better way to store this waste, while ensuring involuntary host consent communities, like San Clemente, derive some benefits to the community. This may come in the shape of jobs, financial restitution, social justice, etc. As Councilmember Donchak noted, "We are the poster child for an involuntary host consent community and due to our proximity, we should be able to have benefits for our community." City Council further suggested that the City also seek to receive financial benefits of being an Interim Consolidated Storage site, including retroactive compensation for the past 40 years of storage of nuclear material at SONGS.

Congressman Darrell Issa and colleagues introduced the Interim Consolidated Storage Act of 2017 in the House in January. It would allow the Department of Energy to use interest from the \$36 billion Nuclear Waste Fund to contract with private vendors for temporary storage. The City encourages folks to get behind Congressman Issa's legislation on dealing with the waste. For now SCE is allowed to put the waste in dry storage containers. Since the permanent repository planned years ago for Yucca Mountain was removed as an option by former President Obama, alternatives are being pursued. Congressman Issa is pursuing waste storage issues and consolidated waste options. Congressman Issa has stated publicly that SONGS, due to its proximity to the ocean,

earthquake faults, railroad tracks, the I-5 freeway and a heavily populated area of 8 million people living within 50 miles of SONGS, “should be if not the first one to have its nuclear waste taken out, then one of the first.”

The City will continue to keep the community informed. Follow this link to learn about the SONGS Community Engagement Panel (CEP) meetings, in which Mayor Pro Tem Tim Brown serves as vice chairman: <https://www.songscommunity.com/cep-events.asp> The CEP allows for numerous community partners to help guide the decommissioning of SONGS. They meet at least four times per year.

In the meantime, I encourage residents to write Congressman Issa and U.S. Senator Harris at:

The Honorable Congressman Darrell Issa
Vista District Office
1800 Thibodo Road, #310
Vista, CA 92081

The Honorable U.S. Senator Kamala Harris
San Diego Office
600 B Street, Suite 2240
San Diego, CA 92101

If you have any comments or concerns, please email me anytime at MakshanoffJ@san-clemente.org.

Sincerely,

James Makshanoff
City Manager

Sensational Springtacular

On Saturday, April 15th, our Recreation Division invites you to join them for a Sensational Springtacular. Festivities will be held at Vista Hermosa Sports Park, 987 Vista Hermosa. Events begin at 8:30 a.m. and will run until 4:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m.—Breakfast hosted by San Clemente High School Cheer (nominal fees apply, cash only)

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.—Springtacular Activities include Bunny visits, Pony Rides, Train Rides, Giant Slide, Egg Hunts, Face Painting, Petting Zoo, Spring Games. (nominal fees apply, cash only)

12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.—Splashtacular Party at the Aquatics Center. Activities Include Recreation Swim, Snorkel Bunny, Water games, Music, The Kala Food Truck will serve lunch on site for a nominal fee. (Standard recreation swim fees apply for entry)

You can find all the details for Saturday’s event by clicking [here](#).

The Market at North Beach



The Recreation Division invites you and your family to take part in the all-new farmers market at North Beach that opened on April 12th. Before you head home on Wednesdays, be sure to stop by the Market at North Beach to pick-up fresh fruits and vegetables, enjoy live music, indulge in delicious food from local food trucks, and shop the arts and craft fair that will include handmade merchandise from local artisans. The Market will operate weekly on Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and will be held at 1832 N. El Camino Real (the ECR lot between Kaylani's Coffee and the former Ichibiri's restaurant).



Celebrate Earth Day in San Clemente

On Saturday, April 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. San Clemente will be celebrating earth Day at Parque del Mar in the Pier Bowl. The community is invited to attend this free event that is hosted by the San Clemente watershed Task Force and supported by the City of San Clemente. The celebration will include educational displays, vendors, artist, demonstrations, live music, an awards ceremony and giveaways.

Those who are interested in participating in an early morning beach cleanup can meet at the pier at 8:30 a.m. Beach cleanups are a great way for families, students, service groups and neighbors to join together to care for our fragile marine environment and have fun in the process.

For more information, email info@SCwatersheds.com or call (949)36-OCEAN (62326)

Upcoming Meetings

April 18th	6:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting	City Hall Council Chambers
April 19th	6:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting	City Hall Council Chambers

Visit www.san-clemente.org to view agendas for all council, commission, or committee meetings



Photos Courtesy of
Jane Mrotek, Assistant Engineer



We appreciate your feedback
CMReports@san-clemente.org