

(2,725 pages)

# Group FJ

(Records Withheld  
In Part)

## Belmore, Nancy

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2012 9:39 AM  
**To:** Belmore, Nancy  
**Subject:** FW: Response to December 15th ltr from House Energy and Commerce Committee  
**Attachments:** 01-04-12 Transmittal letter to Chr Upton - docs responsive to 12-15-11 ltr.docx

The text of the transmittal letter in response to Mr. Upton's Committee letter that accompanied the many boxes is attached.

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 05, 2012 7:57 AM  
**To:** Coggins, Angela; Sharkey, Jeffrey; Sosa, Belkys; Bubar, Patrice; Nieh, Ho  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Rebecca; Brenner, Eliot; Vietti-Cook, Annette; Rothschild, Trip; Clark, Lisa; Reddick, Darani; Davis, Roger; Bupp, Margaret; Sexton, Kimberly  
**Subject:** Response to December 15th ltr from House Energy and Commerce Committee

Hi all and Happy 2012 –

Late yesterday, OCA delivered the documents requested in the December 15<sup>th</sup> letter from House Energy and Commerce Committee to the Majority and Minority staff offices. The attached transmittal letter (I signed in Becky's absence) accompanied the delivery. The documents provided are available in OCA if anyone would like to see them.

Amy

Amy Powell  
Associate Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Phone: 301-415-1673



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable John Shimkus  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment  
and the Economy  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

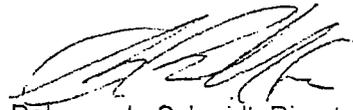
While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca L. Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Gene Green, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Ed Whitfield  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Cliff Stearns  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight and  
Investigations  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

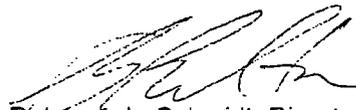
While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca L. Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Diana DeGette, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated

**Belmore, Nancy**

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2012 9:40 AM  
**To:** Belmore, Nancy  
**Subject:** First of three responsive e-mails  
**Attachments:** EDO Daily notes re events in Japan - distro to Commission offices.docx

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 5:03 PM  
**To:** 'Spencer, Peter'  
**Subject:** FW: e-Transmittal to Rep. Markey Continuing Response to 10/25 ltr

Hi Peter –

Per our phone conversation, OCA sent three e-mails to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his October 25<sup>th</sup> letter. These e-mails included documents (some attachments, some linked) that were provided to all Commissioners' offices by NRC program offices including the Office of the Executive Director for Operations, Office of Public Affairs, Office of International Programs, and the Emergency Operations Center. This e-mail is the first of three.

Thanks,  
Amy

Amy Powell  
Associate Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Phone: 301-415-1673

---

**From:** David Decker  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 4:51 PM  
**To:** 'Freedhoff, Michal'  
**Subject:** e-Transmittal to Rep. Markey Continuing Response to 10/25 ltr

Michal,  
Attached (below and above) are additional documents that respond to Congressman Markey's October 25<sup>th</sup> letter. I should have some more tomorrow. Hope you and your family had a great Thanksgiving.

David

\*\*\*\*\*

In response to Mr. Markey's October 25, 2011 letter, this email transmits electronically 3 categories of documents related to/referencing events in Japan: 1) NRC press releases (links provided below), 2) US NRC Emergency Operations Center Status Updates (aka "Sit Reps", links provided below), and 3) Daily Notes from the Executive Director of Operations (attached).

**US NRC press releases related to events in Japan**

Date	Subject
10/20/2011	NRC Takes Action on Japan Near-Term Task Force Safety Recommendations
10/11/2011	Opening Remarks of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko at the 45 Day Review of the Japan Task Force Safety Recommendations
10/04/2011	NRC to Discuss Prioritizing Recommendations of Near-Term Japan Task Force Oct. 11 in Rockville, Md.
09/15/2011	NRC to Discuss Industry's Post-Fukushima Efforts Sept. 21 in Rockville, Md.
09/09/2011	NRC to Discuss Early Implementation Recommendations of Near-Term Japan Task Force Sept. 14 in Rockville, MD
07/13/2011	NRC'S Japan Task Force Recommends Changes to Defense in Depth Measures at Nuclear Plants; Cites Station Blackout, Seismic, Flooding and Spent Fuel Pools as Areas for Improvement
06/10/2011	Joint Press Release on Cooperation Regarding the Accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant; Gregory Jaczko, Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Goshi Hosono, Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Japan, June 10, 2011
05/20/2011	NRC Issues Summary of Recent U.S. Nuclear Plant Inspections
05/16/2011	NRC Exits Monitoring Mode for Japanese Nuclear Emergency; Continues to Support U.S. Government Efforts
05/13/2011	Inspections at U.S. Nuclear Plants Prompt Corrective Actions; Reports Being Made Public
05/11/2011	NRC Staff Issues Bulletin to Nuclear Power Plants on Strategies to Handle Extreme Events
04/01/2011	NRC Appoints Task Force Members and Approves Charter For Review of Agency's Response to Japan Nuclear Event
03/23/2011	Nuclear Regulatory Commission Directs Staff on Continuing Agency Response to Japan Events; Adjusts Commission Schedule (11-055)
03/21/2011	Opening Remarks of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko at Today's Commission Meeting on the Events in Japan
03/19/2011	NRC Posts Updated Seismic Questions and Answers (11-053)
03/18/2011	NRC Informs U.S. Nuclear Power Plants on Japan Earthquake's Effects (11-052)   <a href="#">Information Notice</a>
03/16/2011	NRC Provides Protective Action Recommendations Based on U.S. Guidelines (11-050)
03/15/2011	NRC Analysis Continues to Support Japan's Protective Actions (11-049)
03/15/2011	(Revised) NRC Sends Additional Experts to Assist Japan (11-048)
03/14/2011	Japanese Government Asks for Assistance with Reactor Events; U.S. Government and NRC Preparing Response (11-047)
03/13/2011	(Revised) NRC Sees No Radiation at Harmful Levels Reaching U.S. From Damaged Japanese Nuclear Power Plants (11-046)
03/12/2011	NRC Experts Deploy to Japan as Part of U.S. Government Response (11-045)
03/12/2011	NRC in Communication with Japanese Regulators (11-044)
03/11/2011	NRC Continues to Track Earthquake and Tsunami Issues (11-043)

### US NRC Emergency Operations Center Status Updates (aka "Sit Reps")

These documents have been made publicly available through the FOIA process.

<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1122/ML11229A190.pdf>

<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1129/ML11294A327.pdf>

### Executive Director of Operations Daily Notes related to events in Japan (March 23 - November 15, 2011)

Please see attached. This document has not been released publicly and has thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

We will continue to produce responsive documents, electronically to the extent possible and hard copy where needed, on a rolling basis. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Amy

Amy Powell  
Associate Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Phone: 301-415-1673

Daily Notes Related to Fukushima, March 23 - November 15, 2011  
Collected on November 18, 2011

- On March 23 the TI (Temporary Instruction) to independently assess the adequacies of US Nuclear Plants in response to the recent Japanese Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant events was issued. The TI will assess licensee's capabilities to cope with beyond design basis events, station blackouts and flooding events. The equipment staged and preparations for these events will also be assessed under the TI. Completion of this TI at all sites is expected by April 29, and a final report should be available by May 13.
- On April 26, the staff conducted a seminar on the Price-Anderson Act (the Act) and how the Act would be carried out in response to a nuclear incident in the United States. In addition, representatives from the Office of General Counsel, Office of Congressional Affairs and Office of Public Affairs discussed their recent interactions with the public and with the Congress resulting from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident.
- On May 3, all of the Regions confirmed that the field inspections associated with the first Temporary Instruction (TI-183) associated with the Japanese Fukushima event have been completed. The inspection reports are being finalized, should be completed by May 13, and will be publically available shortly after May 13. Initial results do not indicate any generic themes common to multiple sites.
- On May 20 a press release and summary of the results from TI (Temporary Instruction) 2512/183 was released to the public. This completes the immediate actions associated the first TI to assess US power reactor capabilities to mitigate events similar to the recent Japanese events. The Japanese Event Task Force will use the results from the TI in their assessments and potential recommendations. The issues identified by the TI will be assessed using the Reactor Oversight Process.
- On May 31, the NRC's Site Team leader in Japan attended the weekly Kantei meeting. The Kantei meeting is the Government of Japan's senior leadership meeting on the events at Fukushima Daiichi. Tuesday's meeting focused on recent site challenges including the failure of the sea water pump for the Unit 5 condenser, the leakage of heavy oil near Unit 5 and 6, and the delay in removing contaminated water from the site. In addition, a number of on-going NRC/NISA activities were discussed including the analysis of the reactor status, severe accident assessment, and post-TMI technical specifications. The NRC's participation in these meetings fosters a continued strong and effective working relationship with senior leadership in the Government of Japan.
- On July 6, NSIR staff participated in a meeting with Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) staff to discuss stockpiling KI. ASPR is under direction from HHS leadership, responding to external political pressure, to develop technical justification to stockpile KI beyond 10 miles. ASPR engaged Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) to perform NPP accident modeling (source term 10X Fukushima for Indian Point, Limerick, and McGuire as model plants).

(b)(5)

subsubsection of the group will meet within the next few weeks to further discuss this issue.

- On July 6 and 7, NSIR staff participated in a National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center (NARAC) Fukushima follow-up Plume Modeling Workshop with White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, DOE, NOAA, and NARAC staff. Discussion focused on development and processing of source terms, processing times, interagency coordination, interpretation, and aspects of issues that arose during the event response. The DOE Deputy Undersecretary for Counterterrorism suggested further follow-up

(b)(5)

- On July 11, at the GOJ's request, Japan Site Team members visited the Monju and Tsuruga Power Stations accompanied by the Deputy Director General of NISA. Monju is a Fast Breeder Reactor. Tsuruga Unit 1 is a General Electric BWR 1 design (first commercial reactor built in Japan) and Unit 2 is a Mitsubishi four-loop PWR design (first proprietary Japanese reactor). The site also has a decommissioned Advanced Thermal Reactor. Future plans call for cessation of operations for Unit 1 in six years. The tour covered countermeasures installed and planned in response to the event at Fukushima and included containment entries. Also visited was the new construction site for Tsuruga Units 3 and 4, both AP
- On July 12, the NRC recommended to the Department of State (DOS) that the Sendai Airport, which is located on the border of the 50-mile travel advisory around Fukushima Daiichi, be cleared for use. This recommendation was supported by the U.S. Government Interagency Working Group. The DOS agreed with the recommendation and indicated that it would issue an updated Travel Advisory as early as the end of this week.
- On July 21-24, the NRC Japan Site Team Leader accompanied Dr. John Holdren, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, during his visit to Japan, where he toured the Fukushima Daiichi and Daini sites. Dr. Holdren discussed post accident research needs in areas such as robotics, radiation measurement, environmental cleanup and simulated accident sequence modeling. Dr. Holdren also met with Dr. Hatamura, Chairman of Japan's Investigation Committee of the Accident at Fukushima, to discuss the Committee's charter for an independent, in-depth review of the accident. In addition, the NRC team briefed Dr. Holdren on the NRC's response and ongoing efforts to support the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and the Government of Japan. Dr. Holdren expressed his appreciation for the great job the NRC has done in supporting Japan.
- On July 26, 2011, the NRC received six petitions for rulemaking (PRMs) based on the Fukushima Task Force Report (the Report) from the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. Each PRM has been docketed separately. The Office of Administration plans to publish a consolidated *Federal Register* notice (FRN) acknowledging receipt of the PRMs. The FRN will not request public comment at this time, but will include the docket ID for each PRM for the public to track further agency actions on the PRMs. The NRC will commit in the FRN to publish a second FRN that will state the NRC's plan for resolving the PRMs based on the Commission's handling of the recommendations in the Report.
- On August 3, NSIR staff attended an Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC) Working Group meeting held at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Offices in Washington, D.C. IMAAC Work Group discussions focused on three items

(b)(5)

- On August 11, staff participated in a meeting at the State Department to discuss a revision to the U.S. Travel Advisory recommending American citizens evacuate a 50-mile zone around the Fukushima Daiichi site. Other Federal agencies in attendance included the White House, DOE, Naval Reactors, EPA, DoD, and CDC. General agreement was reached on a strategy to revise the 50-mile recommendation with the State Department taking the lead to draft a revised Travel Advisory and circulate it to the other agencies by next week for additional discussion.

- On August 18, the Japan Site Team joined other embassy offices in briefing Janet Stormes, of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. Ms. Stormes's area of interest included overall government response and coordination following the Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima disasters.
- On August 15, the Japan Site Team met with a representative of "The Investigation Committee on the Accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations of Tokyo Electric Power Company" (established and so named by Cabinet Decision, May 24) to discuss its planned methodology. The Committee is chaired by Dr. Yotaro Hatamura, and, subject to embassy approval, will be requesting interviews with NRC and other USG individuals involved in the response effort. It was stressed that interview data will be kept anonymous, and that the investigation is not aimed at establishing liability. Additionally, the committee intends to employ international advisory experts, and one potential U.S. expert was mentioned.
- On September 12, OIS initiated the automated process to identify duplicate emails responsive to the FOIA requests related to the events in Japan. Several FOIA requests specify email that involve multiple individuals and contain identical content. Currently each email must be reviewed and examined individually before it is released to the public to ensure that it does not contain sensitive information. OIS has developed an automated system to identify and remove duplicates prior to review, which will reduce the number of documents that must undergo individual review. To-date, email from 145 addresses have been collected for processing.
- On September 21-23, NRR management will attend the second meeting of the Committee of Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) Senior-Level Task Group on the Impacts of the Fukushima Accident. Participation in this meeting will allow the NRC to share with the international community a summary of agency actions since the accident (ML11258A269), gain insights to activities of other countries, and influence the direction of any additional Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) activities within CNRA and the Committee on Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI).
- On September 27, the Regional Administrator will give a presentation and answer questions at a special meeting of the San Clemente City Council. The presentation will be a description of the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident, the highlights from the NRC near-term task force report and the inspection results for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) from TI 2515/183, "Follow-up to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Station Fuel Damage Event." The meeting will be publicly attended and will also include presentation from both the licensee for SONGS and the Interjurisdictional (Emergency) Planning Committee.
- On September 27, the staff held two identical public meetings in Richland, Washington, to discuss the preliminary findings and receive public comments on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for the proposed renewal of the operating license for Columbia Generating Station. The report contains the NRC's preliminary finding that there are no environmental impacts that would preclude license renewal for an additional 20 years of operation. Approximately 75 people attended the meetings including members of the public, local news media, NRC staff from NRR and RIV, and representatives from Energy Northwest. Public comments included concerns related to the Fukushima Task Force Report, the potential use of MOX fuel at the plant, and waste storage. The public comment period will close on November 16, 2011.
- On September 27, the Regional Administrator attended a special meeting of the San Clemente City Council. The 2 hour presentation included information on the Fukushima accident, the NRC near-term task force report, Temporary Instruction inspection results,

and answering 35 questions from the council and members of the public. Approximately two-three hundred members of the public were in attendance.

- On October 6, the NMSS Deputy Director, will give a presentation at the U.S.- Czech Republic Transatlantic Nuclear Days Conference on Global Cooperation for the Future Development of Nuclear Power titled "Role of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Nuclear Safety and Lessons Learned from the Fukushima Accident" (ML11277A030) in Prague, Czech Republic.
- On October 19 and 20, Region I, FSME, and NSIR staff participated in the New England Radiation Health Committee meeting in Mansfield, MA. The NRC gave presentations on the Fukushima response, groundwater protection, materials security, and current initiatives to approximately 60 representatives from the New England state radiation control programs.
- From November 14 to 16, an NRR senior manager, will attend a scientific conference titled, "Nuclear Risk and Public Decision Making," in Paris, France, sponsored by the Institut de Radioprotection et de Surete Nucleaire of France. The manager will present "U.S. Nuclear Safety and Response to Fukushima Dai-ichi" (ADAMS Accession No. ML11311A081) during a panel session with the Director General of the French Nuclear Safety Authority. The presentation focuses on the NRC response to the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident and risk communication and does not include any unresolved policy issues.
- 

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Belmore, Nancy**

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2012 9:41 AM  
**To:** Belmore, Nancy  
**Subject:** Second of three  
**Attachments:** OIP Weeklies Japan.pdf; image001.gif

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 5:05 PM  
**To:** 'Spencer, Peter'  
**Subject:** FW: Congressman Markey response items received by all Commissioner offices

#2 of the three e-mails I referenced – one more (also with Office of International Programs info) to follow.

Amy

---

**From:** David Decker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 12:38 PM  
**To:** 'Freedhoff, Michal'  
**Subject:** FW: Congressman Markey response items received by all Commissioner offices

Michal,  
Attached is a set of documents put together each week by the NRC's Office of International Programs, and distributed within NRC (including to Commission offices). OIP has gone through these and culled out the ones that contain information related to Fukushima. More things from OIP to come a bit later today.

David

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of March 14, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.*

***Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

Nothing to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

An export license (XCOM1213) was issued to ATI Wah Chang for the export of Zircaloy-4 Trex Tubes to Argentina for use in fuel bundles for the Embaise and Atucha I & II Nuclear Power Plants.

An export license amendment (PXB139.01) was issued to Schlumberger Technology Corporation to export Category 2 quantities of Am-241/Be, Category 2 or lower quantities of Cs-137, Th-232 (not to exceed 1.1E-6 TBq), and Na-22 (not to exceed 1.1E-4 TBq) for use in oil and gas well logging operations in Iraq.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

During the week of March 7, Karen Henderson of OIP attended three meetings led by Ambassador Bonnie Jenkins at the U.S. Department of State: 1) coordination meeting in advance of the U.S.-South Africa nonproliferation meetings; 2) regularly scheduled interagency meeting to discuss nuclear-related activities in East Africa; and 3) interagency discussion of uranium mining and recovery, with a focus on the proposed International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) guidance for security.

On March 14, Steve Dembek of OIP and Nancy Fragoyannis of OIP will attend a sub-IPC meeting at the National Security Council. The meeting will include discussions on topics associated with the four-year lockdown/cleanout effort.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From March 13 to 19, Neale Griffis of HR, and Thomas Essig of OIP, will travel to Trinidad-and-Tobago, to present radiation safety and radioactive source management training to government policy makers and inspectors. Trinidad-and-Tobago has recently written, and is about to implement new regulations for the licensing and inspection of radioactive materials, and has requested this training in support of the program.

On March 19, Ms. Bushra Ali Ahmed, Director General of the Iraqi Radiation Protection Center, will visit NRC Headquarters and hold discussions with FSME managers and staff on NRC's regulatory process with regards to decommissioning.

## 5. Multinational Activities

From March 15 to 19, Martin Virgilio, Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, Office of Executive Director for Operations (OEDO), and Shawn Williams of OEDO, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate and support the U.S. Representative to the IAEA Commission on Safety Standards (CSS). The support will include attending the Joint CSS and Advisory Group on Security Task Force meeting.

From March 18 to 25, Catherine Haney, Director, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and Shawn Smith of NMSS will travel to Paris, France, to attend the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the Radioactive Waste Management Committee meeting. Ms. Haney will also attend meetings of the Regulators' Forum and the Planning Committee for the 2011 International Conference on Geologic Repositories.

From March 14 to 20, Robert (Brad) Harvey of NRO will travel to Bariloche, Argentina, to lecture at a regional Latin American IAEA training course on site selection and evaluation for nuclear installations.

From March 14 to 20, Elizabeth Hayden, Director, Office of Public Affairs, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group on Public Communication of Nuclear Regulatory Organizations where she will assist in identifying teams and the structure of work for two new programs on social media and communication plans.

From March 12 to 17, Jack Ramsey, Senior Level Advisor for International Nuclear Safety Assistance, OIP, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in a meeting of the IAEA-administered Regulatory Cooperation Forum.

From March 12 to 20, Hilda Klasky of UT-Battelle, LLC, will travel to Fountainebleau, France, to represent Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) at EURATOM PERFORM 60 Network meetings. Ms. Klasky will collaborate with others to organize benchmark exercises between ORNL DISFRAC fracture code and Advanced Fracture Module of SP 1.

