

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 27, 2021

Action for Spent Fuel Solutions Now

By the authority of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the following resolution is hereby issued:

WHEREAS, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) is a retired commercial nuclear power plant located in close proximity to Orange County residents; and

WHEREAS, since 2013 SONGS has been in the decommissioning process and as of August of 2020 all spent nuclear fuel has been packaged in stainless steel canisters that are designed for both storage and off-site transportation; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has failed to meet obligations to assume title, liability, and transportation of the spent fuel at SONGS as it was required to do beginning in 1998 under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-425) and by contract; and

WHEREAS, the last currently operating nuclear power plant in California is expected to retire and be decommissioned in 2025, at which time California will hold the largest amount of stranded spent fuel in the nation; and

WHEREAS, nearly \$41 billion (including interest income) has been paid into the Nuclear Waste Fund managed by the U.S. Department of Energy, almost \$1 billion of which from SONGS customers including Orange County residents; and

WHEREAS, the lack of national policy prevents removal of the spent fuel from SONGS, impeding the decommissioning of the plant, restoration of the site and return of the land to the U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, the SONGS Strategic Plan, developed by a team of independent national experts, recommends the formation of a coalition of stakeholders to spur federal action aimed at removing spent fuel at San Onofre; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Legislative Platform has continuously advocated for interim storage options to enhance safety and security and pursue longer term off-site fuel storage for SONGS; and

WHEREAS, a new Coalition, *Action for Spent Fuel Solutions Now*, provides an opportunity for stakeholders, including local governments, business and labor leaders, Native American leaders, environmental groups, and community members, to unite under a common goal to make offsite spent fuel storage and a permanent geological repository a priority;

WHEREAS, Orange County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett currently serves as a Co-Chair of the

recently formed Coalition alongside San Diego County Supervisor Jim Desmond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Approves the County of Orange's participation in the Action for Spent Fuel Solutions Now Coalition; and,

2. Find under Government Code section 26227 that the Action for Spent Fuel Solutions Now Coalition will serve a public purpose of the County of Orange and will meet the social needs of the population of the County, including but not limited to, the areas of health, law enforcement, public safety, rehabilitation, welfare, education and legal services, and the needs of physically, mentally and financially handicapped persons and aged persons; that County staff and resources may be used in furtherance of the coalition; and that County staff may solicit donations of funds and services for the coalition.