

Mr. Bob Foster  
President  
Board of the California Independent System Operator  
P.O. Box 639014  
Folsom, CA 95763-9014

March 20<sup>th</sup> 2012

Dear Bob,

I write as the Trustee that made the original filing on behalf of the CISO to FERC back in 1996 before there was a CISO Board. So you can blame any deficiencies in your Charter on me.

I was surprised and troubled by the statement in the Wall Street Journal on March 17 by your Executive Director warning of rolling blackouts in California this summer if the San Onofre Nuclear plant is not back in operation.

Bob, you have been a leader in energy efficiency and load management since we first spoke on the phone 35 years ago. You and I have discussed how simple load management such as cycling air conditioners can reduce peak loads by large amounts. And you know we have all worked together to assure that blackouts never again happen in California. Under the leadership of the ISO, California is not and cannot be one power plant away from rolling blackouts.

I know you and the other members of your Board are dedicated to safety-first with respect to nuclear power so you should understand how disturbing it is for the ISO to be warning of a return to blackouts unless a very troubled nuclear plant is rushed back into operation. Instead the ISO Board, at this meeting, should tell the public and the Edison company to assume the nuclear plant will still be down this summer and put in place the efficiency and load management programs that will in fact "keep the lights on".

With that approach the 'worst' that can happen is that consumers would save a bunch of money.

The problems at San Onofre are serious enough to require the NRC to dispatch a team to the plant site to discover the cause of the problems. They don't need the pressure caused by the fear of rolling blackouts fanned by the spokesman for the ISO. On the contrary both the utility and the NRC need to be encouraged to take all the time needed to find out the full extent of the problem and fix it if that is possible and cost effective.



S, David Freeman