



Group dons hazmat suits to protest fracking



by 10 News Digital Team
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SAN DIEGO - A handful of protesters donning hazmat suits gathered outside the Catamaran Resort on Mission Beach Wednesday morning to ask the California Coastal Commission to halt offshore fracking.

The protest, organized by the volunteer environmental group SanDiego350.org, sought to bring awareness to the controversial process.

"Every offshore frack job increases the toxic threat to California's fragile ocean ecosystems," said Miyoko Sakashita, director for the Center for Biological Diversity's Oceans Program, in a news release.

Fracking is the process of drilling into shale rock deep within the earth with the purpose of extracting natural gas.

The group alleges that nine billion gallons of wastewater have been discharged into the ocean off California's coast due to the fracking of hundreds of wells along the state's coastline.

"Our beaches and coastal cities are some of the gems of San Diego tourism," said Peg Mitchell with SanDiego350.org in a news release. "We can't afford any risks to our local economy, nor can the marine life sustain any further damage to their waters."

The CCC is holding meetings from Aug. 12-15 at the Catamaran Resort.