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**Patrick Johnson**

November 12, 2012

The Honorable Allison M. MacFarlane, Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman MacFarlane,

The city of Vista is located in northern San Diego County, approximately 30 miles from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). Our community has a population of more than 90,000 residents.

While the nuclear power generating industry has generally provided electricity safely and reliably, we know that an incident at a nuclear power generating facility can have devastating and generational consequences, as witnessed in Chernobyl and most recently in Japan. There are approximately 7.4 million people living within a 50-mile radius of SONGS. A catastrophic operational incident there, whether caused by natural events such as an earthquake or an event caused by equipment malfunction or human error, would be devastating for the entire region.

One of the primary responsibilities of local government is the public safety and the welfare of its residents. With the recent events that occurred in Japan, and the more recent events that have occurred at SONGS, the Vista City Council believes that it is important to ensure that all efforts are taken to ensure the safety of all Southern California residents. Therefore, on behalf of the Vista City Council, I am respectfully requesting that you, as the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Commission as a body:

- Support the efforts of Senators Boxer and Feinstein to advocate that the NRC modify its relicensing policies to ensure a full re-examination of the basics of the design elements including seismic and tsunami standards, operational issues, plant security, and emergency preparedness.
- Support the Senators' call for the NRC to implement the short-term recommendations of the NRC 90 Day Taskforce Report as soon as possible and develop a feasible more immediate plan for implementing their longer term recommendations, including expanding the evacuation zone from a 10-mile radius to a 50-mile radius.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have any questions please contact Vista Assistant City Manager Aly Zimmermann at (760) 639-6131 or [alyz@cityofvista.com](mailto:alyz@cityofvista.com).

Sincerely,

  
Judy Ritter  
Mayor

c: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Congressman Darrell Issa