From March 12 to 20, Steven Arndt of NRR; and Leroy Hardin of RES, will travel to Garching, Germany, to participate in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) International Standards Committee meetings. Mr. Arndt will represent the NRC's interest in the development of new IEC codes in the area of digital instrumentation and control and cyber security. Mr. Hardin will participate in the development of the IEC computer security draft standard and the IEC Field Programmable Gate Array final draft standard.

## 6. OIP Communications

1. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, DOS, from Nader L. Mamish, re 10 CFR Part 110 Non-Appendix P export and import cases completed in February 2011 (ML110610308)
2. Letter to Sean Oehlbert, DOE, from Nader L. Mamish, re subsequent arrangement to retransfer from Atomic Energy of Canada, to Belgium (ML11068A028)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of March 21, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

Nothing to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

DOE/NNSA has requested NRC's views on a Part 810 request from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to provide entities in the People's Republic of China (China) access to EPRI's entire nuclear portfolio of technical reports and software relating to commercial nuclear plant safety, through membership in or funding of EPRI and by transferring EPRI nuclear technology and analyses related to material aging through Chinese membership in the Material Ageing Institute (MAI), where EPRI is a member. NRC staff is currently reviewing this Part 810 authorization request and expects to reply to DOE/NNSA in the near future.

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XCOM1213) was issued to ATI Wah Chang to export Zircaloy 4 Trex tubes to Argentina for use in fuel bundles in the Embaise and Atucha I & II nuclear power plants.

An export license amendment (XSOU8780/05) was issued to AREVA NP, Inc. changing the supplier's name from ConverDyn Conversion Facility to Honeywell Conversion Facility.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

Nothing to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On March 19 to April 1, 2011, Dr. Peter Kohut from Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) and Skip Young of OIP will travel to Kiev, Ukraine and Yerevan, Armenia, to review the status of the current nuclear safety assistance projects between NRC and Ukrainian and Armenian regulators. Dr. Kohut and Mr. Young, accompanied by Dr. Pranab Samanta (BNL), will also travel to Khmel'nitsky Nuclear Power Plant to participate in a risked informed inspection workshop. The workshop will be conducted by BNL and State Science Engineering Centre (SSEC) who developed the initial inspection guide under contract with BNL for the State Nuclear Regulatory Committee of Ukraine (SNRCU). SSEC is the technical service organization for SNRCU.

During the week of March 14, Chuck Casto, Deputy Regional Administrator of Construction, John Monninger, Deputy Chief of Staff, Kirk Foggie of OIP, Brooke Smith of OIP, Anthony Ulses of NRR, Tony Nakanishi of NRR, Tim Kolb of NRR, William Cook of Region I, James Trapp of Region I, Rich Devercelly of HR, and Jack Foster of FSME provided assistance to the U.S.

Embassy in Tokyo, Japan for activities related to the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. The NRC team is being led by Chuck Casto.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From March 19 to 26, Budhi Sagar, a NMSS contractor, will travel to Balaruc-les-Bains, France, to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Workshop of the RECOZY Project hosted by Laboratoire SUBATECH. This workshop is provided for discussion, documentation, dissemination, and future planning on all topics related to the FP7 Collaborative Project RECOZY.

From March 22 to 26, Stephen Dembek of OIP will travel to Paris, France, to attend the G-8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group meeting. Mr. Dembek will represent the NRC as part of the U.S. delegation.

From March 20 to 27, Laura Dudes, Deputy Director, Division of Engineering, and Eduardo Sastre-Fuente of NRO will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Nuclear Energy Agency/Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group Regulating New Reactors. Ms. Dudes will chair the meeting, while Mr. Sastre-Fuente will present during the meeting.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. Letter to Avril Haines, DOS, dated March 11, 2011, from Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director, re Arrangement between the NRC and Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization and between the NRC and The American Institute of Taiwan (ML110680023)
2. Letter to Sean Oehlbert, DOE, dated March 15, 2011, from Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director, re subsequent arrangement from Cameco (Canada) to URENCO of the United Kingdom (ML110740305)
3. Letter to Janet Schlueter, NEI, dated March 15, 2011, from Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director, re industry comments on the final rule, "Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Material; Updates and Clarifications" (ML110530204)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of March 28, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
**Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

Nothing to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

Import and export license amendments (IW017/01 and XW010/01) were issued to Duratek Services, Inc. to extend their expiration dates to June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2017, respectively.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

Nothing to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From March 27 to April 2, Michael Salay of RES will travel to Bergen, The Netherlands, to participate in the Phebus and Severe Accident Research NETWORK (SARNET) meetings where the latest test analyses and data will be obtained. He will provide NRC input and feedback on the Phebus-ISTP experiments, and will provide information on NRC's contribution to SARNET.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> Janice Owens from the Office of International Programs, along with Robin DeLaBarre of the State Department will meet with representatives from the United Arab Emirates' Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss export licensing requirements for minor reactor components. The meeting will be held at the State Department.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From March 26 to April 2, Kevin Coyne, Nathan Siu, and Gabriel Taylor of RES will travel to Paris, France. Kevin Coyne will serve as NRC's representative at the Working Group on Risk Assessment (WGRisk) Bureau and Annual Meetings where he will provide NRC's perspective regarding ongoing WGRisk initiatives and lead the discussions on NRC lead items, including the development of the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) Activity Planning Sheet on the Nuclear Energy Agency's data project use. Nathan Siu will chair the WGRisk Bureau and Annual Meetings and ensure that CSNI direction is met. Gabriel Taylor will attend the WGRisk TG meeting on digital I&C failure mode taxonomy, and will visit Laurent Gay of EDF to discuss his current research related to electrical equipment failures under elevated thermal conditions.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane dated March 18, 2011 re Bimonthly List of Key International Meetings (ML110800275)
2. Letter to Richard Goorevich, DOE, from Margaret M. Doane dated March 24, 2011, re authorization for Westinghouse Electric Company to transfer technology associated with nuclear fuel fabrication equipment to China (ML110811229)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of April 4, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From April 2 to 7, Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA's) 5<sup>th</sup> Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS). Chairman Jaczko will be supported by Bill Borchardt, Executive Director for Operations; Margaret Doane, Director, and Andrea Jones of OIP; and Michael Marshall of his staff.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XSNM3672) was issued to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Y-12 National Security Complex for the export of low-enriched uranium (19.95%) to Canada for use as reload fuel in the National Research Universal Reactor.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

From April 1 to 15, Bill Borchardt, Executive Director for Operations, will participate in the IAEA CNS in Vienna, Austria, in his role as Vice-President of the convention.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On April 4, OXAND, a French company that performs aging, risk and asset management for civil structures at nuclear plants, will meet with NRR staff to discuss the U.S. regulatory approach for cable aging management.

On April 4, Mr. Kwan Hee Lee, an employee of the Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS), will be assigned to the staff of the NRC for 12 months. Mr. Lee will work in NMSS' Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety (HLWRS) for a period of six months and will also work with the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in Rockville, Maryland and San Antonio, Texas for a period of two months. In addition, Mr. Lee will work in NMSS' Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation (SFST) for a period of four months.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From April 1 to 15, Eliot Brenner, Director, OPA; David Skeen, Deputy Director, Division of Engineering, Lauren Quinones-Navarro, Travis Tate, Christopher Regan, Lauren Gibson, Veronica Rodriguez, John McHale, and Kenneth Karwoski of NRR; Jeffrey Dehn of RES; and John Tappert, Deputy Division Director, Division of Construction Inspection and Operational Programs, and Omid Tabatabai-Yazdi of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, as members of the NRC delegation at the IAEA's 5<sup>th</sup> CNS.

From April 7 to 15, Patrick Raynaud of RES will travel to Aix-en-Provence, France, to participate in a Technical Advisory Group discussion and site review pertaining to CABRI. Mr. Raynaud will also participate in discussions with the Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety regarding activity on mechanical testing of fuel cladding.

From April 4 to 8, Shawn Smith of NMSS will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Reversibility and Retrieval Working Group Meeting.

From April 3 to 8, Robert Tregoning and Andrew Murphy of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the annual meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development /Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD/NEA) Working Group on the Integrity and Aging of Structures and Components. Mr. Tregoning will also attend the Metals Subgroup, while Mr. Murphy will serve as chairman of the Seismic Subgroup.

From April 2 to 7, Valerie Barnes of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the OECD/NEA Working Group on Human and Organizational Factors biannual meeting.

From April 2 to 9, Robert Einziger of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the IAEA technical meeting of the International Working Group for an Integrated Safety Demonstration for Dual Use Cask for Spent Nuclear Fuel. This will be the first meeting of the working group which will develop guidance for Member States for an integrated safety case for the dual purpose cask for transport and storage of spent fuel in a holistic manner.

From April 1 to 8, Sushil Birla of RES will travel to Liverpool and Bootle, United Kingdom, to participate in the Safety-Critical Software Task Force meeting to exchange technical information on safety critical software.

## 6. OIP Communications

1. Letter to Sean Oehlbert, DOE, from Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director, re subsequent arrangement for JAEA's experimental fast reactor JOYO (ML110880439)
2. Memorandum to the Commissioners from Margaret M. Doane re Proposed Exchange of Classified and Safeguards Information with Canada (ML11041A014)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of April 11, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

Nothing to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An import license (IW028) was issued to Oregon Specialty Metals for the import of U.S.-origin contaminated metals and associated secondary waste from Canada. The waste will be consolidated and repackaged by Alaron Corporation (Wampum, PA) before ultimate disposal at EnergySolutions (Clive, UT) and US Ecology (Richland, WA).

An export license (XSNM3677) was issued to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Y-12 National Security Complex for the export of low-enriched uranium (19.95%) to France for use in fuel fabrication for the CERCA AREVA Romans Research Reactor.

An export license (XMAT416) was issued to Sigma-Aldrich Corporation for the export of deuterium in the form of deuterated compounds, deuterium oxide, and deuterium gas to the Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Company, Ltd. for distribution into medical, pharmaceutical, chemical, and industrial markets.

Export license amendments (PXB17a.05 and PXB17b.05) were issued to Industrial Nuclear Company for the export to multiple countries of Category 2 quantities of Iridium-192 (contained in sealed sources) for use in industrial radiography and for the development of custom design.

An export license amendment (PXB3.07) was issued to Nordion (Canada) for the export of Category 1 quantities of Cobalt-60 (contained in sealed sources) for use in irradiators by the gamma processing industry for disposition in Canada.

An export license (PXB146.00) was issued to National Semiconductor for the export of Category 1 quantities of Cobalt-60 (contained in sealed sources) to Canada for disposition.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

Nothing to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From April 15 to 20, Keith McConnell, Deputy Director, Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate, FSME, will travel to Drammen, Norway, to consult on the

Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority's three year work plan for "Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites."

From April 10 to 16, Patricia Milligan of NSIR will travel to Paris, France to perform a peer review of the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)-CODIRPA document, "Transitioning From the Urgent Phase."

During the weeks of March 20, March 27, and April 3, Mike Scott, of RES, Alan Blamey of Region II, Jack Giessner of Region III, Rob Taylor of NRR, Todd Jackson of Region I, Marie Miller of Region I, Danielle Emche of OIP, Eric Stahl of OIP, Vince Holahan of FSME, Rudy Bernhard of Region II, Mike Call of NMSS, Elmo Collins of Region IV, Mike Hay of Region IV, and Mike Salay of Res provided assistance to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan for activities related to the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant.

## **5. Multinational Activities**

From April 12 to 20, Mark Miller, Director of the Technical Training Center; and Timothy Kobetz of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA's) annual meeting of the Working Group of Inspection Practices. The group will work towards preparing a document, "Best Inspection Commendable" to aid in developing an IAEA reactor inspector training programs.

From April 9 to 16, Nilesh Chokshi of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the (IAEA) International Seismic Safety Centre meetings. These meetings will develop guidelines on Seismic Design and Qualification, Seismic Safety Evaluations, and Seismic PRA.

From April 9 to 14, Makuteswara Srinivasan of RES will travel to Oxford, United Kingdom, to participate in a meeting of selected experts from around the world to discuss and establish an understanding of the scope of the problem of graphite fracture in high temperature gas cooled reactors.

From April 9 to 13, Esmaili Hussein of RES; and Jesse Phillips and Larry Humphries, RES contractors, will travel to Bologna, Italy, to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> European MELCO User Group meeting. Mr. Hussein, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Humphries will also present on code development status on SNAP.

From April 9 to 16, Ashok Thadani and Donald Dube of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in IAEA meetings on Safety Goals for Nuclear Installations. These meetings will provide an international forum for presentations and discussions on the current practices pertaining to the establishment and use of safety goals for nuclear installations.

From April 9 to 17, Cynthia Jones of NSIR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to revise IAEA training materials for the "Train-the Trainers" and "Security of Radioactive Sources and Nuclear Security Recommendations on Radioactive Material and Association Facilities" courses. Ms. Jones will provide technical expertise and include revisions recommended by NRC in the conduct of previous courses for IAEA on Security of Radioactive Sources.

From April 9 to 16, Donald Dube of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in IAEA meetings on Safety Goals for Nuclear Installations.

From April 9 to 15, Alexander Velazquez-Lozada of RES will travel to Stockholm, Sweden, to participate and present TRACE results at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/NRC Sub-channel and Bundle Tests Benchmark.

From April 10 to 15, Randall Fedors and James Rubenstone of NMSS will travel to Helsinki, Finland, to participate in Development of Coupled Models and their Validation against Experiments (DECOVALEX) Workshop research progress on tasks and planning for the next DECOVALEX phase. DECOVALEX is an international collaboration focused on deep geological disposal environment. Mr. Fedors and Mr. Rubenstone will also meet with representatives of the Finnish regulator (STUK) to discuss their preparation for a license application, waste disposal program regulation, and general technical issues.

From April 10 to 16, Stacy Smith and Richard Rasmussen of NRO will travel to Toronto, Canada, to meet with the Nuclear Procurement Issues Committee (NUPIC). Ms. Smith and Mr. Rasmussen will also invite a member of the Canadian Nuclear Regulator to observe the NRC's NUPIC oversight process.

From April 12 to 16, Allen Hiser of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in IAEA International Generic Aging Lessons Learned activity as a member of the Clearing Group. The technical discussions will focus on a variety of steam generator issues including inspection, repair, and analysis.

From April 12 to 16, Shawn Marshall of RES will travel to Budapest, Hungary, to participate in the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OECD/Nuclear Energy Agency PKL-2 Project. Mr. Marshall will view and discuss the results from the recently completed tests investigation upper-head voiding, participate in planning discussions for the upcoming ROSA/PKL counterpart test, and discuss closeout activities for the PKL-2 program.

## 6. OIP Communications

(b)(5)

2. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane, dated March 30, 2011, re proposed exchange of classified and safeguards information with Canada.
3. Letter to Arvil Haines, DOS, from Nader L. Mamish dated April 1, 2011, re Arrangement of cooperation on regulatory and infrastructure support for emerging nuclear power nations between the NRC of the USA and the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety of the Republic of Korea.
4. Memorandum to Reginald W. Mitchell, Controller dated March 31, 2011, re Advance payment to another federal entity.

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

(b)(5)

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of April 18, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

Nothing to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

(b)(5)
--------

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XCOM1220) was issued to ATI Wah Chang for the export of Zirconium 2.5% Niobium Extrusion Tubes to CONUAR Combustibles Nucleares Argentinos SA (Argentina) for the processing and development of replacement pressure tubes.

An export license amendment (XSNM3398/03) was issued to Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, L.L.C. to add Russian-obligated material to the license.

An export license amendment (XCOM1215/01) was issued to Materion Brush, Inc. to change the licensee's name from Brush Wellman, Inc. to Materion Brush, Inc.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

Nothing to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From April 16 to 23, Tsong-Lun Chu, a RES contractor, will travel to Daejeon, South Korea, to attend the kick-off meeting for NRC, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute collaboration on quantitative software reliability methods.

On April 7, Wilkins Smith of OIP participated in a DOE digital video conference (DVC) with India's Department of Atomic Energy (AERB). Representatives of the DOE and DOE National Laboratories the U.S. Mumbai Consulate, and the India Ministry of External Affairs, also participated. The purpose of the DVC was to initiate planning for the next Indo-U.S. Civil Nuclear Energy Working Group (CNWG) meeting currently scheduled for the week of July 19, 2011 at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Co-chairs for this 4<sup>th</sup> CNWG Meeting were confirmed to be Dr. Peter Lyons, DOE and Dr. Ravi Grover, Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Center. A possible NRC bilateral meeting with AERB and other attendees before or after the CNWG meeting was proposed.

Executive Director of Operations Bill Borchardt and Elizabeth Smiroldo, International Relations Officer from OIP, will participate in the International Scientific Conference: "Twenty-five Years after the Chernobyl Disaster. Security for the Future," in Kyiv, Ukraine, during April 20-22, 2011. The purpose of the trip is to underscore the conference's nuclear safety message as part of a larger US delegation to include principals from DOE, DOS, and USAID, and to share information on lessons learned after the accident and also on the status of the Chernobyl Shelter Fund Project, to which the US government has contributed. The visit will include a trip to the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From April 16 to 20, Thomas Hiltz of NMSS will travel to Paris, France, to participate as a NRC representative on the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Workshop Organizing Committee for the Workshop on Fuel Cycle Safety.

From April 15 to 23, Duane Hardesty of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA's) Working Group on Safety Standard.

From April 16 to 23, Michael Mulheim, a RES contractor, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to meet with the IAEA on new review guidance on instrumentation and control systems at research and test reactors.

From April 16 to 30, Kenneth Karwoski and Emmett Murphy of NRR will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to participate in technical discussions at the International Steam Generator Tube Integrity Program. The Program will focus on a variety of steam generator issues such as inspection, repair, and analysis.

From April 16 to 23, Patrick Isaac of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA Workshop on Training and Qualification of Personnel for Research Reactors. This workshop will focus on developing standards for the selection and training of research test reactor personnel.

From April 16 to 21, David Terao of NRO will travel to Paris, France, to serve as the NRC representative at the Multinational Design Evaluation Program's Codes and Standards Working Group.

From April 17 to 21, Stephanie Coffin of NRO will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the International Framework for Nuclear Energy Cooperation Working Group on Infrastructure Development. This session will focus on discussion of the licensing process, including key policy and technical issues related to small modular reactors.

From April 18 to 23, Herman Graves of RES and Lili Akin, a RES contractor, will travel to Lyon, France, to participate in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/NEA's Integrity and Aging of Components and Structures Working Group workshop on post-tensioning methods used in concrete containment structures.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

Nothing to report

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of April 25, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export licenses were issued:

Export license (XSNM3676) issued to Transport Logistics International, Inc. to export low-enriched uranium (4.75%) to South Korea, for fuel reload for the Ulchin Unit 5, ShinWolsung Unit 2, and Kori Unit 1 nuclear power plants.

Export license (XSNM3673) issued to Transport Logistics International, Inc. to export low-enriched uranium (4.85%) to Japan, for fuel reload for the Sendai Nuclear Power Station.

Export license (XCOM1221) issued to Mirion Technologies (IST) Corporation to export three ex-core fission chambers to Japan, for use in monitoring thermal neutron flux in the Japanese Material Test Reactor (JMTR).

Export license amendment (XSOU8774/05) issued to Materion Advanced Chemicals to change the licensee's name from CERAC, Inc. to Materion Advanced Chemicals.

Export license amendment (XSOU8783/02) issued to Materion Advanced Chemicals, Inc. to change the licensee's name from CERAC, Inc. to Materion Advanced Chemicals.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On April 25, Mr. Simonas Satunas, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Lithuanian Embassy will visit Margaret Doane, OIP to discuss recent issues in Lithuania.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From April 23 to 30, Charles Miller, Director, FSME, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the 122<sup>nd</sup> session of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy. Dr. Miller will serve as a member of the U.S. Delegation to this Steering Committee.

