Did you know that CPS Energy wants to raise electric rates and then spend billions of dollars for two more nuclear reactors?

The CPS Board approved $206 million towards two more nuclear reactors and has started spending the money, getting us deeper into the nuclear project. Has CPS ever asked you if you want to pay more to invest in nuclear reactors? Have they told you that the cost of San Antonio’s share for two new reactors would be $4700 or more per customer, with at least two more rate hikes planned after this one? Citizen pressure in San Antonio led to CPS Energy and Mayor Phil Hardberger’s altering the electric rate hike request that included nearly 20% for two more nuclear reactors, but the reactor plans and purchasing by CPS continue. Call or write to the Mayor and your City Council member today, urging them to immediately halt CPS spending toward more nuclear power and to get an independent analysis of nuclear costs and cleaner, safer alternatives.

Cleaner, cheaper options exist

Local jobs could be created, electric bills will go down and the San Antonio economy will grow if we get serious about making our homes and businesses more energy efficient. With efficiency we could save more energy than CPS would get from the proposed nuclear reactors. CPS’s own study (by KEMA) found that 1220 MW could be saved cost effectively through energy efficiency, using existing programs.

Who would pay for cost overruns?

CPS Energy won’t say how much the two reactors would cost. Their partner, NRG, started estimates at $6.6 billion, and now says $9 billion, still a serious underestimation, even though their cost has gone up 30% already, even before licensing.  
*The first two nuclear reactors were six times over budget and eight years late coming online. *The City of Austin voted not to buy into the two additional nuclear reactors after their study found that costs were being underestimated. An analysis performed by Dr. Arjun Makhijani for the SEED Coalition placed costs from $12 billion to $17.5 billion.  
*Moody’s Corporate Finance estimates costs as high as $16.2 billion. The utility company of the richest man in the world, Warren Buffett, recently walked away from an Idaho nuclear reactor because it was too expensive.

Safety, security and radioactive risks

Safety, security and radioactive risks are of serious concern with nuclear plants. Mining of uranium for fuel has left drinking water in some South Texas communities radioactive. Even after 50 years, there is still nowhere to permanently store high level radioactive wastes.

Urge Mayor Hardberger and the San Antonio City Council to take action to halt more nuclear power, and to insist on energy efficiency and renewable
Tell them: the Mayor and City Council should pass a resolution calling on CPS to immediately halt all spending on nuclear power.

Tell them: The Mayor and City Council should commission independent studies of the costs and economic risk assessment of investing in South Texas Project units 3 & 4 and to explore safer, cleaner, more affordable alternatives to nuclear power, which would build the local economy.

Mayor Phil Hardberger
(210) 207-7060 phardberger@sanantonio.gov

District 1 Mary Alice P. Cisneros
(210) 207-7279 district1@sanantonio.gov

District 2 Sheila D. McNeil
(210) 207-7278 district2@sanantonio.gov

District 3 Jennifer V. Ramos
(210) 207-7064 district3@sanantonio.gov

District 4 Philip A. Cortez
(210) 207-7281 district4@sanantonio.gov

District 5 Lourdes Galvan
(210) 207-7043 district5@sanantonio.gov

District 6 Delicia Herrera
(210) 207-7065 district6@sanantonio.gov

District 7 Justin Rodriguez
(210) 207-7044 district7@sanantonio.gov

District 8 Diane G. Cibrian
(210) 207-7086 district8@sanantonio.gov

District 9 Louis E. Rowe
(210) 207-7325 district9@sanantonio.gov

District 10 John G. Clamp
(210) 207-7276 district10@sanantonio.gov

Learn more: www.NukeFreeTexas.org
Contacts: Citizens' Energy Coalition 210-492-4620 or 210-829-5632