

February 7, 2012

Dear Mayor Evert and Members of the City Council,

Please take the lead to help protect the citizens of San Clemente by installing or facilitating the installation of a real-time or near real-time radiation monitoring system in San Clemente.

The citizens need this vital information in order to have timely access to radiation levels. We live a few miles from the plant yet are totally in the dark as to the radiation levels. Edison does not provide timely radiation levels to the public and no one else is taking responsibility for this. All other avenues seem to be closed to our citizens. We need to know this information on an ongoing basis, not just after an emergency is declared.

I met with Jen Tucker on 10/31/2011 (as instructed by the City Council) regarding my request to have the City contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to have a radiation monitor installed in San Clemente. This would provide access via the internet. Jen said she would forward the recommendation to the City Council. I have not received an update of that request. However, after receiving emails from the EPA (where they refused my request to consider installing a radiation monitor) and after reading a 10/31/2011 EPA presentation by Dan Hirsch (regarding the serious flaws in the EPA monitoring system), it no longer appears working through the EPA is the best option.

Other radiation monitoring is inadequate:

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission referred me to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for radiation monitoring.
- The CDPH Radiologic Health Branch has a monitor in San Clemente. However, their
 equipment is outdated and the information provided is months old and is not posted
 with any regularity. Jen Tucker confirmed this.
- Orange County does not have radiation monitoring equipment in San Clemente. Jen said this might be their responsibility. If that is the case, would San Clemente help facilitate with them the installation of a radiation monitoring system in San Clemente? If all else fails, would San Clemente install a radiation monitoring system in San Clemente?

See details of the above at http://sanonofresafety.org/radiation-monitoring/

The recent news of leaks from the San Onofre nuclear plant and our citizens being totally in the dark about what the actual levels of radiation are is a reminder of the importance of this issue.

Also, after news stories about Japanese citizens needing to take matters into their own hands to find the truth about radiation levels in their own communities, we have an early warning of what it could be like here (if we had a Fukushima-like disaster). Japanese citizens have asked me to tell the citizens of California about what they are experiencing, in the hopes it will help prevent it from happening here. Let's heed their warnings before it's too late.

Sincerely,

Donna Gilmore SanOnofreSafety.org San Clemente