From April 25 for May 6, Gary Holahan, Deputy Director; and Donna Williams, Technical Assistant, of NRO, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in a meeting of the Multinational Design Evaluation Program Steering Technical Committee. Mr. Holahan and Ms. Williams will

also travel to Nice, France, to participate in the International Congress on Advances in Power Plants.

From April 25 to 28, Stuart Richards, Deputy Director of the Division of Engineering, RES, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) Program Review Group meeting.

From April 23 to 29, Abdelghani Zigh of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in a meeting organized by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/NEA's CSNI Writing Group. This meeting will revolve around discussion of guidelines of Computational Fluid Dynamics use in Nuclear Reactor Safety Applications and Assessment.

From April 24 to 30, Hipolito Gonzalez of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) technical and consultancy meetings on very long term storage of used nuclear fuel.

From April 24 to 30, Thomas Pham of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in a technical meeting organized by the IAEA on developing guidance on nuclear material control and accounting.

From April 24 to 29, Christopher Hoxie, Antony Calvo, and Josh Whitman of RES; and Daniel Prelewicz, a RES contractor, will travel to Bariloche, Argentina, to conduct the Spring CAMP meeting. The travelers will make technical presentations about the current status of NRC computer codes that are available through the CAMP program.

## **6. OIP Communications**

No communications to report.

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of May 2, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From April 30-May 7, Commissioner Apostolakis will travel France to deliver a plenary speech at the International Congress on Advances in Nuclear Power Plants (ICAPP) in Nice, visit Areva's MELOX facility and the French Atomic Energy Commission's Cadarache Research Center, and hold discussions with representatives of the French Nuclear Safety Authority. The Commissioner will be accompanied on his visit by Belkys Sosa, his Chief-of-Staff, and Eric Stahl, OIP.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XCOM1224) was issued to ATI Wah Chang for the export of Zircaloy 4 Trex Tubes to China for use as fuel bundles in Third Qinshan Nuclear Fuel Co. reactors.

An export license (XSNM3669) was issued to AREVA NP Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.85%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Takahama and Ohi Nuclear Power Stations.

An export license (XSNM3670) was issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.95%) to Japan for use as reload fuel for the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station.

An export license (XSNM3671) was issued to AREVA NP Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.95%) to Japan for use as reload fuel for the Tokai Nuclear Power Station.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On May 4, Margie Doane, Director, OIP, will meet with 2 members of the Japanese Diet.

On April 25, OIP staff met with representatives of the United Arab Emirates Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation at National Nuclear Security Administration Headquarters and provided an overview of the NRC's international activities.

From May 2 to 6, Nancy Fragoyannis, Senior Level Advisor for Nuclear Nonproliferation and International Nuclear Security, OIP, and Michael Maley of NSIR, will travel to Mexico City, Mexico, to participate in an interagency U.S. government team conducting a bilateral consultation visit to assess physical protection at a Mexican facility.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From April 30 to May 7, Patricia Milligan, Senior Technical Advisor for Emergency Preparedness and Incident Response, NSIR, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the Working Party on Nuclear Emergency Matters committee meeting, as well as participate in the French Radioprotection and Nuclear Safety Institute CODIRPA stakeholder meetings which will discuss proposed protective action guidelines for transitioning from an early to intermediate phase.

From April 30 to May 4, Jack Ramsey, Senior Level Advisor for International Nuclear Safety Assistance, OIP, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in a meeting of the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Working Group.

From April 30 to May 5, John Adams, Senior Level Advisor for Non-Power Reactors in NRR, will travel to the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)/ Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities scoping Task Group meeting concerning the safety of research reactors.

From April 29 to May 7, William Ruland, Director, Division of Safety Systems, NRR; Randy Sullivan of NSIR; Laura Dudes, Deputy Division Director, Division of Engineering, John Tappert, Deputy Division Director, Division of Construction Inspection and Operational Programs, Aida Varona-Rivera, Stewart Magruder, Frank Akstulewicz, and John Tappert of NRO, will travel to Nice, France, to participate in ICAPP. All travelers will be presenting and coordinating technical sessions during ICAPP.

From May 1 to 7, Janet Kotra of NMSS will travel to Stockholm, Sweden, to participate in the Stakeholder Approaches to Radioactive Waste Management conference. Ms. Kotra will also serve as Chair of a forum on Stakeholder Confidence sponsored by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development(OECD)/NEA in Osthhammer, Sweden.

From May 3 to 8, Michele Evans, Acting Deputy Director of NSIR, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the first NEA Fukushima Task Force meeting. Ms. Evans will serve as NRC's representative with the Task Force.

From May 6 to 25, John Nguyen and Johnny Eads of NRR will travel to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to attend an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regional workshop on operational protection and safety for research reactors. Both travelers will also be presenting during the workshop.

From May 6 to 13, Darrell Dunn of RES will travel to Dresden, Germany, to participate in a meeting and discussion of the International Cooperative Group on Environmentally Assisted Cracking. Mr. Dunn will also present on NRC activities on environmentally assisted fatigue.

From May 2 to 7, Dominick Orlando of FSME will travel to Rome, Italy, to participate in IAEA meetings to complete work on a project to develop safety assessment guidance for the decommissioning on nuclear facilities.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. 

(b)(5)
2. Note to Commisisoner Assistants from Margaret M. Doane dated April 27, 2011, re NRC Participatin in Convention on Nuclear Safety Review Meeting (ML11118A028)
3. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane, dated April 27, 2011 re Office of International Programs Administered International Arragnemetns and Memorandums of Cooperation for the Exchange of Unclassified Technical Information (ML11103A001)
4. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane dated April 27, 2011, re Visit to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Dr. Der-Jhy Shieh, Deputy Minister, Taiwan Atomic Energy Council
5. Memorandum to the Chairman from Margaret M. Doane dated April 27, 2011, re Renewal for United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Israel Atomic Energy Commsision Arrangmeent for the Exchange of Technical Information and Cooperation in Nuclear Safety and Research Matters
6. Letter to Avril Haines, DOS, from Nader L. Mamish dated April 28, 2011, re Transmittal of Arrangements with Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration and the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control of Romania
7. 

(b)(5)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**Week of May 9, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

The US and China's third Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) will be held in Washington, D.C. on May 9-10, 2011. The S&ED will provide a top level forum for policymakers from both China and the U.S. to address a wide range of bilateral, regional and global areas of immediate and long-term strategic and economic interest to both countries. On the U.S. side, Secretary of State Clinton and Secretary of the Treasury Geithner are Co-Chairs of the Dialogue. The S&ED brings together senior leadership representing the U.S. and Chinese governments during their meetings, which will take place annually in alternate capitals. This year, Chairman Jaczko will speak at the Strategic session on Nuclear Disarmament/Nonproliferation/Nuclear Security.

On May 12, the Commission will be visited by a delegation from Lithuania, which will be led by Mr. Arvydas Sekmokas, Minister of Energy. He will be accompanied by Žygimantas Pavilionis, Lithuanian Ambassador to the U.S., along with Kęstutis Jauniškis, the Advisor to the Minister of Energy; Violeta Greičiuvienė, Deputy Director of Strategic Projects, Ministry of Energy; Simonas Šatūnas, Deputy Chief of Mission in the U.S.; Rokas Masiulis, President of the state-owned oil company, *Klaipėdos Nafta*; Šarūnas Vasiliauskas, President of the Visaginas Nuclear Power Plant Project Company; and Simon Pratt, President of the Rothschild Company. The delegation will be informing the Commission about recent efforts to pursue a new nuclear power plant at the Visaginas site, and about the challenges presented on behalf of their neighboring countries' plans for construction of new nuclear power plants.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license amendment (PXB143.01) was issued to The Curators of the University of Missouri to (1) extend the license's expiration date to May 21, 2021; (2) remove the list of intermediate consignees; and (3) remove the list of end-user addressees.

An export license revision (PXB145.00-R) was issued to PathFinder Energy Services, LLC to change that name of the ultimate consignee to Oilfield Contractors Inc.

An export license amendment (XCOM1210/01) was issued to Harper International Corporation to increase the quantity of sintering furnaces from one to two and to change the expiration date to April 2021.

An export license (XSNM3665) was issued to Transnuclear, Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (19.97%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Japan Material Testing Reactor (JMTR) and in the Japan Research Reactor (JRR-3).

### **3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

### **4. Bilateral Activities**

On Friday, May 13, NRC Staff will conduct a bilateral meeting with Mr Andei Blahoianu, Director, Engineering Design Assessment Division, and Mr. Nebojsa Orbovic, Structural Engineer, Office of Engineering Design Assessment Division from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. This classified meeting will include briefings on Aircraft Impact Assessments presented by RES and NRO.

From May 10-12, regulators from the Spanish Nuclear Safety Council and Mexico's National Nuclear Commission for Safety and Safeguards will participate in an information exchange with the Office of Enforcement regarding the Allegations and Enforcement practices and procedures.

From May 11 to 14, Joe Colaccino and Getachew Tesfaye of NRO will travel to Bootle, United Kingdom, to meet with British regulators to discuss unresolved issues regarding the European Pressurized Reactor design review.

### **5. Multinational Activities**

From May 7 to 12, Charlotte Abrams of OIP will travel to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to assist the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Office of Internal Oversight Services on a field mission to evaluate IAEA's support to uranium exploration and production support activities in Brazil.

From May 9 to 15, David Pickett, an NMSS contractor, will travel to Larnaca, Cyprus, to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> Workshop of the Natural Analogue Working Group. Mr. Pickett will tour natural analog research sites and present during the workshop.

From May 8 to 12, Ronaldo Jenkins of NRO; Gurcharan Matharu of NRR; and Liliana Ramadan of RES, will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) Defense in Depth of Electrical Systems and Grid Interactions Workshop. This workshop will focus on efforts to strengthen the robustness and defense in depth capabilities of nuclear power plant safety related electric systems.

From May 7 to 14, Mychailo Toloczko, a RES contractor, will travel to Dresden, Germany, to attend the International Cooperative Group on Environmental Assisted Cracking (IEC-EAC).

From May 7 to 13, John Burke of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the CSNI Knowledge Base Report on emergency core cooling system suction strainer clogging.

From April 7 to 14, Gregory Suber of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in an IAEA Consultancy on *Near Surface Disposal of Radioactive Waste* (DS 356).

From May 7 to 15, Larry Camper, Director, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection; and Giorgio Gnugnoli of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to serve on the U.S. delegation to the 4<sup>th</sup> Organizational Meeting of the Joint Convention Contracting Parties at the IAEA. Mr. Camper and Mr. Gnugnoli will perform technical reviews, support senior executives, and represent U.S. interests during their time in Vienna.

From May 7 to 14, Ronald Bellamy of R-I will travel to Beijing, China, to serve on an IAEA Expert Team Mission presenting a Workshop on ASME Code on Nuclear Air and Gas Treatment System.

From May 8 to 11, Alysia Bone and Nathan Siu of RES will travel to Vienna, Austria, to meet with IAEA counterparts to discuss the development of probabilistic risk analyses guidance.

From May 11 to 15, John Voglewede of RES will travel to Budapest, Hungary, to participate in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD/NEA) Working Group on Fuel Safety. He will be joined by Alysia Bone and Nathan Siu of RES on May 12. The travelers will also attend the semi-annual Halden Program Group meeting while in Hungary.

From May 9 to 14, Juan Peralta of NRO will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the Multinational Design Evaluation Program's (MDEP's) Vendor Inspection Cooperation Working Group.

From May 11 to 14, Eileen McKenna of NRO will travel to Bootle, United Kingdom, to participate in the MDEP Working Group on AP1000. Ms. McKenna will serve as Chair for this working group.

## **6. OIP Communications**

1. Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 5, 2011, re Release of Safeguards Information to Representatives of the Spanish Regulator During a Force-On-Force Exercise and Technical Exchange (ML11108A155)
2. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 2, 2011, re Meeting with Ambassador for Energy Security and Special Energy Envoy Vaclav Bartuska, Czech Republic (ML11122A034)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of May 16, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** *To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.*  
***Our Mission:*** *OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

From May 16 to 18, Chairman Jaczko and Margaret Doane, Director, OIP, will attend the biannual meeting of the International Nuclear Regulators Association in Stockholm, Sweden. This meeting will focus on national nuclear safety assessment activities taken after the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

On May 17, Commissioner Magwood will participate in a discussion with the "Science and Technology Diplomats Club in Washington DC" at the French Embassy.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XCOM1225) was issued to H. C. Starck, Inc. for the export of molybdenum-lanthanum sheets to South Korea to be manufactured into furnace trays by Hana Metals for ultimate use as part of a sintering furnace by Korea Nuclear Fuel Co., Ltd (KNFC).

An export license revision (PXB145.00-R) was issued to PathFinder Energy Services, LLC to change (1) the description and quantity of the material, (2) the approximate shipment dates, and (3) the list of recipient countries, end users, and ultimate end uses.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On May 12, Cindy Rosales-Cooper, Samuel Lee, and Hossein Hamzehee of NRO, and Mary Carter and Wilkins Smith of OIP, participated in a teleconference with the Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS) staff, Youn-Won Park, Jinho Lee, and Joeng Won Yoo, to discuss the planned consecutive six month assignments of NRC staff Lee and Hamzehee to the KINS offices in Daejeon, Korea.

On May 3, Wilkins Smith of OIP participated in a Department of Energy (DOE) teleconference with India's Department of Atomic Energy (AERB). Representatives of the DOE and DOE National Laboratories, the U.S. Mumbai Consulate, and the India Ministry of External Affairs, also participated. The purpose of the teleconference was to continue planning for the next Indo-U.S. Civil Nuclear Energy Working Group (CNWG) meeting currently scheduled for the week of July 25, 2011 at Oak Ridge, Fermi, and Argonne National Laboratories. The planned NRC-AERB bilateral meeting in Rockville the week of July 18, before the CNWG meeting, was mentioned.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the Republic of Korea Embassy First Secretary – Political Section Dong-Yeol Rhee and Hyun-Jin Kim, Researcher, will meet with NRR staff, Tim McGinty and Mike Cullingford, to discuss the Fukushima nuclear event and cooperation between the U.S. and Japan.

From May 18 to 19, Chuck Casto, Deputy Regional Administrator for the Center of Construction Inspection in RII, and team leader of the Japanese Liaison Team, will be visiting Headquarters to meet with Marty Virgilio, Deputy Executive Director for for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, members of the Lessons Learned Task Force, and other staff to discuss the status of Fukushima.

##### **5. Multinational Activities**

From May 16 to 23, Joe Colaccino, Terry Jackson, Lynn Mrowca, Jing Zhang, Shanlai Lu, and Getachew Tesfaye of NRO will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the Multinational Design Evaluation Program biannual meeting. During this meeting, status reports from all 6 member countries will be presented, as well as separate meetings of three technical expert sub-working groups.

From May 14 to 22, Leroy Hardin of RES; and Ralph Costello and Eric Lee of NSIR, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) meeting on “Newly Arising Threats in Cybersecurity and Nuclear Facilities.”

From May 14 to 21, Aldar Csontos of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the final meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Piping Failure Data Exchange Working Group. Mr. Csontos will also attend the kickoff meeting of the OECD Component Operational-experience Degradation and Aging Program.

From May 15 to 20, Janet Kotra and Keith Compton of NMSS will travel to Stockholm, Sweden, to serve on an international peer review panel sponsored by OECD/Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). The panel will review the Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate application for deep geological repository for a disposal of spent nuclear fuel in Osthhammer, Sweden.

From May 14 to 21, John Adams, Senior Level Advisor for Non-Power Reactors, NRR, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to represent the NRC at an IAEA international meeting concerning the applications of the code of conduct for the safety of research reactors.

From May 15 to 21, Stephanie Bush-Goddard of RES will travel to Paris, France, to attend the NEA Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH) and serve as the NRC representative to the committee.

From May 15 to 21, Brooke Smith of OIP will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the Nuclear Suppliers Group Dedicated Meeting of Technical Experts review of the Trigger List.

From May 15 to 20, Dennis Lawyer and Laure Kauffman of RI; Michelle Hammond and Lizette Roldan-Otero of RIV; Sarenee Hawkins of FSME; and Paul Huggins, a FSME contractor, will travel to Laval, Canada, to attend the NRC-sponsored Irradiator Technology Training Course (H-315),

From May 16 to 21, Ashok Thadani, a contractor for NRO, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in an IAEA meeting on follow-up on Safety Goals for Nuclear Installations. This meeting will provide an interaction discussion on the current practices pertaining to the establishment and use of safety goals for nuclear installations.

From May 16 to 21, Jack Ramsey, Senior Level Advisor for International Nuclear Safety Assistance in OIP, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in a meeting of the Asian Nuclear Safety Network. This forum serves as a mechanism for coordination of regulatory assistance efforts for countries of Southeast Asia.

From May 15 to 20, Thomas Grice of NMSS will travel to Budapest, Hungary, to attend the 33<sup>rd</sup> European Safeguards Research and Development Association annual meeting.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, DOS, from Nader L. Mamish, dated May 11, 2011, re Non-Appendix P Export and Import Cases in April 2011 (ML11119A240)
2. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane, dated May 9, 2011, re Visit from Mr. Arvydas Sekmokas, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania
3. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane, dated May 10, 2011, re Delegation of Authority from May 16 to 19.
4. Letter to John I. Pray, NSC, from Margaret Doane, dated May 10, 2011, re Request for Foreign Travel Approval (ML11129A260)
5. Memorandum to Nader Mamish from Janice Owens, dated May 9, 2011, re Monthly Appendix P Licensing Action Report (ML11123A241)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of May 23, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.

***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XSNM3643) was issued to Transnuclear, Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (19.95%) to South Africa for use as fuel and targets in the SAFARI-1 Research Reactor.

An export license (XB1325) was issued to Humboldt Scientific, Inc. for the export of up to 30 moisture/density gauges, containing a total of 0.0111 TBq of Cesium-137 and 0.0444 TBq of Americium-241, to Iraq.

An export license (XB1326) was issued to Hydraulic Power Technology – Texas, Inc. for the export of two cement pumping units, each containing a nuclear densitometer, to Iraq. The pumps contain a total of 0.0148 TBq of Cesium-137.

An export license (XSNM3675) was issued to Transport Logistics International for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.05%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Mihama and Takahama Nuclear Power Stations.

An export license (XSNM3674) was issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.95%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Fukushima II and Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Stations.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On May 26, staff will host a “GoToMeeting” involving staff from FSME, NRO, NRR and RES and their counterparts in the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). This is the third in a series of technical exchange meetings between the NRC and the CNSC as part of an ongoing agreement. The purpose of this meeting is to exchange information related to environmental assessments primarily for operating and new reactor sites. CNSC staff will inform NRC licensing and RES staff on how they quantify environmental risk for both human and non-human biota. The meeting agenda can be found at ML111330259.

From May 24 to 26, Ana Dennier and Blake Lawrence, RES contractors, will travel to the NRC Headquarters from Toronto, Canada, and Richard Stainsby and Julian Murgatroyd, also RES contractors, will travel to the NRC from the United Kingdom, to discuss the progress and direction of the Next Generation Nuclear Plant Evaluation Model: Code Integration, Assessment and Application Support.

On May 24-26, Leif Karlsson and Per-Olaf Hagg, from the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM) will participate in the NRC Spring Counterpart Meeting in Region IV offices. They will make a presentation on SSM and other European regulator reactions to Fukushima events..

## **5. Multinational Activities**

From May 21 to 28, Martin Virgilio, Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs; and Shawn Williams, Executive Technical Assistant, EDO, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Commission on Safety Standards. Mr. Virgilio will serve as the U.S. representative at this series of meetings.

From May 21 to 25, Eric Leeds, Director, NRR, will travel to Zurich, Switzerland, to participate in the IAEA-sponsored Integrated Regulatory Review Service mission to Switzerland. During this mission, Mr. Leeds will serve as deputy team leader.

From May 22 to June 2, Jennifer Uhle, Deputy Director of RES, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to join an IAEA fact-finding mission to Japan regarding the Fukushima Accident. Dr. Uhle will serve as the expert on accident progression and severe accident phenomena.

From May 23 to 27, Terry Jackson of NRO will participate in the IAEA Technical Working Group on Nuclear Power Plant Instrumentation and Control.

