

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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ACTION OFFICE:

EDO

To: Leeds, NRR

cys: OEDO
NSIR

OIP
Merzke, OEDO

AUTHOR: Don Leichtling

AFFILIATION:

ADDRESSEE: Chairman Resource

SUBJECT: Concerns French Nuclear Disaster

ACTION: Information

DISTRIBUTION: RF, SECY to Ack.

LETTER DATE: 03/17/2013

ACKNOWLEDGED Yes

SPECIAL HANDLING: Lead office to publicly release 24 hours after SECY's assignment, via SECY/EDO/DPC.

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE:

DATE SIGNED:

Joosten, Sandy

From: Capt.D [captddd@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 8:34 PM
To: Capt D
Subject: French Nuclear Disaster Scenario Was So Bad The Government Kept It Secret

Look at these numbers and remember the USA cannot afford a Trillion Dollar Eco-Disaster like Fukushima either!

French Nuclear Disaster Scenario Was So Bad The Government Kept It Secret

Read more: <http://www.testosteronepit.com/home/2013/3/13/potential-cost-of-a-nuclear-accident-so-high-its-a-secret.html#ixzz2NqUu3ZM6>

snip:

Catastrophic nuclear accidents, like Chernobyl in 1986 or Fukushima No. 1 in 2011, are, we're incessantly told, very rare, and their probability of occurring infinitesimal.

But when they do occur, they get costly. So costly that the French government, when it came up with cost estimates for an accident in France, kept them secret.

But now the report was leaked to the French magazine, Le Journal de Dimanche. Turns out, the upper end of the cost spectrum of an accident at the nuclear power plant at Dampierre, in the Department of Loiret in north-central France, amounted to *over three times* the country's GDP.

Hence, the need to keep it secret. The study was done in 2007 by the Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), a government agency under joint authority of the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Environment, Industry, Research, and Health. With over 1,700 employees, it's France's "public service expert in nuclear and radiation risks." This isn't some overambitious, publicity-hungry think tank.

It evaluated a range of disaster scenarios that might occur at the Dampierre plant. In the best-case scenario, costs came to €760 billion—more than a third of France's GDP. At the other end of the spectrum: €5.8 trillion! *Over three times* France's GDP. A devastating amount. So large that France could not possibly deal with it.

Yet, France gets 75% of its electricity from nuclear power. The entire nuclear sector is controlled by the state, which also owns 85% of EDF, the mega-utility that operates France's 58 active nuclear reactors spread over 20 plants. So, three weeks ago, the Institute released a more politically correct report for public consumption. It pegged the cost of an accident at €430 billion.