

Update on San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station



The Coalition to Decommission San Onofre (CDSO) recently submitted written testimony in Phase I of the CA Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC). This is an investigation into the San Onofre Outage (I.12-10-013), responding to opening testimony submitted by Women's Energy Matters (WEM) on March 29, 2013. CDSO seeks to provide additional perspective and detail to that offered by WEM, based upon our unique perspective as a grassroots project of Citizens Oversight, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation which

encourages increased engagement by the public in the operation of their local, state and federal government to reduce waste, fraud and abuse by public officials. You can read our testimony here: http://www.copswiki.org/w/pub/Common/M1349/CDSO_OII_Rebuttal_Testimony.pdf

The CPUC will hold Evidentiary Hearings on the Testimony submitted in this 1st Phase of its Investigation into the San Onofre Outage in San Francisco at CPUC HQs on May 13-17. Phase I focuses on the costs resulting from these defective nuclear reactors and how much should ultimately be borne by SCE and SDG&E ratepayers, as well as the effect of this outage on the reliability of our electric service and grid and how effectively the operator, SoCal Edison, has communicated with the community about the outage and emergency preparedness.

Our CDSO Testimony Team (Gary Headrick, Ace Hoffman, Torgen Johnson, Ray Lutz, Deanna Polk and Martha Sullivan) wants to be present to advocate for our perspective, representing the ratepayers and residents most impacted by this defective and aging nuclear power plant. Unlike our regulated utility counterparts, we don't have ratepayer or shareholder funding for OUR advocacy and we operate very frugally, primarily using our own funds. Don Bauder of the San Diego Reader recently wrote about the uphill climb faced by truth-tellers at the CA PUC: "An organization participating in a commission decision 'lives or dies by intervenor compensation,' says Bill Powers of San Diego's Powers Engineering. Therefore, the commission 'has you on a leash.' Intervenor becomes resigned to 'fighting at the margins, not challenging the basic premise — and [the commission's] basic premise is to make sure that the revenue of utilities is ever increasing.'" <http://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2013/apr/24/citylights1-electric-rates/>