From May 21 to 28, Vincent Holahan, Senior Technical Advisor, FSME, will travel to Vienna, Austria to participate as a member of the U.S. delegation to the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation.

From May 21 to 28, Kathy Gibson, Director, Division of Systems Analysis; and Michelle Flanagan, of RES, will travel to Nykoping, Sweden, to attend the Studsvik Cladding Integrity Program Review Meeting. This trip will include a presentation of NRC's recent loss-of-coolant-accident tests at Studsvik and will be the first dissemination of the program results at an industry conference.

From May 21 to 29, Doris Lewis of RES; and Derek Hagemeyer, a RES contractor, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)/IAEA Information System on Occupational Exposure Bureau and Working Group on Data Analysis Meetings. Ms. Lewis will serve as the U.S. Regulatory Representative to this working group.

From May 24 to June 2, Janice Owens and Jennifer Wollenweber of OIP will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the IAEA-sponsored ad hoc Meeting for States that are Major Suppliers of Sources and the Code of Conduct Technical Meeting on Import/Export Guidance.

From May 21 to 28, Bill Brach of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in three IAEA meetings: the Safety Standards Committee Chairman; the Commission on Safety Standards; and the Transport Safety Unit Management and Staff meeting.

From May 22 to 28, Ann Kammerer of RES will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend two technical working meetings of the IAEA International Seismic Safety Center Extrabudgetary Program.

From May 22 to 30, Scott Krepel and Ron Harrington of RES will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the final Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) International Standard Problem-50 meeting. The travelers will participate in a collaborative discussion of the computer code/modeling limitations associated with thermal hydraulic predictions of accidents in advanced pressurized water reactor plants and how to overcome those limitations.

From May 23 to 26, 18 participants from Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Indonesia, Jordan, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, Tanzania and Uruguay will visit the U.S. to participate in the NRC's Uranium Recovery Workshop in San Antonio, Texas, and visit several nearby uranium recovery sites. The workshop will be led by OIP, FSME and Region IV, and will also be attended by representatives from the U.S. Department of State, National Nuclear Security Administration and the State of Texas.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane dated May 17, 2011, re Bimonthly List of Key International Meetings (ML11138A313)
2. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane dated May 18, 2011, re Information on Recent and Upcoming International Meetings Related to the Fukushima Events (ML11136A211)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of May 30, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report

**2. Export/Import Activities**

No activities to report

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license amendment (PXB11b.07) was issued to QSA Global for the export of Category 2 quantities of Am-241, Am-241/Be, Cs-137, Co-60, Ir-192, and Se-75 (contained in sealed sources) for use in industrial radiography, oil well logging, gauging, brachytherapy and calibration.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From May 28 to June 3, Julie Marble and Jing Xing of RES will travel to Norway to attend the Halden 2011 Workshop on Human Performance Measures, review simulator scenarios that Halden Lab will be running with U.S. crews, and review related work on performance measures.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From May 27 to June 2, Angela Randall of FSME, will travel to Vienna, Austria to participate in the Code of Conduct Technical Meeting on Import/Export Guidance.

From May 28 to June 8, Seen-Meng Wong of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to represent the NRC at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) / NSNI Technical Review meeting for development of the IAEA TECDOC on Integrated Risk Informed Decision Making.

From June 1 to 9, Eric Leeds, Director of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, will travel to France to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities meeting on June 6 and 7; to attend the Multinational Design Evaluation Program Policy Group meeting on June 7; and to attend the Nuclear Energy Agency Forum on June 8.

From May 29 to June 2, Christopher Tripp of NMSS will travel to the United Kingdom to participate in the annual meeting of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) TC85/SC5/WG8 working group on criticality safety, which is currently working on several

international standards in various stages of draft on topics of interest to NMSS-regulated activities. Mr. Tripp will be joined by Calvin Hopper, a contractor from CS Engineering, Inc., who is the Chair of the ISO TC85/SC5/WG8 and who will report WG8 progress to the TC85 Plenary.

From May 29 to June 2, Shawn Smith of NMSS will travel to Germany to attend the Regulators' Forum (RF) Core Group meeting and Planning Committee meeting for the Joint RF/Integration Group for the Safety Case Workshop.

From May 29 to June 19, Tony Nakanishi of NSIR will travel to Tokyo, Japan to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan to support the events relating to the Japan earthquake and tsunami. He will be joined on June 4 by Heather Gepford, also of NSIR, to provide similar assistance.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. Memo to International Council members from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 23, 2011, re the International Council meeting on May 25, 2011 (ML11143A066).
2. Memo to The Commissioners from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 24, 2011, re Annual Paper: Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff Participation in International Atomic Energy Agency and Nuclear Energy Agency Activities (ML11123A235).
3. OIP Note from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 25, 2011, re INRA Meeting Discussion on Fukushima Event – Implementation of Emergency Safety Measures and Accident Slides (ML11144A132).
4. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret M. Doane, dated May 27, 2011, re: G8 Summit Communiqué – Importance of Nuclear Safety (ML11147A081).

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of June 6, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
**Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

On June 7, Chairman Jaczko; Margaret Doane, Director, OIP; Michael Johnson, Director, and Gary Holahan, Deputy Director of NRO; and Eric Leeds, Director, and Michele Evans, Deputy Director of NRR, will travel to Paris, France to attend the Multinational Design Evaluation Program Policy Group meeting. Michael Marshall, Policy Advisor for Reactors, in Chairman Jaczko's Office will accompany the Chairman.

On June 8, Chairman Jaczko; Margaret Doane, Director, OIP; Michael Johnson, Director, and Gary Holahan, Deputy Director of NRO; Eric Leeds, Director, and Michele Evans, Deputy Director of NRR; and Jennifer Uhle, Deputy Director, RES, will attend the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Forum on the Fukushima Accident: Insights and Approaches in Paris. The Chairman will give two presentations during the NEA forum. Michael Marshall, Policy Advisor for Reactors, in Chairman Jaczko's Office will accompany the Chairman.

On June 10, Mr. Goshi Hosono, Special Advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister, will visit with Chairman Jaczko. Mr. Hosono will explain Japan's report to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which he is in charge of compiling, as well as US-Japan communication issues. A tour of the Headquarters Operations Center will follow the meeting with the Chairman.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

A revised export license (XCOM1225-R) was issued to H. C. Starck, Inc. to remove the Other U.S. Party.

An export license (PXB147.00) was issued to ViewRay Incorporated for the export of Category 1 quantities of Co-60 (3,330 TBq) contained in sealed sources for use in inspection in Canada.

An export license amendment (PXB11b.07) was issued to QSA Global Inc to (1) extend the expiration date to May 31, 2014; (2) add brachytherapy and calibration as approved end uses; (3) add Am-241; and (4) reissue as an export-only license.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

#### **4. Bilateral Activities**

From June 4 to 23, James Trapp of NSIR will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan related to the events surrounding the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

From June 8 to 12, Alexander Adams of NRR will travel to Moscow, Russia, to present at the Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities for Converting U.S. and Russian Research Reactors from High Enriched Uranium Fuel Symposium organized by the U.S. National Academies and the Russian Academy of Science.

During the week of June 6, three members of the Spanish Nuclear Safety Council will observe Force on Force exercises in Region I and meet with representatives in NSIR prior to the Region I visit.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From June 4 to 7, Michael Johnson, Director, Gary Holahan, Deputy Director, Laura Dudes, Deputy Director, Division of Construction Inspection and Operational Programs, and Cindy Rosales-Cooper of NRO; and Eric Leeds, Director, Michele Evans, Deputy Director, and Heather Astwood of NRR, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the NEA's 25<sup>th</sup> Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities.

From June 9 to 11, Michael Johnson, Director, NRO; Michele Evans, Deputy Director, NRR; and Jennifer Uhle, Deputy Director and Donna-Marie Sangimino of RES, will travel to Paris, France to participate in the 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations.

From June 10 to 20, Victor McCree, Regional Administrator, RII, will travel to Frankfurt, Germany, to participate in the IAEA Integrated Review Regulatory Service mission to Germany.

From June 6 to 10, William Kennedy of NRR will travel to Rabat, Morocco, to present two lectures at the Research Reactor Workshop sponsored by the Department of Energy.

From June 5 to 12, Nancy Fragoyannis, Senior Advisor on Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security and Lauren Mayros of OIP; and Daniel Cardenas of NSIR, will travel to Amsterdam, Netherlands, to participate in an interagency bilateral physical protection visit with the Dutch government.

From June 6 to 10, Scott Morris, Deputy Director for Reactor Security, Division of Security Policy, NSIR, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to review and finalize the IAEA safety report on Preparedness and Response to Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies.

From June 6 to 11, Gary Langlie and Michael Mangefrida of NSIR will travel to Abbingdon, United Kingdom, to attend the Pentapartite Information Technology Handbook Meeting. The travelers will meet with representatives from the governments of the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany, and France, as well as industry representatives, to draft and finalize portions of the handbook ensuring the protection of classified technologies.

From June 5 to 10, Robert Einziger of NMSS will travel to Berlin, Germany, to participate in the Electric Power Research Institute's Extended Storage Cooperative Program.

From June 6 to 10, Jacob Philip of RES will travel to Brussels, Belgium, to attend and participate in the RILEM Technical Committee meeting on concrete performance at nuclear power plant and waste facilities. Mr. Philips will also obtain and exchange technical information on the performance of cementitious materials in nuclear applications. RILEM is an international technical association developing the knowledge of properties of materials and performance of structures.

From June 6 to 11, Syed Ali, Senior Level Advisor for Civil and Structural Engineering Issues in RES, will travel to Helsinki, Finland, to participate as a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the Impact Project in cooperation with the Technical Research Center of Finland. The Impact Project focuses on numerical simulations of aircraft impact on nuclear reactor facilities.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director from Brooke Smith, Acting Branch Chief, Export Controls and International Organizations Branch dated June 1, 2011 re: Monthly Appendix P Licensing Action Report (ML11151A052)
2. Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret M. Doane dated June 1, 2011 re: IAEA Releases Preliminary Summary from Japan Fact-Finding Mission (ML11153A035)
3. Letter to Avril Haines, U.S. Department of State from Nader Mamish, Acting Deputy Director re: Transmittal of Implementing Agreement Between the USNRC and the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization (JNES) Regarding Participation in the Seismic Engineering Research Program (ML11152A073)
4. Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret M. Doane dated June 2, 2011 re Hitachi and Westinghouse Proposals Received by Lithuania for the Visaginas Nuclear Power Plant Investment and Technology (ML11152A086)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of June 13, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.*

***Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

No export/import licenses were issued this week.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From June 14 to 16, Patrick Momal, Ahmad Cheikh-Ali, and Ludivine Pascucci-Cahen, from the French Radioprotection and Nuclear Safety Institute will visit NRC Headquarters to meet with RES, NRR, NSIR and OIP staff to discuss cost-benefit analysis.

From June 11 to 18, James Baptist and Robert Haag of RII will travel to Taipei, Taiwan, to perform pre-operational inspections of the Lungmen site with Taiwanese regulators.

From June 12 to July 28, Antonio Zoulis of NSIR; Brian Wittick of OIP; and Chuck Casto of RII, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan related to the events surrounding the earthquake and tsunami.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From June 13 to 17, Stephen Burns, General Counsel, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Nuclear Law Committee meeting.

From June 12 to 21, Yong Li of NRR will travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to provide training assistance at the Regional Workshop on Volcanic, Seismic, and Tsunami Hazard Assessment Related to Nuclear Power Plant Siting Activities and Requirements. While in Jakarta, Mr. Li will also participate in the IAEA's Annual Meeting of the Siting Topical Group.

From June 13 to 22, John Thorp and Timothy Kobetz of NRR, and Daniel Pasquale and Timothy Frye of NRO, will travel to Helsinki, Finland, to attend the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group on Operating Experience, and the Advisory Committee of the International Reporting System for Operating Experience.

From June 13 to 18, Thomas Koshy of RES and Matthew McConnell and Roy Mathew of NRR will travel to Gothenburg, Sweden, to participate in the Joint Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc (IEEE)/International Electro-Technical Commission (IEC) Standards Meeting on Environmental Qualification (EQ). The meeting will focus on developing an integrated EQ standard as well as resolving final comments on cable condition monitoring standards developed under the joint IEEE/IEC standard group.

From June 14 to 28, Michele Sampson, John Cook, and Bill Brach of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Transport Safety Standards Committee. Mr. Brach will serve as Chair of the Committee.

From June 14 to 18, Doris Lewis of RES will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA's Information System on Occupational Exposures in Medicine, Industry, and Research and International Action Plan on Occupation Radiation Protection meetings. Ms. Lewis will serve as the U.S. regulatory representative at both of these meetings.

From June 14 to 20, Thomas Grice of NMSS will travel to Pierralatte, France, to attend the Quadripartite Committee Safeguards Working Group. During this meeting Mr. Grice will exchange ideas to ensure agreement between the U.S., the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and the Netherlands on IAEA-related safeguards with specific interest in gas centrifuge enrichment facilities.

## 6. OIP Communications

1. Letter to A. Haines, Department of State from Nader L. Mamish, Acting Deputy Director dated June 2, 2011, re Transmittal of Certified Copy of the Implementing Agreement Between the USNRC and the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization Regarding Participation in the Seismic Engineering Research Program. (ML11125A077)
2. Letter to Dr. Jose Gaudix from Margaret Doane, Director, dated June 2, 2011, re Support of NRC Assistance to Panama (ML11157A014)
3. Letter to Richard Stratford, DOS, re updating the Tier 1 and 2 country lists in 2011 for processing license applications from U.S. companies seeking to export Category 1 and 2 quantities of radioactive material (ML11152A111)
4. Memo to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane, Director, re Proposed License to Export High-Enriched Uranium to Canada for Use as Target Material to Produce Medical Isotopes in the National Research Universal Reactor (XSNM3623) (ML11146A033)
5. Memo to the Commission from Margaret M. Doane, Director, re June 10, 2011 Visit to the NRC by Mr. Goshi Hosono, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan (ML11159A123)
6. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, DOS, dated June 9, 2011, re Non-Appendix P export and import cases completed and received during the month of May 2011

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of June 20, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From June 18 to 25, Chairman Jaczko will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA's) Ministerial Conference on Fukushima. Chairman Jaczko will be accompanied by John Monninger, his Deputy Chief of Staff; Bill Borchardt, EDO; Margaret Doane, Director, OIP; Eliot Brenner, Director, OPA; Jim Anderson, Deputy Assistant for Operations, OEDO; and Jennifer Holzman of OIP.

The 95<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Halden Board of Management for the facilities in Halden, Norway, will meet at NRC from June 21-22 at NRC Headquarters. The Office of Research (RES) will host the meeting. Commissioner Apostolakis will provide opening remarks at the Board meeting and engage with the board members during their visit. Brian Sheron, Director of RES, is the current chair of the Halden Board of Management; Alysia Bone, Halden Project Manager is the meeting planner.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XSNM3678) was issued to Transnuclear, Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (19.95%) to the Netherlands for use as reload fuel in the High Flux Research Reactor.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On June 21, 2011, the Offices of International Programs, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, and Nuclear Security and Incident Response will conduct a day-long seminar for U.S. Foreign Service Officers (FSOs) taking the Foreign Service Institute's Environmental, Science, Technology and Health Tradecraft course. The focus of the training is to give the twenty FSOs an appreciation for regulatory issues, including reactors, materials, security, export/import licensing, and NRC's assistance and cooperation program. The goal is to help them understand the need for independent regulatory agencies in their new assignments, to be ready to respond when the NRC may be asking for their help in the field, and when they should contact NRC for events happening in the countries to which they are being assigned.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

A group of Russian nuclear inspectors from Rostekhnadzor and Rosenergoatom visited NRC on June 13 to participate in a technical information exchange on NRC's Reactor Oversight Process. Representatives from NRR/DIRS/IPAB, including Rani Franovich, James Isom, Jocelyn Lian, and Mike Cullingford, along with Elizabeth Smiroldo and Wilkins Smith of OIP, participated in this cooperative activity. Elizabeth Smiroldo will accompany the Russians from

June 14-17 to Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) for further discussions and training (to be facilitated by BNL contractors to OIP) on the ROP and risk-informed inspections, culminating in a visit to Millstone Nuclear Power Plant coordinated by Sean Meighan of NRR/DORL and Raymond Powell of Region I.

From June 23 to 25, Elizabeth Smiroldo of OIP, and Peter Kohut, of Brookhaven National Laboratory, an OIP contractor, will travel to Kyiv, Ukraine, to meet with the Ukrainian Nuclear Regulatory Agency to review the current regulatory support program in place and discuss future projects.

From June 19 to July 14, John Cassidy of NSIR; Richard Plasse of NRR; Todd Jackson of Region I; and Malcolm Widmann of Region II, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan related to the events surrounding the earthquake and tsunami.

On June 21, Tammy Alley, Internal Communication Coordinator at the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, will visit NRC Headquarters to discuss internal communications at NRC, including structure, resources, successes and challenges with OEDO staff.

From June 18 to 26, Thomas Nicholson of RES will travel to Hamilton and Ontario, Canada meet with staff of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to discuss ground-water monitoring and remediation of radionuclides and environmental assessments.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From June 20 to 21, Thomas Grice of NMSS will travel to London, United Kingdom, to exchange information regarding the implementation of safeguards and safeguards review with the United Kingdom and France.

From June 17 to 25, Rossnyev Alvarado and Richard Stattel of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the development of the IAEA Instrumentation and Control Guide.

From June 18 to 25, Nebiyu Tiruneh of NRO and Thomas Nicholson of RES will travel to Hamilton, Ontario, to present at the International Conference on Radioecology and Environmental Radioactivity: *Environment and Nuclear Renaissance*.

From June 18 to 25, Nathan Siu of RES and Mark Caruso of NRO will travel to Paris, France to participate in the Safety of Nuclear Installations/Working Group on Risk Assessment Workshop on probabilistic safety assessment for new and advanced reactors. Mr. Siu and Mr. Caruso will also present during this workshop, and Mr. Siu will chair a technical session.

From June 18 to 26, Bernard White of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria to attend and chair the IAEA consultancy on Spent Fuel Storage Lessons Learned.

From June 18 to 26, Sudhamay Basu of RES will travel to Aix-en-Provence, France, to participate in the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Program Review Group (PRG) of the Management Board of the OECD Steam Explosion Resolution for Nuclear Applications Project. Mr. Basu will chair the PRG meeting.

From June 18 to 27, Brooke Smith of OIP will travel to Noordsjik, Netherlands, to attend the

Nuclear Suppliers Group Plenary and Associated Meetings.

From June 18 to July 1, Danielle Emche of OIP and an OIP contractor, will travel to Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia to meet with regulatory counterparts of each country. The travelers will discuss establishing and furthering cooperation with these countries, as well as observe an NRC Reactor Siting Workshop in Malaysia

**6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to Chairman Jaczko from Margaret Doane, Director dated June 10, 2011, re Notice for Chairman to Participate in the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group First Regulatory Conference on Nuclear Safety in Europe, June 28-29, 2011 (ML11161A040)
2. Letter to Richard Stratford, DOS, from Margaret Doane, Director, dated June 10, 2011, re Interagency Clearance, Final Rule Amending 10 CFR Part 110, Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Material (ML11160A142)
3. OIP Note dated June 10, 2011 re Technical Meeting on Potential Revisions to the IAEA Code of Conduct's Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources (ML11160A143)
4. Memorandum from Margaret Doane, Director, to Charlotte Abrams, Chief, International Cooperation and Assistance Branch dated June 13, 2011 re Reception for President of Mongolia
5. OIP Note dated June 14, 2011 re May 16-18, 2011 International Nuclear Regulators Association Meeting – Focus on March 2011 Accident at Fukushima (ML11164A015)
6. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane, Director, dated June 15, 2011 re Visit to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Tomohiro Taniguchi, Executive Director at the Science and Technology in Society Forum, Professor at Tokyo Institute of Technology and Advisor to the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry and Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (ML11165A241)
7. OIP Note dated June 15, 2011 re Code Sharing Activities with Foreign Counterparts and Coordination with Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration (ML11158A019)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of June 27, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
**Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

On June 28 to 29, Chairman Jaczko will travel to Brussels, Belgium, to participate in the European Nuclear Safety Regulator Group's 1<sup>st</sup> European Nuclear Safety Conference. The Chairman will be accompanied by Margaret Doane, Director, OIP.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XCOM1226) was issued to CoorsTek, Inc. for the export of PTFE double delta channel seals to China to be incorporated into nuclear power plant coolant pumps at the Fujian Ningde, Guangdong Yangiang, and Liaoning Hongyanhe Nuclear Power Stations.

