



For Immediate Release

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California Science Center
***Science Matters* Speakers Program**
Presents

“Nuclear Energy-Timely Alternative or Time Bomb?”

Los Angeles- The California Science Center’s *Science Matters* speakers program will discuss “Nuclear Energy- Timely Alternative or Time Bomb?” on Saturday, February 23, 2008. Featured panelists will offer different perspectives on the development of nuclear power and the potential benefits or harm associated with the most recent legislation. The program will explore the production and containment of nuclear energy and its waste, while comparing perspectives on the future role of nuclear energy in the United States’ energy policy. Conan Nolan, *NBC4 reporter* will serve as moderator for the panel discussion, which is free to the public, scheduled to take place from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the Loker Conference room at the California Science Center.

Panelists include: **Dennis R. Spurgeon** , *Assistant Secretary of Nuclear Energy, U. S. Department of Energy*, senior nuclear technology official in the U.S. Government, responsible for the Department’s nuclear energy enterprise, including research, development, and management of the Department’s nuclear technology infrastructure, **S. David Freeman** , *President of the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners*, an engineer, attorney, and author, who has made substantial contributions in the development of energy policy; **Per F. Peterson**, Ph.D., *Professor*, manages the *U.C. Berkeley Thermal Hydraulics Research Laboratory* and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in heat and mass transfer, fluid dynamics, and reactor thermal hydraulics focusing on nuclear applications; and **Christopher Paine**, *Program Director, Nuclear Program, Natural Resources Defense Council*, senior analyst and deputy director of the nuclear program of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), in Washington, D.C.

Program participants will have a chance to hear the debates on this issue and to ask panelists questions at the end of the program. All those interested in attending may RSVP at 213-744-2420.

Science Matters Programs at the California Science Center

Three *Science Matters* programs are held annually (fall, winter, spring) at the Science Center on Saturday afternoons. The next program will focus on:

Obesity—A New Epidemic?
Saturday, May 17, 2008, from 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Speakers present the current science of obesity, describing the various ways obesity harms the body, how it affects different ethnicities and the genetic component of body weight. If obesity is

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so bad for us, how did it become an epidemic in the United States? What are the ways our culture and economy support obesity? In the light of this scientific and social framework, panelists discuss the ethics of different approaches to the obesity epidemic. Are we a society that controls what people eat?

About the California Science Center

The California Science Center’s mission is as follows:” We aspire to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable experiences, because we value science as an indispensable tool for understanding our world, accessibility and inclusiveness, and enriching people’s lives.”

General Info: The California Science Center and IMAX Theater are located in historic Exposition Park just west of the Harbor (110) Freeway at 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Admission to Science Matters and Science Center exhibits is free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). IMAX ticket prices range from \$4.75 to \$8.00. For advance ticket purchases, group rates, or to make reservations for any visiting group of 15 or more (required), call 213.744-2019. Parking is available in the guest lot at Figueroa and 39th / Exposition Park Drive at \$6 per car, \$10 for buses or oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org.

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