An export license (XSNM3686) was issued to AREVA NP Inc. for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.15%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Tsuruga Nuclear Power Station.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On June 20, 2011, Wilkins Smith of OIP participated in a teleconference with the Department of energy (DOE) on the Indo-U.S. Civil Nuclear Energy Working Group (CNWG) Meeting scheduled for the week of July 25, 2011 at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Staff from DOE Office of Nuclear Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of State, and Idaho, Argonne, and Oak Ridge National Laboratories participated. Co-chairs for this 4<sup>th</sup> CNWG Meeting will be Dr. Peter Lyons, DOE and Dr. Ravi Grover, Director of BARC. NRC and the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board of India (AERB) will make presentations at the CNWG Meeting on the NRC/AERB safety cooperation activities. The NRC-AERB Bilateral Meeting July 21-22, 2011 was mentioned.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From June 26 to July 1, Elizabeth Smiroldo, OIP, and Peter Kohut, an OIP contractor, will travel to Yerevan, Armenia, to conduct a technical workshop on Helios and Dort computer codes.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From June 25 to 28, Catherine Haney, Director, NMSS and Robert Lewis, Acting Deputy Director, FSME, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Bureau Meeting of the Radioactive Waste Management Committee.

From June 25 to July 6, Keith McConnell, Deputy Director, Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate, FSME and Charlotte Abrams of OIP will travel to Vienna,

Austria to participate in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) consultancy meeting on State Control and Nuclear Security of Natural Uranium Products. Ms. Abrams will also meet with representatives of the Technical Cooperation and Nuclear Safety Offices of the IAEA for discussions regarding the coordination of assistance for activities related to the regulation of uranium, including regulatory development, licensing, inspection, and decommissioning.

From June 24 to July 1, Larry Camper of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria to attend the IAEA's 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Waste Safety Standards Committee and the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Radiation Safety Standards Committee.

From June 24 to June 30, Diane Sieracki of OE will travel to St. Petersburg, Russia, to present on safety culture at the Safety Culture: Practical Management Methods Conference.

From June 25 to July 1, Rateb Abu-Eid of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA Task Group #1 discussion of the Practical Illustration and Use of the Safety Case Concept in the Management of Near-Surface Disposal Project.

From June 25 to 30, Joseph Ashcraft and Daniel Santos of NRO, and William Kemper of NRR, will travel to Paris, France, to attend the Multinational Design Evaluation Program Digital Instrumentation & Control Working Group. Mr. Ashcraft and Mr. Santos will co-chair the Working Group.

From June 27 to July 1, Jill Shepherd of OIP will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA's Workshop on Nuclear Trade Analysis for Safeguards Purposes.

From June 25 to July 2, Yung Hsien Chang of RES will travel to Halden, Norway, to participate in data collection work during simulator exercises at the Halden facilities and exchange technical information on the methods of simulator data collection with Halden staff.

From June 26 to 30, Tania Martinez-Navedo and Prem Sahay of NRR, and Liliana Ramadan of RES, will travel to Laval, Canada to attend the 2011 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc./Power and Energy Society Stationary Battery Committee meeting.

From June 26 to July 2, Lawrence Kokajko, Director, High-Level Waste Repository Safety, NMSS, will travel to London, United Kingdom, to attend and deliver a presentation during the 2011 Nuclear Interim Storage Conference. Mr. Kokajko will also meet with regulatory counterparts in the United Kingdom.

From June 26 to 30, Donald Cool of FSME will travel to Paris, France, to participate in Task Group 82 meeting of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). This meeting will focus on the ICRP's approach to protection of the environment under different exposure situations.

From June 28 to July 21, Todd Jackson of RI and Richard Plasse of NRR will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan related to the events surrounding the earthquake and tsunami.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. Letter to Brenda Conner, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC from Janice Owens, Branch Chief, dated June 23, re Authorization Granted to Ship Category 1 Quantity of Cobalt-60 to the United Kingdom (PXB110.04)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of July 5, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

(b)(5)

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Import and export licenses (IW029 and XW018) issued to EnergySolutions to import combustible materials from Germany to be incinerated to reduce the volume of low level waste and export the resulting ash and any contaminated non-combustibles recovered, to the Eckert & Ziegler's Braunsheig and Leese Facilities (in Germany), for ultimate disposal.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On Tuesday, June 28, Jack Ramsey from OIP attended an interagency meeting, sponsored by the Department of Energy (DOE), to discuss a possible new nuclear safety initiative with the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The goal of this new initiative, as reported by DOE, is to support efforts by these countries to explore potential development of nuclear power programs. Representatives of the Department of State also participated in this meeting.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On July 1, two staff members from Kärnkraftsäkerhet och Utbildning (KSU), a Swedish private company that designs and operates Sweden's nuclear plant simulators, met with NRR staff to discuss the operator licensing process in the United States.

**5. Multinational Activities**

From July 1 to 9, Diane Sieracki of OE will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) consultancy meeting to develop a technical document related to safety culture oversight.

From July 1 to July 11, Stephen Self and Brittain Hill of NMSS will travel to Melbourne, Australia, to attend the XXV International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics General Assembly. Dr. Self will give a plenary lecture on volcanology, co-chair a session on hazards to nuclear installations, and give a keynote address on lava flows. Dr. Hill will present risk informed perspectives on evaluating natural hazards as part of a keynote address and will serve as the NRC technical representative.

From July 3 to 9, George Pangburn, formerly of FSME, will travel to Sydney, Australia, to attend the IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service follow-up mission meeting to the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency. Mr. Pangburn will act as the deputy Team Leader for this follow-up meeting.

From July 2 to 7, Michael Case, Division Director, Division of Engineering in RES, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the IAEA's 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Nuclear Safety Standards Committee.

From July 4 to 10, Ralph Way of NSIR will travel to Amman, Jordan, to participate in the World Institute for Nuclear Security workshop on Nuclear Security for Scientists and Engineers.

From July 4 to 9, Bruce Watson and Angela McIntosh of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to serve as technical experts on the IAEA sponsored Meeting on Residual Radioactivity Scrap Metal.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

No activities to report.

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of July 11, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.

***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

An export license (XSNM3687) was issued to Transport Logistics International for the export of low-enriched uranium (4.85%) to Japan for use as reload fuel in the Tomari Nuclear Power Station.

An export license (XSNM3623) was issued to the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration for the export of high-enriched uranium (93.35%) to Canada for use in the fabrication of targets for production of medical isotopes at the National Research Universal Reactor.

An export license (XCOM1222) was issued to The Barden Corporation for the export of four ball bearings to Canada for ultimate end use in a CANDU reactor refueling machine by the Third Qinshan Nuclear Fuel Company in China.

An export license amendment (XSNM3398/04) was issued to Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, L.L.C. to (1) add Australian-obligated material; (2) increase the quantity of uranium-235 from 5,000 kilograms contained in 100,000 kilograms of uranium to 15,000 kilograms contained in 300,000 kilograms of uranium; and (3) change the expiration date from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2016.

An export license (XSOU8826) was issued to Honeywell International Inc. for the export of uranium (0.711%) to Canada for use as reload fuel in U.S. and/or EURATOM reactors.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On July 14-15, Brooke Smith, OIP, will participate in the United States-Republic of Korea discussions on the Section 123 Agreement for Nuclear Cooperation. Discussions will take place at the Department of State and will include detailed presentations on the United States' comments to the Draft 123 Agreement provided to ROK on July 3, 2011 and ROK views of the U.S. comments.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From July 12 to 15, Andrew Rayland of NSIR and Nancy Fragoyannis of OIP will travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, to conduct a bilateral physical protection visit to the Serpong Research Reactor to determine suitability to accept special nuclear material designated for future export.

From July 10 to September 17, Alain Artayet of RII will travel to Shanghai, China, to begin a temporary assignment at the National Nuclear Safety Administration Shanghai Regional Office. During this assignment, Mr. Artayet will exchange information and experience related to the construction of the AP1000 Sanmen Nuclear Power Plant.

From July 10 to 30, James Noggle of RI will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan related to the events surrounding the earthquake and tsunami.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From July 10 to 22, Bill Borchardt, Executive Director for Operations and James Cameron of RII, will travel to Taejeon, Korea, to participate in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) sponsored Integrated Regulatory Review Service Mission to the Republic of Korea.

From July 11 to 14, Scott Moore, Deputy Director, and Jennifer Tobin of OIP, will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend an IAEA meeting on the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources for States.

From July 10 to 16, Roy Mathew and Gurcharan Matharu of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to support development of an IAEA Electrical Safety Guide.

From July 10 to 17 Cynthia Jones, Senior Technical Advisor for Nuclear Security in NSIR will travel to Paris, France, to attend the IAEA International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES) Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Jones is the U.S. National Officer to INES.

From July 10 to 16, Randy Sullivan of NSIR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to support an IAEA working group updating TECDOC 955, "Generic Assessment Procedures for Determining Protective Actions During a Reactor Accident."

From July 10 to 16, Robert Einziger of NMSS will travel to Brussels, Belgium, to participate in an IAEA Consultancy to evaluate Interfaces for the Back-end of the Fuel Cycle. This meeting will address remaining questions and finalize the TECDOC to be published by the Consultancy next winter.

From July 10 to 16, Joseph Kelly of RES will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA Coordinated Research Project meeting on Uncertainty Analysis for Coupled Reactor Physics and Thermo-Fluids for High Temperature Gas Reactors.

From July 10 to 15, Henry Lynn of HR; Roberto Torres of NRR; Janice Nguyen, Trip Lester, John Nicholson, Scott Wilson, Randolph Ragland, and Shawn Seeley of RI; and Sheila Nelson, Richard Peros, and Sangita Desai, RI contractors, will travel to Laval, Canada. Mr. Lynn will oversee delivery of the NRC-sponsored Irradiator Technology course, while the rest of the travelers will attend the training.

From July 11 to 16, Dogan Seber of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in a technical meeting sponsored by the IAEA on Seismic Hazards.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 1, 2011 re International Atomic Energy Agency Fact Finding Mission to Fukushima Trip Report (ML11180A019)
2. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 1, 2011 re United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 – Group of Experts Visit to United States (ML11182A012)
3. Memorandum to Margaret Doane, Director, from Scott Moore, Deputy Director, dated July 7, 2011 re Delegation of Authority – Acting Deputy Director Office of International Programs
4. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, Department of State, from Scott Moore, Deputy Director, dated July 7, 2011 re 10 CFR Part 110 Non-Appendix P Export and Import Cases Completed and Received during June 2011 (ML11181A220)
5. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 8, 2011 re NRC Participation in IAEA Ministerial Meeting on Nuclear Safety (ML11188A123)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of July 18, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From July 20-22, Commissioner Magwood will visit the United Kingdom to deliver remarks at the World Nuclear University Summer Institute, visit the Joint European Torus reactor at the Culham Centre for Nuclear Fusion, and meet with Mike Weightman, Executive Head, Office for Nuclear Regulation. Commissioner Magwood will be accompanied on the trip by Patty Bubar, his Chief-of-Staff, and Eric Stahl of OIP.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

(b)(5)

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license (XCOM1199) issued to Wah Chang to export 36,000 kilograms of Zircaloy 4 Trex Tubes to China for use in the Qinshan Nuclear Power Plant Phase 1.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On July 14, Tom Bergman, Director, Division of Engineering, NRO, and Wilkins Smith, Senior International Relations Officer, OIP, met with DOE staff including Robert Boudreau, Director, Office of International Nuclear Energy Policy & Cooperation in the Office of Nuclear Energy, to discuss planning for the July 25-27 US-India Civilian Nuclear Working Group Meeting at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Representatives from India's Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) (India's NRC counterpart), Department of Atomic Energy, and other nuclear organizations will participate, and NRC has been asked to discuss post-Fukushima actions.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On July 18, Melanie Wong of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and David Kenagy of the U.S. Department of State, will meet with OIP staff to discuss the Iraqi nuclear decommissioning program and future NRC assistance.

On July 20, Jack Ramsey, Senior Level Advisor for International Nuclear Safety Assistance, OIP, will meet with Jacques Figuet, Nuclear Counselor at the French Embassy, to discuss recent nuclear events and their implications for nuclear power in the U.S. and abroad.

On July 21 and 22, NRC will host the 12<sup>th</sup> NRC-AERB Bilateral Meeting. The Indian delegation will include (NRC counterpart agency) AERB Vice Chairman S.K. Chande, India Embassy Ambassador Singh, AERB senior staff and representatives from Bhabha and Indira Gandhi Atomic Research Centres. NRC staff and senior management from NRO, NRR, RES, NSIR and OIP will participate in the meeting presentations and discussion.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From July 16 to 22, Henry Jones of NRO will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the International Atomic Energy Agency's International Seismic Safety Centre kick-off meeting of tsunami hazard areas.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

No items to report.

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of July 25, 2011**

***OIP Vision:** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
**Our Mission:** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license (XCOM1219) issued to Westinghouse Electric Company LLC to export nuclear fuel fabrication equipment and spare parts to China Baotou Nuclear Fuel Corporation, Ltd, in China, for the manufacturing of fuel for use in the AP1000 power reactor.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

A delegation from the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) will meet with staff from the Office of Information Services on Thursday, July 28, 2011. The AUC has requested a presentation on the electronic systems and processes that the NRC uses to manage adjudicatory proceedings, including the Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System, the Electronic Information Exchange system, the Electronic Hearing Docket system and the Digital Document Management system. The AUC is not associated with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, but rather is a regulatory body at the Canadian Provincial level that regulates the energy industry in Alberta, including oil, coal, and natural gas.

The Argentina Joint Standing Committee for Nuclear Energy Cooperation (JSCNEC) will be held July 25-28, 2011, in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The meeting will include a tour of the Waste Isolation Pilot Project. Participants include representatives from NRC and the U.S. Departments of State and Energy. Joseph Giitter, Director, NRR's Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, will provide the plenary speech for the NRC. Other NRC participants are NRR's Lauren Quinones and OIP's Gerri Fehst.

During the week of July 25, 2011, the State of Texas will host visitors from Taiwan for a workshop on the status of low level waste licensing since the passage of the Waste Policy Act. Dr. Blair Spitzberg, RIV, and Danielle Emche, OIP, will also attend and support the workshop. The visitors from Taiwan include representatives from academia, Taipower, and the regulator, Atomic Energy Agency/Fuel Cycle and Materials Administration. Activities will also include discussions with Waste Control Specialists, a visit to the Andrews low-level waste facility, and a visit to the U.S. Department of Energy Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

From July 23 to August 18, 2011, Tony Nakanishi of NRR, Steven Reynolds of RII, and Gerald Schlapper of RIV, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan.

From July 22 to July 30, 2011, Christopher VanWert, Juan Peralta, Diego Saenz, Chandu Patel, Stacy Smith, and Greg Galletti of NRO will travel to Takasago, Japan, to perform a quality assurance implementation inspection at Takasago Research and Development Center, a Mitsubishi Heavy Industries subsidiary. The inspection will focus on the activities associated with the performance of core inlet blockage testing in support of the US-APWR Design Certification Application review.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From July 24 to 29, Jack Ramsey, Senior Level Advisor for International Nuclear Safety Assistance, and Mugeh Afshar-Tous of OIP, will travel to Vienna, Austria, and Amman, Jordan. While in Vienna, Mr. Ramsey and Ms. Afshar-Tous will meet with International Atomic Energy Agency staff to coordinate ongoing or planned comparable assistance activities. While in Amman, the travelers will participate in a meeting of the Arabic Regulators Forum.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 18, 2011 re Hitachi-GE and Advanced Boiling Water Reactor Design Selected as the Strategic Investor and Technology Partner for the Visaginas Nuclear Power Plant Project (ML11195A096)
2. Memo to Commissioners from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 21, 2011, re Bimonthly List of Key International Meetings (ML11202A162)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of August 1, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license (XSNM3684) issued to Edlow International Company as Agent for PT. Batan Teknologi (Persero) to export low-enriched uranium (19.95%) to Indonesia, for use as fuel in the GA Siwabessy Reactor located at the Puspipstek Complex, Serpong, Tangerang

Export license (PXB63.03) was issued to Weatherford International, Inc. for the export of Category 2 quantities of Am-241 and Category 3 quantities of Cs-137, contained in sealed sources for use in well logging operations in India.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On July 27, Margaret Doane, Director, OIP, represented NRC at a National Security Council (NSC)-hosted interagency meeting to discuss nuclear energy issues. The focus of the meeting was to (a) update the group about recent and upcoming international nuclear safety meetings – a report on the outcomes and high points of recent nuclear safety meetings in Paris and Vienna, and a glance toward upcoming meetings at the United Nations in September and beyond; (b) discuss recommendations for a U.S. Government-led “U.S. Nuclear Industry Coordinated Approach to Civil Nuclear Engagement Abroad;” and (c) provide an update on the President’s Blue Ribbon Commission.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

On August 4 and 5, representatives from Spain’s Nuclear Safety Council CSN will meet with RES staff to discuss NRC Safety Culture.

From July 31 to August 17, Michael Ernestes of RII will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan.

From August 1 to 13, Samuel Lee and Hossein Hamzehee of NRO will travel to Daejeon, Korea, to visit with staff of the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS). Mr. Lee and Mr. Hamzehee will participate in a workshop on severe accidents and probabilistic risk assessment, as well as arrange housing and other accommodations prior to their six-month assignments with KINS.

On August 2, OIP, with the assistance of NRR and NMSS, will host a delegation from Brazil. The delegation includes persons from the Brazilian energy sector that serve in legislative, executive, and policy advocacy roles at various agencies throughout the government. The purpose of the visit is to provide information on high level waste policy and regulatory issues, fuel cycle regulation, nuclear reactor regulation and oversight issues, and uranium recovery to aid the government in the pursuit of privatizing the Brazilian nuclear industry.

On July 25-26, Tom Bergman, Director, Division of Engineering, NRO, and Wilkins Smith, OIP, participated in the US-India Civil Nuclear Working Group (CNWG) meeting at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The CNWG program is managed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of International Nuclear Energy Policy and Cooperation in the Office of Nuclear Energy. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Peter Lyons, DOE Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, as head of the US delegation, and Dr. Ravi Grover, Principal Advisor from the Indian Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), as head of the Indian delegation. The delegation included Mr. Shridhar Chande, Vice Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) (India's NRC counterpart), DAE, and representatives of other Indian nuclear research and industry organizations and the Indian Embassy. Mr. Bergman made a presentation on the NRC post-Fukushima actions and Task Force conclusions.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From August 1 to 3, Martin Virgilio, Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, will travel to Ottawa, Canada, to attend the preparatory meeting for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Post-Integrated Regulatory Review Service Mission scheduled for November 2011.

On August 1-2, 2011, OIP and NMSS staff will attend the National Academies of Science Nonproliferation Risk Workshop. The focus of the workshop is "improving the assessment of proliferation risk of nuclear fuel cycles."

From July 30 to August 5, Neelan Bhalla and Ronald Zelac of FSME will travel to Vancouver, Canada, to attend the American Association of Physicists in Medicine annual meeting.

From July 30 to August 7, Hossein P. Nourbakhsh of ACRS will travel to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to present a paper at the U.S./South America Symposium on Stochastic Modeling and Uncertainty Quantification.

#### **6. OIP Communications**

1.

(b)(5)

2. Information Paper to the Commission from Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 29, 2011, re Update on methods and Opportunities to Achieve Greater and More Uniform Adoption of the Provisions of the Code of Conduct by Other Countries (SRM-S06-0171) (ML11175A333)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of August 8, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From August 7 to 9, Commissioner Magwood will travel to Los Cabos, Mexico, to attend the XXII Annual Meeting of the Mexican Nuclear Society and Latin American Section/American Nuclear Society Symposium. Commissioner Magwood will deliver a keynote address during the Annual Meeting and meet with his regulatory counterpart in Mexico, Director General Eibenschutz. The Commissioner will be accompanied by his Senior Policy Advisor, Elizabeth Lisann, and Geraldine Fehst of OIP.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

On August 3, OIP issued Orders suspending licenses to three specific licensees who had been authorized to export radioactive material to Libya. This followed up on a Federal Register Notice that the NRC issued in March, to general and specific export licensees [76 FR 16560]. The Orders put in place a mechanism to enforce President Obama's Executive Order prohibiting certain transactions related to Libya. The text of the Orders was coordinated with Department of State, OGC, and OE.

(b)(5)

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export/Import license (PXB63.03) issued to Weatherford International Inc. to 1) extend expiration date from May 31, 2011 to July 31, 2015; 2) removing two 'Others Parties to Export'; 3) revising the licensee name; 4) revising the licensee address; 5) revising the names of 'Other Parties to Export'; 6) revising the name of 'Foreign Ultimate Consignee'; and 7) re-issuing as an export only license.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

#### 4. Bilateral Activities

On August 8, 2011, Dr. Seung-Young Jeong of Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS) will present "Status of Radioactive Waste Management in Korea and Regulatory Research Program of KINS," to NRC staff at the NMSS Executive Boulevard Building offices. After his presentation, Dr. Jeong, Ms. Eun Jin Seo of KINS, and Mr. In Il Lee, Science Counselor of Korea Embassy will meet with staff of NMSS, FSME, RES, OIP and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis to discuss KINS' efforts to establish regulatory bases for (i) spent fuel interim storage, (ii) HLW disposal, (iii) decommissioning, and (iv) reprocessing. Dr. Jeong will also discuss KINS' plan to conduct regulatory research in these four areas.

From August 6 to 14, Karen Henderson, Senior Level Foreign Policy Advisor, OIP, will travel to Montevideo, Uruguay, and Asuncion, Paraguay, to discuss future assistance for regulatory control of radiological sources.

From August 8 to 18, Chuck Casto of RII will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan.

#### 5. Multinational Activities

From August 6 to 16, Eric Fries of OE will travel to Malmo, Sweden, to participate in an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) consultancy meeting to develop a report series document related to safety culture.

From August 8 to 13, Mark Franke of RII and James Kellum of NRO, will travel to Halden, Norway, to observe a U.S. operating crew from Duke Power use the Halden simulator to develop new reactor operator examination evaluation standards.

From August 7 to 13, Robert Einziger of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in an IAEA consultancy meeting on extended storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel.

From August 9 to 12, Richard Montgomery of NRR will travel to Toronto, Canada, to attend the Corrective Action Owners Group Conference.

#### 6. OIP Communications

1.

(b)(5)

2. Letter to Bryce MacDonald, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy, from Janice Owens, Chief, ECIO, Margaret Doane, Director, dated July 29, 2011 re Foreign Obligations (ML11209C531)
3. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane, Director, dated August 1, 2011 re Delegation of Authority – Acting Director, Office of International Programs (ML11213A202)
4. Memorandum to International Council Members from Margaret Doane, Director, dated August 1, 2011 re NRC International Council (ML11208B972)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

~~Official Use Only~~ — ~~Sensitive Internal Information~~ —  
**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
**OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**  
**Week of August 15, 2011**

**OIP Vision:** *To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.*  
**Our Mission:** *OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to US laws and policy.*

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

(b)(4),(b)(5)

(b)(5)

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license (XCOM1233) issued to Mirion Technologies (IST) Corporation for the export of six gamma compensated ionization chambers with mineral-insulated cables to Japan, for monitoring thermal neutrons at the Japan Research Reactor #3 (JRR-3).

Export license (XSOU8825) issued to Manufacturing Sciences Corporation to export 800 kilograms of depleted uranium metal rods to the Republic of Korea, for use by the Korean Atomic Energy Research Institute for research and development of metallic fuel for a Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactor.

Export/Import license (PXB139.01-R) issued to Schlumberger Technology Corporation. This license replaces PXB139.01 and amends its authority by: 1) extending the expiration date from March 31, 2013 to August 31, 2013; and 2) removing Th-232.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

No activities to report.

**4. Bilateral Activities**

From August 13 to September 9, Mark Miller and Michael King of NRR will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to provide assistance and advice to the U.S. Ambassador and the Government of Japan.

From August 13 to 21, Daniel Cardenas of NSIR will travel to Taipei, Taiwan, to conduct a physical protection bilateral visit at the Tsing Hua National University THOR reactor and visit the Maangshan Nuclear Power Plant currently under construction.

On August 16, a Polish delegation from the Wielkopolskie Province, led by Mr. Marek Wozniak, Province Marshal, will visit NRC to meet with OIP, NMSS and NRO staff. Mr. Wozniak will be accompanied by Mr. Marek Bryl, Director, Office of Spatial Planning, Marshall's Office; Mr. Ryszard Chichocki, Director, Chair of Theoretical Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Sociology, Adam Mickiewicz University; Mr. Zbigniew Jahns, Governor, Lubasz Borough; Ms. Beata Lozinska, Director, Economic Department, Marshall's Office; Mr. Wieslaw Maszewski, County Officer, Czarnkow-Trzcianka; Mr. Michal Ptaszynski, Senior Specialist for Technology Transfer, Department of Economy, Marshall's Office; Mr. Lech Wojcieszynski, President, Board of Directors, Metrolog Company; and Mr. Janusz Wjtkowiak, Dean, Faculty of Construction and Environmental Engineering, Poznan University of Technology.

From August 15-17, Kirk Redwine of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation of the United Arab Emirates, will attend the Conducting Inspections course (G-105) being held in Region IV.

On August 17, a delegation from Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will meet with OIP, NSIR, NRO and NRR staff. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss NRC's Emergency Preparedness and Incident Response policies, regulations, programs, and guidelines for both currently licensed nuclear reactors and potential new nuclear reactors. The delegation is led by Mr. David Wong, Director for Contingency Plan at the Hong Kong Security Bureau, and includes representatives from Hong Kong Department of Health and Hong Kong Observatory.

On August 18, Japanese Diet Members, Mr. Takashi Ishizeki and Mr. Masanao Shibahashi, who are attending the Institute of International Education, will visit NRC to meet with OIP staff to discuss the politics and policies of interest since the Fukushima accident. Mr. Ishizeki and Mr. Shibahashi will also visit the Headquarters Operations Center.

On August 18, Dr. David C. Roberts, Department of State, will visit NRC to discuss with NRR and OIP the activities in Japan since Fukushima, and ongoing issues. Dr. Roberts will be replacing the current DOS attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

On August 18, 2011, Mr. Yeon-Ki Chung of Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS) will meet with NRR, NRO, and OIP staff at HQ. Mr. Chung is in the U.S. to participate in the ASME Code Committee Nuclear Plant Aging Management Quarterly Meeting and, at the request of KINS OIP, is interested in discussing regulatory perspectives on aging management program (AMP) implementation for license renewal, current license renewal issues including the AMP for reactor internals and buried piping, and regulatory perspectives and experience on high energy line break (HELB).

##### **5. Multinational Activities**

From August 13 to 20, Dominick Orlando of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the development of a new International Atomic Energy Agency Safety Standard for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to Margaret Doane, Director, from Jill Shepherd, Export Controls and International Organizations Branch, dated August 8, 2011 re Foreign Travel Trip Report (ML11196A178)
2. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, Department of State, from Scott Moore, Deputy Director, dated August 8, 2011 re 10 CFR Part 110 Non-Appendix P Export and Import Cases Completed and Received in the Month of July 2011 (ML11210B504)
3. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants dated August 8, 2011 re Japanese Review of the Organization in Charge of Nuclear Safety Regulation (ML11220A032)
4. OIP Note to Commissioner Assistants dated August 8, 2011 re NEA Releases Report on Medical Isotope Supply (ML11213A272)

5. 

(b)(5)

**CONTACT:** Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

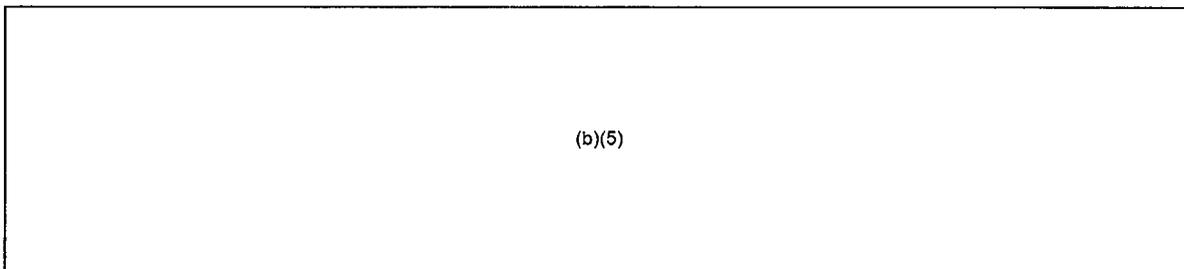
**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of September 26, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to U.S. laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

From September 29 to October 5, Commissioner Apostolakis, supported by his Chief of Staff, Belkys Sosa and Mugeh Afshar-Tous of OIP, will travel to Norway to visit the Halden Reactor Project, speak at the Enlarged Halden Programme Group Meeting in Sandefjord, and meet with regulatory counterparts in Oslo.

**2. Export/Import Activities**



The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license (XCOM1227) issued to Pall Corporation for the export of 25 Rigimesh strainer baskets to the United Kingdom, for a proprietary use.

Export license (XCOM1228) issued to Flowserve US, Inc. for the export of spare parts for reactor re-circulation pumps to Veracruz, Mexico, for use at the Laguna Verde Power Plant Units 1 and 2.

Export license (XCOM1229) issued to H. C. Starck, Inc. for the export of Molybdenum-Lanthanum (Mo-La) sheets to the Republic of Korea, to be manufactured into furnace trays by Hana Metals with the ultimate end use as part of a sintering furnace by Korea Nuclear Fuel Co. Ltd.

**3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

On September 27, Karen Henderson and Patricia Glenn of OIP will attend two Department of State-led meetings in support of the Global Partnership to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction, a sub-group of the Group of Eight (G8). The first meeting will focus on U.S. activities with the Organization of American States to examine the potential for advancing the U.S. nonproliferation agenda in that forum. The second is a Western Hemisphere Affairs coordination meeting to have agencies discuss and coordinate ongoing efforts in the region. It should be noted that the United States will host the G8 in 2012, and these meetings are, in part, to prepare for U.S. initiatives to be announced at the G8 summit in Chicago in May 2012.

#### **4. Bilateral Activities**

On September 15, Eliot Brenner, Director, and Elizabeth Hayden, Senior Advisor, OPA met with Dr. Liz Kane, the new First Secretary (Energy) and Jan Brunner, Senior Policy Adviser (Energy), from the British Embassy. The discussion focused on ongoing work dealing with Fukushima issues (task force report recommendations) and touched on a variety of other matters such as fire safety, the recent earthquake and other issues.

From September 26 to 28, Larry Camper, Director, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection, FSME, will travel to Ottawa, Canada, to participate in the Sixth Informal Exchange between the U.S. and Canada on Environmental Assessment. Mr. Camper will present on environmental assessments associated with the front end of the nuclear fuel cycle and new nuclear power plants.

From September 23 to October 5, Kathleen O'Donohue, Deputy Regional Administrator – Construction Technical Assistant, RII, will travel to Ljubljana, Slovenia, to participate in an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Integrated Regulatory Review Service Mission.

From September 24 to October 2, Tom Bergman, Director of the Division of Engineering, of NRO will travel to Chennai and Mumbai to participate in an American Nuclear Society Mission to India and the Indo-US Nuclear Energy Safety Summit, attend associated meetings with Indian government and nuclear industry representatives, and perform tours of nuclear sites. He will also meet with Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) staff to discuss NRC-AERB bilateral meetings and future NRC visits to India.

From September 25 to October 1, John Nguyen of NRR will travel to Sepong, Indonesia, to present at the seminar entitled "Research Reactor as Gate for Technology Advancement and Prosperity" sponsored by the National Nuclear Energy Agency of Indonesia.

On September 27 and 28, representatives of Belgium's Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC) will meet with FSME to discuss several topics, including long-term performance of concrete components, waste incidental to reprocessing, and code validation strategies.

From September 30 to October 2, Patricia Milligan of NSIR will travel to Helsinki, Finland, to participate in a Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) Peer Review of new guidance issued by the Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority on intervention policy for protective measures.

#### **5. Multinational Activities**

From September 23 to October 1, Keith McConnell, Deputy Director, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection and Boby Abu-Eid, FSME, will travel to Reims, France, to attend the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Remediation and Radioactive Waste Management. Dr. McConnell will present on U.S. experience on regulation of environmental remediation and serve as the NRC representative on two panel discussions while Mr. Abu-Eid will deliver a presentation on decommissioning during Session 29 of the Conference.

From September 24 to 29, Vince Holahan of FSME will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation Working Group Meeting to assess the levels and effects of radiation exposure to the nuclear accident at Fukushima Daiichi.

From September 24 to October 1, John Thorp of NRR will travel to Paris, France, to represent the NRC at the annual meeting of the National Coordinators of the International Reporting System for Operating Experience and the NEA/Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group on Operating Experience.

From September 24 to October 1, Thomas Pham and Peter Habighorst of NMSS will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Consultancy Meeting on developing and finalizing guidance on nuclear material control and accounting.

From September 24 to October 1, Bernard Dittman and Steven Arndt of NRR and Jack Zhao of NRO, will travel to Chatou, France, to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Applications of Field Programmable Gate Array Technologies in Nuclear Power Plants sponsored by the IAEA.

From September 24 to 30, Nilesh Chokshi, Deputy Director, Division of Site and Environmental Reviews, and Clifford Munson of NRO, will travel to Madrid, Spain, to attend the IAEA/International Seismic Safety Center First Working Group 8 Meeting on Site Evaluation and External Events Safety Assessments.

From September 25 to 29, Melanie Galloway, Deputy Division Director, Division of License Renewal, NRR, will travel to Paris, France, to serve as the U.S. representative to a senior NEA group developing a green booklet on long-term operations.

From September 25 to 30, Diane Sieracki of OE and Valerie Barnes of RES will travel to Chester, United Kingdom, to participate in the NEA/IAEA Workshop on Oversight and Influencing of Leadership and Management for Safety Culture – Regulatory Approaches and Methods. While in the United Kingdom, Ms. Barnes will also serve as the NRC representative and Vice-Chair of the biannual meeting of the Working Group on Human and Organizational Factors.

From September 25 to 30, Andrew Ireland, Alexander Velazquez-Lozada, and Stephen Bajorek of RES will travel to Toronto, Canada, to participate in the 14th International Topical Meeting on Nuclear Reactor Thermal Hydraulics.

From September 26 to 30, John Kinneman, Director, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Tae Ahn, and Kevin Mattern of NMSS and Felix Gonzalez and Michelle Gonzalez of RES, will travel to Toronto, Canada, to participate in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/NEA Safety Assessment of Fuel Cycle Facilities – Regulatory Approaches and Industry Perspectives Workshop.

From September 26 to 30, Jeffrey Wood of RES will travel to Paris, France, to attend the working meeting for the International Common-cause Failure Data Exchange Project.

From September 26 to October 2, Elizabeth Hayden, Senior Public Affairs Advisor, OPA will travel to Paris, France, to participate in an NEA Working Group on Public Communication of Nuclear Regulatory Organizations. Ms. Hayden will serve as chair of the Working Group and develop the program, agenda, and participants for a workshop on crisis communications to be held in spring 2012.

**6. OIP Communications**

1. Memorandum to the Commission from Margaret Doane, Director dated September 19, 2011 re Bimonthly List of Key International Meetings (ML11263A080)
2. Letter to Robin DeLaBarre, DOS from Scott Moore, Deputy Director dated September 19, 2011 re 10 CFR Non-Appendix P Import and Export Cases (ML11243A218)
- 3.

(b)(4),(b)(5)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**INTERNATIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
Week of October 10, 2011**

***OIP Vision:*** To expand nuclear safety and security worldwide through lasting partnerships.  
***Our Mission:*** OIP enhances nuclear safety and security through global partnerships by exchanging information and by licensing the import and export of material and equipment according to U.S. laws and policy.

**1. Commission Activities**

No activities to report.

**2. Export/Import Activities**

(b)(5)

The following export/import licenses were recently issued:

Export license amendment (XSNM3627/01) issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. to extend the license expiration date to February 28, 2015.

Export license amendment (XSNM3611/01) issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. to extend the license expiration date to December 31, 2014.

Export license amendment (XSNM3645/01) issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. to extend the license expiration date to November 30, 2015.

Export license amendment (XSNM3653/01) issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. to extend the license expiration date to November 30, 2015.

Export license amendment (XSNM3659/01) issued to Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. to extend the license expiration date to September 30, 2015.

Export license (XSNM3692) issued to Transport Logistics International to export low enriched uranium (4.65%) to Japan, for use as nuclear power plant reload fuel in Takahama Units 1 and/or 2 and Mihama Unit 3.

Export license (XSNM3693) issued to AREVA NP Inc. to export low enriched uranium (4.65%) to Japan, for use as nuclear power plant reload fuel in Takahama Units 1 and/or 2 and Mihama Unit 3.

Export license (XSNM3698) issued to Transnuclear, Inc. to export low enriched uranium (19.95%) to France, for use as reload fuel in the OSIRIS and Jules Horowitz Reactors.

### **3. Conventions, Treaties, Legal Obligations and Interagency Activities**

From October 8 to 19, Oleg Bukharin of NSIR will travel to Trisaia, Italy, to participate in a U.S. interagency bilateral physical protection assessment visit.

### **4. Bilateral Activities**

From October 7 to November 11, Tony Nakanishi of NRR, and Steven Reynolds, Division Director, Division of Reactor Safety of RIII, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to support efforts of the U.S. Embassy following the events at Fukushima Daiichi.

On October 11, Kath Smith, Nuclear Counselor at the Australian Embassy, will visit NRC Headquarters to meet with OIP staff to discuss the closing of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO) office in Washington DC and future cooperation.

On October 12, a 15 person delegation from the Japanese Diet will visit the NRC for a meeting with the EDO and OIP to discuss NRC's experience concerning the Three Mile Island (TMI) event. The Japanese Diet members also wish to discuss current US nuclear safety policy and regulatory framework in light of the Fukushima incident. The visit will conclude with a tour of the NRC operations center. The delegation has plans to visit and tour unit 2 of TMI on October 11<sup>th</sup> and may visit the Technical Training Center on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **5. Multinational Activities**

From October 7 to 22, Douglas Simpkins of HR and Willie Lee of FSME will travel to Accra, Ghana, to present at an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) – sponsored Regional Training Course for regulators on authorization and use of radiation sources.

From October 8 to 13, Thomas Boyce of RES will travel to Prague, Czech Republic, to attend the Department of Energy Central Europe Nuclear Safety Workshop.

From October 8 to 15, Brooke Smith of OIP will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend a meeting of the Technical Experts – Nuclear Suppliers Group Fundamental Review of Control Lists.

From October 8 to 15, Allen Hiser of NRR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to participate in the IAEA International Generic Aging Lessons Learned Technical and Steering Group meetings.

From October 8 to 16, Cynthia Jones of NSIR will travel to Vienna, Austria, to attend the IAEA International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES) Advisory Committee. Ms. Jones will also participate as a trainer in the IAEA Workshop on Train-the-Trainers on INES.

From October 8 to 16, Mugeh Afshar-Tous of OIP will travel to Taejeon, Korea to represent OIP's Assistance Program at the International Regulatory Development Partnership - Korea's Integrated Regulatory Infrastructure Supporting System Workshop for the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators.

From October 9 to 15, Timothy Kobetz of NRR will travel to Paris, France, to participate in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting for the Nuclear Energy Agency/ Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group on Inspection Practices.

From October 10 to 14, David Terao of NRO will travel to Brussels, Belgium, to serve as the NRC representative at an ASME Council Meeting on Standards and Certification.

From October 12 to 15, Richard Lee of RES and Dana Powers, a RES contractor, will travel to Villigen, Switzerland, to attend and coordinate discussions with the Paul Scherrer Institute on source term and severe accident research.

From October 13 to 22, Diane Sieracki of OE will travel to Bangkok, Thailand, to serve as a member of an IAEA expert mission on safety culture and integrated management system roadmap development.

## **6. OIP Communications**

1. Letter to Richard Stratford, DOS, from Margaret Doane, Director, dated October 3, 2011 re Interagency Clearance, Draft Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Part 110, Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Material; Removal of Oman from the Restricted Destinations List (ML11265A269)
2. Memorandum to J.E. Dyer, Chief Financial Officer, OCFO from Margaret Doane, Director, dated October 3, 2011 re FY 2011 Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act Reasonable Assurance Certification (ML112630082)

CONTACT: Janice Owens, 415-3684 regarding export/ import, IAEA, and NEA activities  
Charlotte Abrams, 415-2933 regarding international cooperation activities  
Steve Dembek, 415-2342 regarding other activities

**Belmore, Nancy**

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2012 9:41 AM  
**To:** Belmore, Nancy  
**Subject:** Last one (3 of 3)  
**Attachments:** Japan News Posts.rtf; image001.gif

---

**From:** Powell, Amy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 5:06 PM  
**To:** 'Spencer, Peter'  
**Subject:** FW: Congressman Markey response items received by all Commissioner offices

3 of 3. As David Decker in our office references below, this is a big file. Let us know if you have any technical issues and we'll provide differently.

Amy

---

**From:** David Decker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 4:04 PM  
**To:** 'Freedhoff, Michal'  
**Subject:** FW: Congressman Markey response items received by all Commissioner offices

Michal,  
Here's some very interesting reading, but it's really, really long (280 pages). These are news items between 3/11/11 and 10/14/11 that our Office of International Programs compiled each day and circulated to Commission offices. Do you have the printer capability to run this? If not, we can print it out and bring it down later this week.

David

U.S. NRC Office of International Programs Japan News Blog Posts March 11, 2011 – October 14, 2011

Title	Body	Published
Japan: IAEA's International Expert Mission on Remediation Issues Preliminary Report	<p>The IAEA international expert mission to Japan concluded their mission to Japan on 14 October 2011. The mission was dispatched to Japan to help the country develop its remediation plans, following the nuclear accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. The mission's preliminary report can be accessed here.</p> <p>The mission, requested by the Japanese Government, comprises 12 international experts from several countries and IAEA experts who are visiting Japan from 7 to 14 October 2011.</p> <p>In addition to meetings with officials in Tokyo and Fukushima, the team visited the accident site at TEPCO's Fukushima's Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, as well as the area surrounding the Haramachi thermal power plant in the city of Minamisouma, a forestry remediation model site at Minamisouma, two sites where verification studies for the application of remediation technologies in agriculture are being conducted in the territory of the village of Iitate, as well as four model remediation projects carried out by the Fukushima Decontamination Team and JAEA, including the Tominari Elementary school and the Shimooguni Central Assembly Hall, both located in the city of Date.</p> <p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The team is led by Juan Carlos Lentijo, the General Director for Radiation Protection at Spain's nuclear regulatory authority.</p> <p>The accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant has led to the radiological contamination of large areas. The Government of Japan has been formulating a strategy and plans to implement countermeasures to remediate these areas.</p> <p>The IAEA organized an International Fact Finding Expert Mission of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, which was conducted between 24 May and 2 June 2011.</p> <p>The current mission is a follow-up to the fact finding mission held earlier in the year.</p> <p>The IAEA's International Remediation Expert Mission to Japan is an essential component of the IAEA's Nuclear Safety Action Plan, approved by the IAEA Board of Governors on 13 September and endorsed by all 151 Member States at the recent IAEA General Conference in September 2011. The Action Plan defines a programme of work to strengthen the global nuclear safety framework.</p> <p>The final report of the International Remediation Expert Mission will be presented to the Japanese Government in the month following the conclusion of the mission.</p>	10/14/2011

Stress Tests on Japan  
Nuclear Plants at  
Standstill

10/07/2011

Tokyo, Oct. 6 (Jiji Press) -- Procedures for stress tests on nuclear plants in Japan have hit a snag due to a series of flaws in paperwork by power suppliers, casting a shadow over the restart of idled reactors in the country.

The Japanese government has decided to impose two-stage stress tests on the nation's nuclear reactors to assess to what degree they can withstand powerful earthquakes and tsunamis.

Under the plan, the first test covers reactors that are taken offline for routine maintenance, while the second is a blanket test that includes those still in the construction stage.

Of the country's 54 reactors, 27 are currently undergoing such stress tests.

Kansai Electric Power Co. <9503> and Shikoku Electric Power Co. <9507> were scheduled to report the results of their tests to the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industry Safety Agency by the end of September in order to avoid impacting their power supply capacity during the high-demand period in winter.

But a spate of mistakes has been found in documents, including those regarding emergency safety measures, submitted by utilities following the nuclear accident at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 complex.

Kansai Electric, in particular, was ordered by the agency to review its disaster handling three more times, as the company failed to conduct checks that are thorough enough. This has forced the utility to shelve its stress test schedule.

In an effort to improve trust, the government plans to ask the Nuclear Safety Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency to look into the results of stress tests after the assessment by the agency is completed.

But the plans have also been delayed. An official at the nuclear safety agency said it has yet to be determined how the commission and the IAEA will be involved.

With local consent mandatory to resume idled reactors, power suppliers cannot project when they will be able to resume operations.

Japan's Reactor Capacity Utilization Rate Hits Record Low 20.6% in Sept.

Tokyo, Oct. 7 Kyodo -- The capacity utilization rate of Japan's 54 commercial nuclear reactors in September fell to a record low of 20.6 percent from 26.4 percent in August amid the Fukushima nuclear crisis, the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum said Friday.

10/07/2011

The September rate was the lowest since the forum and the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan began compiling such data in April 1977.

Since the March 11 earthquake and tsunami triggered the Fukushima Daiichi plant disaster, none of the nuclear reactors idled for regular checkups have been allowed to resume operating. Two more reactors were halted for checkups in September.

Nuclear reactors must pass stress tests designed to determine if they can withstand major earthquakes or tsunami before being allowed to resume operation. But such tests have not been completed for any offline reactors.

The capacity utilization rate has continued to decline from the March level of 58.3 percent and is expected to fall further. On Tuesday, a reactor at Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s Genkai nuclear plant in Saga Prefecture came to a halt automatically due to malfunctions.

The average rate for the April-September first half of fiscal 2011 stood at 34.9 percent, about half of the 67.3 percent rate for fiscal 2010.

The latest capacity utilization data still included four damaged reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, which plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. has decided to decommission.

Japan: Tepco Finds Own Nuclear Accident Manual Useless

Tokyo, Oct. 2 Kyodo -- Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s in-house report showed Sunday the utility has found its own emergency manual was useless for handling the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichinuclear plant and also repudiated the widely-held belief that a hydrogen explosion might have occurred at its No. 2 reactor.

10/03/2011

The report indicated the utility prepared the manual with a view to dealing with nuclear plant accidents including severe incidents on the assumption that emergency power generators, including diesel generators, would work properly to keep reactor cooling systems functioning.

In fact, none of the backup generators worked after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami hit the plant located on the Pacific coast.

According to the report compiled by an intra-company investigative committee, the plant operator first recognized that large explosions had been heard at the No. 2 and No. 4 reactors past 6 a.m. on March 15.

The utility then confirmed that the air pressure in an area near the containment vessel of the No. 2 unit was falling and also that the upper part of the building housing the No. 4 unit had been seriously damaged.

Subsequent analysis of the data led the company to conclude that an explosion had occurred at the No. 4 reactor, but it "erroneously recognized" that something akin to an explosion had possibly taken place at the No. 2 unit, according to the report.

In the accident at the Fukushima plant, the buildings housing the No. 1 and No.

3 reactors were damaged due to hydrogen explosions while that of the No. 4 unit, which was idled for a regular inspection at the time of the natural disasters, was also destroyed. The building of the No. 2 reactor still stands.

Japan: Summary of Government Panel Report on Tepco

Tokyo, Oct. 3 Kyodo -- The following is the gist of a report by a Japanese government panel on how Tokyo Electric Power Co. should address financial aspects of its Fukushima nuclear plant crisis.

10/03/2011

-- TEPCO could cut costs by 2.55 trillion yen over 10 years through fiscal 2020.

- TEPCO could reduce its workforce by about 7,400 on a group basis by March 2014.
- TEPCO could raise 707.4 billion yen by selling assets over three years.
- Compensation payments by TEPCO are estimated to reach around 4.54 trillion yen by March 2013.
- Decommissioning of the four damaged reactors at the Fukushima Daiichinuclear plant is now estimated to cost 1.15 trillion yen.
- The government should review the current electricity pricing method that allows the utility to pass personnel, fuel and other costs plus a certain profit margin on to consumers.

Japan To Map Out Plans  
To Stabilize Power  
Supply-demand

Tokyo, Oct. 3 (Jiji Press) -- A Japanese government panel on Monday decided to map out by the end of this month action plans to stabilize the electricity supply-demand balance.

10/03/2011

Specifically, the panel on energy and the environment, chaired by National Policy Minister Motohisa Furukawa, will come up with measures to beef up energy-saving and expand electricity supplies, as well as deregulatory steps in the energy field.

The panel will also compile its estimates on the supply-demand balance in the coming winter and targets for reductions in power consumption.

In addition, a special group will be set up to calculate costs of generating electricity from nuclear power and other energy sources.

The panel will cooperate with a different natural resources and energy panel under the industry ministry and the Japan Atomic Energy Commission, both of which held key meetings also on Monday.

Following its discussions, the energy and environment panel will draft a basic strategy on energy innovation and environment strategies by the end of this year.

In spring next year, the panel will propose policy options, including for the future of Japan's nuclear power policy and the best mix of energy sources for power generation.

Through the process, the panel aims to finalize the strategy as early as summer 2012.

At its inaugural meeting on Monday, the industry ministry panel on natural resources and energy started discussions to review the power industry's structure, focusing on power firms' effective regional monopolies and their integrated operations of power generation and distribution services.

The panel's members include antinuclear experts such as Hideyuki Ban, co-head of the Citizens' Nuclear Information Center, a nonprofit organization.

The Japan Atomic Energy Commission energy commission started to review nuclear plant safety measures to compile a new nuclear energy guidelines.

Japan Labor Group Rengo Shifts To Anti-nuclear Power Policy

Tokyo, Oct. 4 Kyodo -- The leadership of Japan's largest labor organization will review the body's energy policy in light of the Fukushima nuclear crisis, with a view to shifting from its stance to promote nuclear power to one that aims to seek a society not reliant on atomic energy, Rengo sources said Monday.

10/03/2011

Nobuaki Koga, president of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation known as Rengo, will put forward the idea at a meeting of representatives from member labor unions starting Tuesday in Tokyo, the sources said.

Since Rengo is the largest supporter of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan, the turnaround is expected to have an impact on the energy policy of the DPJ-led government.

Rengo, which counts labor unions of power utilities among its members, has struggled to reconcile differences within the organization over a nuclear energy policy. But its leadership has decided on the policy turnaround by taking into account the seriousness of damage brought by the Fukushima nuclear plant

disaster, they said.

In August 2010, Rengo decided for the first time to promote nuclear power generation and back construction of new nuclear power plants.

Japan: Scores of  
Ex-bureaucrats Landed  
Cushy Jobs at Tepco,  
Linked To Lax Nuclear  
Safety Rules

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online in English 0850 GMT 27 Sep 11

09/30/2011

Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) had more than 50 retired bureaucrats working for the utility firm as of the end of August -- a widespread practice in Japan called "amakudari," or "descent from heaven" -- the Mainichi has learned, and former bureaucrats acknowledged that cozy ties between the government and utility firms were a key factor behind the country's lax rules governing nuclear power generation.

There were 47 former bureaucrats from the central government working at TEPCO as "temporary employees" as of the end of August, and there were more than 50 such "amakudari" employees if posts of "advisors" filled by former vice ministers were included, the Mainichi has learned.

The former bureaucrats came from various government ministries and agencies including the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which is in charge of overseeing the nuclear industry, the Foreign Ministry, the Finance Ministry, the National Police Agency, and the Japan Coast Guard. Experts attribute the outbreak of the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant partly to flaws in safety regulations, and a former bureaucrat who used to be engaged in atomic energy administration said, "The cozy ties (between the government and utility firms) led to lax safety regulations."

TEPCO held its shareholders meeting at a hotel in Tokyo's Minato Ward on June 28. Many shareholders who had suffered losses on the utility's stock plunge pressed the company executives to explain why the company continued to accept "wasteful" amakudari. In his reply, TEPCO Vice President Masao Yamazaki said, "The electric power business requires people with (various) knowledge." Yamazaki's remarks clearly show the characteristics of the electric power company that was not able to do away with amakudari even when the company was in jeopardy due to massive compensation claims for damage.

The post of vice president is the highest position at TEPCO a former career bureaucrat from the industry

ministry can hold. The post was filled initially by former vice industry minister Takeo Ishihara, and former directors-general and deputy directors-general of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy in about 10-year intervals. In January this year, Toru Ishida, who resigned as director-general of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy in August last year, became an advisor for TEPCO. A senior TEPCO official said, "We planned to promote him to the post of vice president in accordance with customary practice." But because it ran counter to the rule against landing a new job in an industry they once supervised within two years after retirement and the government came under fire for the nuclear crisis, he had to resign from the post of advisor in April. The industry ministry has helped about five former senior officials assume posts of directors and advisors at other utility firms including Kansai Electric Power Co. (KEPCO).

Unlike electric power suppliers that enjoy regional monopoly, there is no room for ordinary private companies to accept so many former bureaucrats from government ministries and agencies. A senior government official said companies like TEPCO were the biggest entities where bureaucrats could land new jobs after retirement.

According to people related to TEPCO, career bureaucrats can get the position of "advisor" while non-career bureaucrats can get "temporary" jobs. There is an unwritten rule that their salaries do not fall below what they last received before their retirement, said a former industry ministry official.

TEPCO explains that amakudari is useful for its management as former officials from the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, for example, help with plans to set up power facilities. But in the case of former bureaucrats from the Finance Ministry and the Foreign Ministry, there are many cases of them staying with TEPCO only temporarily and doing nothing but collect their monthly salaries before finding favored jobs elsewhere, according to a person related to TEPCO.

The cozy ties between utility firms and the government through amakudari also cast a shadow over the administration of the country's nuclear energy policy. Using the 1979 Three Mile Island nuclear crisis as a lesson, the governments of the United States and European countries strictly required operators of nuclear power plants to work out effective measures against natural disasters including earthquakes and severe accidents such as reactor meltdowns. But in Japan, the government effectively gave utility firms a free hand, paving the way for the power companies to take sloppy measures seen in the case of the Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant, which lost power when it was hit by tsunami.

A former head of the government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency said, "There were people who insisted on introducing regulations on par with U.S. and European counterparts, but they were overpowered by utility companies that argued against shouldering the extra costs." A former nuclear plant inspector said, "It is natural that government officials should come under unspoken pressure if a career bureaucrat, their boss, is being taken care of at a utility firm after retirement."

Japan: Cell Phones To Let Tokyo Nikkei Telecom 21 in English 2313 GMT 27 Sep 11

09/30/2011

Consumers Double-check Radiation in Fish [Cell Phones To Let Consumers Double-check Radiation in Fish] TOKYO (Nikkei)--Seafood-processing firms based in northern Japan will launch a traceability service that will let consumers verify radiation levels by scanning bar codes on packaging using their mobile phones.

The companies hope to eliminate fears over contamination caused by the meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

Marutake Hachinohe Marine Products Industry Corp. and three other firms based in Hachinohe, Aomori Prefecture, are to start offering the service as early as next month. Two firms from Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture, plan to participate as well.

Under this program, samples of fish caught will be examined by a testing entity. Such information as radiation levels as well as the time, date and location of the catch will be made public.

A group representing seafood companies in Hachinohe may offer the service. And some restaurants in that city that serve mackerel plan to display the bar codes, which are known as QR (Quick Response) codes.

Russian Museum Cancels Exhibition in Japan Over Nuclear Contamination Concern Maebashi, Japan, Sept. 28 Kyodo -- An exhibition of glass artworks from Russia's State Hermitage Museum that was scheduled to open in eastern Japan has been cancelled over concerns about radiation contaminating the showpieces amid the ongoing nuclear crisis, according to the Japanese museum.

09/30/2011

According to the Museum of Modern Art, Gunma, in Takasaki, Gunma Prefecture, the Russian museum

asked them to call off the exhibition that was planned to open in December, saying the exhibition site is close to the Fukushima Daiichinuclear power plant, which has been crippled since the March 11 magnitude 9.0 earthquake and ensuing tsunami. The Gunma museum is located about 210 kilometers from the plant.

The exhibition has already been held in Hokkaido and Tokyo and is slated to open in Okayama Prefecture in western Japan.

The Gunma museum said it has asked the Hermitage museum to reverse its decision, telling them that theradiation level in the prefecture is as low as in Tokyo but to no avail.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum, the venue for the exhibition in Tokyo, is located about 230 kilometers from the crippled plant.

"We have no other option but to cancel the exhibition, because we cannot borrow the installations. We are very sorry to those who were looking forward to it," said a Gunma museum official.

Japan Parliament To Open  
Fukushima Nuke Disaster  
Probe

Tokyo, Sept. 28 (Jiji Press) -- Japan's ruling and major opposition parties agreed Wednesday to establish a committee in parliament to probe the cause of thenuclear disaster at the Fukushima No. 1 complex.

09/30/2011

The agreement was reached at a working-level meeting of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan and three opposition parties--the Liberal Democratic Party, New Komeito and the Japanese Communist Party.

The committee will investigate the disaster separately from the government's investigation panel, headed by Yotaro Hatamura, professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo.

The DPJ was cautious about a similar proposal made earlier but changed course to win opposition support for the planned third extra budget.

Parliament is expected to pass a bill to set up the investigative committee Friday, the final day of the current session.

The committee, comprising 10 experts, is scheduled to compile a report on the nuclear disaster in half a year, according to the bill.

Parliament will form a 20-member panel to select the members of the new committee and ensure its investigation activities are appropriate.

Japan To Set up Panel To  
Oversee Nuclear Safety  
Agency

Tokyo, Sept. 29 (Jiji Press) – The Japanese government is considering setting up a council to supervise the envisaged nuclear safety agency, Goshi Hosono, minister for nuclear disaster management, said Thursday.

09/30/2011

The government may give the council authority to make recommendations to the prime minister, Hosono said at a House of Councillors Budget Committee meeting.

"It could be one option to authorize the new council to directly advise the prime minister when it thinks that the nuclear agency is not doing its jobs in an appropriate manner" he said.

The nuclear safety agency will be set up under the Environment Ministry in April 2012. The appointments of members of the supervisory council will require parliamentary approval.

Regarding nuclear reactor operation manuals submitted to the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency by Tokyo Electric Power Co.

<9501>over the accident at its crippled Fukushima No. 1 plant, industry minister Yukio Edano said at the same committee meeting that he will check them and announce everything that can be made public.

In addition, Edano urged TEPCO to make public the video, if any, of the plant at the time of the accident, noting that the company has installed a live camera to constantly monitor the facility.

If the company refuses to do so, the government will oblige it to disclose the video based on a relevant law, Edano said.

Japan: New Nuclear Safety Agency To Have Expert Panel

Tokyo, Sept. 30 Kyodo -- The government will set up a panel of experts to seek ways of preventing another nuclear crisis in Japan, including both experts in favor of nuclear power generation and those who oppose it, sources familiar with the matter said Thursday.

09/30/2011

The panel will be formed within a new nuclear safety agency to be created next April by integrating the existing nuclear regulatory bodies, the sources said.

Nominated members include Tetsunari Iida, head of the Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies, who is an opponent of nuclear energy.

Gov. Heita Kawakatsu of Shizuoka Prefecture, home to Chubu Electric Power Co.'s idled Hamaoka nuclear power plant, is also expected to join the panel.

The expert panel will discuss Japan's nuclear and energy policies to compile recommendations for establishing a more effective regulatory system. It will hold its first meeting next Tuesday, and meet once a month, according to the sources.

The government decided to establish the new nuclear safety agency as an external regulatory body of the Environment Ministry following the March 11 disaster which crippled Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The move reflects criticism that the presence of the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry hinders objective nuclear regulatory operations as the ministry has been promoting nuclear power generation.

Japan: Government To Store Radioactive Waste from Fukushima in Tokyo, Seven Prefectures

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online in English 0135 GMT 30 Sep 11  
[Harufumi Mori Staff Writer] KORIYAMA, Fukushima Prefecture--The government will ask Tokyo and seven prefectures to host interim storage facilities for waste contaminated with radiation from the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.

09/30/2011

The plan, announced by Hideki Minamikawa, administrative vice minister of the Environment Ministry on Sept. 28, is designed to resolve the problem of dealing with the enormous amount of relatively highradioactive sewage sludge and incinerated ashes created by the nuclear accident caused by the March 11 quake and tsunami.

Minamikawa told reporters during his visit to Koriyama that the government will soon make formal requests to Tokyo and the prefectures of Fukushima, Chiba, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Miyagi and Iwate, all of which are in the Kanto and Tohoku regions.

"(The disposal of contaminated material) is not a question that concerns only Fukushima Prefecture," he said.

He also promised that "such waste found in other prefectures will not be brought to Fukushima Prefecture, which is not responsible for the accident."

The ministry had previously said incinerated ashes containing radioactive cesium at 100,000 becquerels or less per kilogram could be buried at existing disposal sites after they are encased in concrete. But the ministry had not determined what to do with waste at levels exceeding 100,000 becquerels.

The interim storage sites to be built in Tokyo and the seven prefectures are expected to hold incinerated ashes.

Minamikawa also said the interim storage site to be built in Fukushima Prefecture will have a capacity of about 90 million cubic meters.

The ministry has estimated that the government's decontamination operations would produce 29 million cubic meters of contaminated soil and other radioactive waste, such as fallen leaves and branches. The targeted areas for decontamination, all in Fukushima Prefecture, are those with an estimated annual radiation dose of 5 millisieverts.

Minamikawa said that the Fukushima storage facility needs to be larger because the actual amount of waste could surpass the ministry's estimate.

He also said the facility could eventually store relatively highradioactive waste, such as incinerated ashes and sewage sludge.

The location for the site has yet to be decided, but Minamikawa said it will likely not be located on the premises of thenuclear plant because of the large operation needed to decommission the damaged reactors.

Minamikawa also indicated that the government would build more than one interim site to secure enough storage space for the waste and accelerate the decontamination operations.

The Forestry Agency has begun discussions with litate village and Nihonmatsu city in Fukushima Prefecture to set up provisional sites in state-owned forests forradioactive soil dug up in the decontamination operations. litate agreed to a prospective site covering several hectares in national forests within the village. Nihonmatsu is narrowing down candidate sites within the city.

Local governments had asked the agency to store the contaminated soil in national forests in Fukushima Prefecture, and the agency approved the idea if it is accepted by local residents and would not jeopardize water sources. The agency envisages keeping such soil in national forests until it can be moved to an interim storage facility.

The agency is considering encasing the contaminated soil in concrete blocks on reclaimed land covered with shielding sheets in national forests. Work is expected to start in the current fiscal year.

Japan: Fukushima Nuclear  
Plant Evacuation  
Preparation Advisory  
Lifted

Tokyo, Sept. 30 (Jiji Press) -- The Japanese government decided Friday to lift its evacuation preparation advisory for residents of the zone between 20 and 30 kilometers from the disaster-hit Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.

09/30/2011

The government now sees a decreased risk of accidents, such as hydrogen explosions, at the plant after the steady cooling of its crippled reactors.

Under the advisory, issued on April 22, residents of the zone were told to be ready to evacuate quickly or stay indoors in the event of an emergency at the nuclear plant, which was knocked out by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The zone encompassed the towns of Hirono and Naraha, the cities of Minamisoma and Tamura, and the village of Kawauchi, all in Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan. The advisory affected the whole of Hirono and parts of the other four municipalities.

About 30,000 of the 59,000 residents in the five municipalities evacuated voluntarily.

Following the decision to lift the advisory, made by the government's Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters, the five municipalities will promote the return of evacuees in line with postdisaster restoration plans, which include decontamination measures and the restart of public services.

But it may be some time before all the evacuees can return to their homes, in view of the time needed for decontamination work and a dispute over where to store radioactive soil and waste.

The five municipalities have set different target dates for the return of evacuees. Hirono, where 95 pct of all residents evacuated, aims to complete their return by the end of next year.

In Kawauchi, about 93 pct of affected residents took refuge elsewhere. It sees them returning home in February or March and hopes to reopen schools and the government office in April.

Still, one municipal official there said that decontamination work "could take one year for residential areas, two to three years for farmland and 20 years for forests."

Japan: Plutonium  
Detected in Iitate Village  
in Fukushima

Tokyo, Sept. 30 (Kyodo) --Plutonium has been detected at six locations in Fukushima Prefecture, including Iitate village around 45 kilometers northwest of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, apparently as a result of the crisis at the plant triggered by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, science ministry officials said.

09/30/2011

The government has confirmed the spread of plutonium to the village for first time.

The detected amounts of plutonium were small and posed no danger to health, the officials said.

Plutonium has an extremely long half-life and is associated with a high risk of cancer if it enters the human body by breathing or other means.

Japan Govt Involved in 7  
Nuclear Symposium Plots:  
Conflict of Interests

Tokyo, Sept. 30 (Jiji Press) -- The Japanese government was involved in a total of seven cases of backstage maneuvering in symposiums and community meetings on nuclear energy between 2005 and 2008, an independent panel said Friday.

09/30/2011

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency took part in six of the seven cases and the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy in the other, the panel said in its final report to the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry.

Before the symposiums, the two agencies, both affiliated to the ministry, asked power companies to ensure pro-nuclear opinions from participants, according to the panel.

"The close relationships between the agencies and power companies were behind this improper behavior," the panel said.

Three of the six cases involving the safety agency were confirmed in the panel's interim report in late August. The other three took place at community meetings about Tohoku Electric Power Co.'s Onagawa nuclear plant in Miyagi Prefecture, northeastern Japan, in October 2006.

The resources and energy agency case involved a symposium on Hokkaido Electric Power Co.'s Tomari nuclear plant in northern Japan.

The events were part of a process to gain the agreement of local authorities on nuclear plant operations, the panel pointed out.

The panel called for the government to implement structural reforms quickly to restore public trust in its nuclear policy administration.

The government apologizes and will ensure that its officials never do such a thing again, industry minister Yukio Edano said in a statement.

Japan's PM Noda Denies Continued Nuclear Exports Tokyo, Sept. 30 (Jiji Press) -- Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda Friday denied that he has supported the country's continued exports of nuclear plants and technologies. 09/30/2011

Speaking at a news conference, Noda said his government will thoroughly look into the cause of the disaster at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power station before considering its policy about nuclear exports.

Noda said he has never said Japan would continue nuclear exports.

Noda made the comments after opposition lawmakers criticized him in parliamentary meetings for showing his support for continued nuclear exports despite the Fukushima disaster.

In a speech he made at a U.N. meeting in New York earlier this month, Noda indicated his country intends to continue to provide emerging economies with nuclear plants and technologies, saying Japan will meet the needs of countries considering using nuclear power.

At Friday's news conference, Noda also said there is no change in his stance that it is difficult to build new nuclear reactors in Japan.

Japan: Study Shows Hamaoka Nuclear Power Plant Susceptible To Tsunami Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online in English 0945 GMT 26 Sep 11 09/27/2011

The Hamaoka Nuclear Power Plant in Omaezaki, Shizuoka Prefecture, is situated near where the shallow seabed protrudes toward the outer sea and the energy of tsunamis tends to concentrate, according to an

analytical study by the Earthquake Research Institute at the University of Tokyo.

Specifically, the study shows that the nuclear power plant is directly situated in front of an area of the seabed called Omaezaki Spur, which has a depth of less than 200 meters and stretches about 20 kilometers into a tongue-like shape.

Beyond the spur, however, the seabed is as deep as 500 meters, as is the seabed on both sides of the spur, the study led by Yoshinobu Tsuji, associate professor of seismology at the institute, shows.

The research comes as Chubu Electric Power Co. has started constructing an 18-meter-high, 1.6-kilometer-long, 2-meter-thick breakwater at the suspended Hamaoka plant and is taking other measures at a cost of some 100 billion yen to prevent damage by tsunami.

The breakwater is scheduled for completion by December next year to protect from a tsunami of about 8 meters in height that is feared to occur if earthquakes in the Tokai, Tonankai and Nankai regions strike simultaneously. Chubu Electric halted operations of the Hamaoka nuclear power station, located on a major active fault zone, in May at the request of the central government.

The speed of tsunami depends on the depth of water, and the deeper the sea, the faster they strike.

According to Tsuji, tsunamis heading toward land are slow if they are close to a spur but they get faster if they are far from the spur. As a result, the energy of tsunami will concentrate on the base of the Omaezaki Spur around the nuclear power plant in a similar way to light coming into focus through a convex lens.

"The Hamaoka Nuclear Power Plant is located at a place that is susceptible to an earthquake and also to damage from tsunamis," Tsuji warns.

Japan: 28 million cubic meters of radioactive soil in Fukushima

The Daily Yomiuri (Tokyo), September 26, 2011

Up to 28 million cubic meters of soil contaminated by radioactive substances may have to be removed in Fukushima Prefecture, according to the Environment Ministry.

In a simulation, the ministry worked out nine patterns according to the rates of exposure to and decontamination of radioactive materials in soil, mainly in forests.

09/27/2011

The ministry found if all the areas which were exposed to 5 millisieverts or more per year were to be decontaminated, 27.97 million cubic meters of contaminated soil would have to be removed. The calculation covered 13 percent of the prefecture's area.

These figures indicate the size of the temporary facilities that will be needed to store the soil, and the capacity of intermediate storage facilities where the soil will be taken later.

The assumptions were made using three categories according to yearly radiation doses in soil—20 millisieverts or more; 5 millisieverts or more; and 5 millisieverts or more plus some areas with contamination of from 1 to 5 millisieverts.

The three categories were divided further according to possible decontamination rates in forests—100 percent, 50 percent and 10 percent. The resulting nine patterns were broken down further to include "houses and gardens," "schools and child care centers" and "farmland."

The ministry calculated that the largest amount of contaminated soil was 28.08 million cubic meters in the case of 100 percent decontamination in forests in the category of 5 millisieverts or more plus some areas with contamination of from 1 to 5 millisieverts.

The smallest amount was 5.08 million cubic meters if 10 percent decontamination is carried out in forests with radiation doses of 20 millisieverts or more.

In the breakdown of areas with yearly radiation doses of 5 millisieverts or more, it was found 1.02 million cubic meters of soil should be removed from houses and gardens, 560,000 cubic meters from schools and child care centers and 17.42 million cubic meters from farmland.

The total amount of contaminated soil with a yearly radiation dose of 5 millisieverts or more is 27.97 million cubic meters in the case of 100 percent decontamination in forests that cover an area of 1,777 square kilometers.

The figures will be submitted Tuesday to a ministry study group that decides on the nation's decontamination policy.

The ministry made its calculation based on an aerial survey by the Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ministry and a land use survey by the Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Ministry. A senior Environment Ministry official said, "The standard we basically agreed on at a study meeting is decontamination in areas with yearly radiation doses of 5 millisieverts or more."

Even though forests occupy about 70 percent of contaminated areas in the prefecture, the ministry does not believe it will be necessary to remove all contaminated soil, as long as the government restricts the entry of residents in mountainous areas and recovers cut branches and fallen leaves, according to the official.

The usual practice is to remove soil up to a depth of five centimeters. However, a senior official said this

depends on the location of the contaminated soil.

The Environment Ministry will draw up plans based on a law concerning special measures on dealing with environmental contamination by radioactive substances as early as the end of November and start full-scale decontamination in January.

But the government still has not procured sufficient storage sites for contaminated soil, which has been temporarily buried in school yards or piled on vacant lots.

According to the central government, contaminated soil should be collected at temporary storage sites by local governments. The government recommends placing impermeable sheets under the soil at locations far from living areas.

The government also has no prospect of setting up intermediate storage facilities. Shortly before he stepped down, former Prime Minister Naoto Kan called on the Fukushima Gov. Yuhei Sato to set up facilities in the prefecture. The request was rejected.

Contaminated soil must be removed as soon as possible to allow evacuees to return to their houses within no-entry and evacuation zones.

Japan: Tepco Ordered To  
Submit Nuclear Reactor  
Operation Manuals

Tokyo, Sept. 27 (Jiji Press) -- The Japanese government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency on Tuesday ordered Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501> to submit nuclear reactor operation manuals to deal with a severe accident.

09/27/2011

The agency issued the order, which is based on the nuclear reactor regulation law, for the first time since the nuclear crisis started at TEPCO's Fukushima No. 1 power plant in March.

The power firm needs to submit the manual for the plant's No. 1 reactor, one of the three heavily damaged reactors, within Tuesday.

As for the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors, TEPCO is required to submit manuals no later than Wednesday.

Agency officials said it will consider whether to disclose the manuals by the end of October after scrutinizing their content.

TEPCO came under fire for submitting to a House of Representatives special science committee the

manuals with the most part blotted out.

This time, TEPCO will submit its manuals without hiding anything, company spokesman Junichi Matsumoto said.

Japan Restarts Talks on  
Nuclear Energy Policy  
Outline

Tokyo, Sept. 27 (Jiji Press) -- Japan restarted talks on Tuesday on a planned review to its nuclear energy policy outline that had been halted since the nation's worst nuclear crisis began in March.

09/27/2011

The Japan Atomic Energy Commission aims to reach its conclusion in about a year on the new outline, which will show the direction of Japan's nuclear energy policy over the long term.

At a commission conference, Goshi Hosono, minister for nuclear disaster management, said the public is closely watching the course of nuclear energy policy.

The commission should discuss the costs of nuclear energy in the first place, Hosono said.

He also said the organization should cooperate with the government's council on resources and energy, which will start its discussions in October.

At Tuesday's meeting, the atomic energy commission released the outcome of questionnaires taken after the crisis hit Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima No. 1 power plant.

About 67 pct of 10,000 responses requested Japan scrap the nuclear power plants immediately and switch to renewable and other energy sources.

Including those favoring gradual withdrawals, 98 pct wants to break with nuclear energy, the commission said.

At the meeting, TEPCO and government officials explained the current situation surrounding the nuclear crisis, including measures to bring damaged reactors under control and support for disaster victims.

The current nuclear energy policy outline was finalized in October 2005. It calls for active promotion of nuclear energy use, including the reuse of spent nuclear fuel.

Japan: Errors Found in Data on Emergency Nuclear Plant Safety Measures

Tokyo, Sept. 15 (Jiji Press) -- The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency of Japan's industry ministry said Thursday that errors have been found in data included in reports on emergency safety measures at nuclear plants, which were compiled by power suppliers in the wake of the crisis at the tsunami-crippled Fukushima No. 1 plant.

09/16/2011

The errors were found in reports by six firms, including Tohoku Electric Power Co. <9506> and Kansai Electric Power Co. <9503>, the agency said.

The six firms told the agency that the errors do not affect the credibility of the reported safety measures, according to the agency. But the agency plans to instruct all power utilities with nuclear plants to reexamine their measures to protect the facilities from earthquakes, tsunami and other emergencies by the end of this month.

There is a possibility that the reexamination will affect the schedule of the government's stress tests on nuclear reactors. The tests are a prerequisite for the restart of reactors that are suspended for regular inspections.

In the wake of the crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, which was badly damaged in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, the agency instructed all nuclear plant operators on March 30 to work out measures to deal with emergencies at their plants such as inundation due to tsunami and the loss of all power sources.

After receiving the reports, the agency concluded in May that all reported safety measures are appropriate.

Yoshinori Moriyama, an official of the agency, said Thursday that the errors found in the data will hurt the credibility of the safety measures.

He said that the stress tests will not be carried out unless the reexaminations are completed.

According to the agency, the errors found in the reports are related to data for Tohoku Electric's Onagawa and Higashidori plants, Chubu Electric Power Co.'s Hamaoka plant, Kansai Electric's Oi and Takahama plants, Chugoku Electric Power Co.'s Shimane plant, Shikoku Electric Power Co.'s Ikata plant and Japan Atomic Power Co.'s Tokai No. 2 and Tsuruga plants.

The sizes of equipment and the number of hoses for water injection at these plants were incorrect, the agency said.

The agency also plans to instruct nuclear plant operators to reexamine other emergency safety measures including steps to ensure the proper functioning of external power sources.

Japan To Place More Critics of Nuclear Power on Energy Panel

Tokyo, Sept. 15 (Jiji Press) – Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda unveiled plans Thursday to place more critics of nuclear power on a government advisory panel to discuss new energy policy.

09/16/2011

At a House of Representatives meeting, Noda said he will increase the number of panel members critical of the existing energy policy.

He said he wants the panel to have open and balanced discussions in order to encourage various opinions.

The advisory panel to the economy, trade and industry minister plans to draw up a basic energy policy by summer next year.

The new policy is expected to call for a reduction in the country's reliance on nuclear power. The panel is now dominated by supporters of nuclear energy.

Noda reiterated that he believes it is difficult for the country to build new nuclear power plants.

But he also said he will consider what to do with nuclear plants under construction on a case-by-case basis.

Japan: Experts on Status  
of Nuclear Fuel Cycle in  
Wake of Fukushima Crisis

Tokyo Enerugi Foramu in Japanese 01 Sep 11 pp. 38-42

09/16/2011

[Roundtable discussion with an academic expert, a journalist, and a representative of the electric power industry in "This Month's Topics section: "Effects of the Nuclear Accident!? Searching for a Way To Go With the Nuclear Fuel Cycle" ]

Nuclear fuel cycle policy is taking a direct hit because of the Fukushima nuclear accident. In a time when energy policy is being radically revamped after the Kan administration put forth its policy of "breaking away from a dependence on nuclear energy," in what direction should the nuclear fuel cycle move? Energy Forum explored different approaches for the nuclear fuel cycle in an exhaustive discussion with Academic Expert A, Journalist B, and Electric Power Industry Representative C.

Monju May Even Be Decommissioned

Energy Forum: First we would like to ask about the Monju prototype fast breeder reactor (FBR). After about 14 years Monju started test operation in May 2010, but a problem occurred, and the test operation was halted. Some are saying that Monju should just be left as it is and decommissioned.

A: Once it reaches full-output operation, the fuel should be removed and the reactor decommissioned.

Before the Fukushima nuclear accident occurred, I thought that there was no rush to use the plutonium.

With this recent accident, the brakes have been applied to the nuclear renaissance movement, and the scale of nuclear energy will shrink a little more than expected, even globally. The urgency of plutonium utilization is diminishing. The difficulty of the development and the high cost have also become evident.

Safety will also be an issue. If all alternating current power were lost, as in the Fukushima nuclear accident, ultimately Monju would passively take in the decay heat, i.e., the residual heat. I understand that the heat would ultimately be air-cooled in a natural circulation system, but if the natural cooling system were destroyed, even a passive mechanism that is said to be intrinsically safe would not work. When we think about the sort of occurrence that is beyond expectation, there is a possibility that the passive circulation system's route could be cut off. Then, in the case of an FBR, it would not be possible to inject water from the outside, which is what was finally done in the Fukushima nuclear accident.

Another issue is re-criticality. It was said that the possibility of re-criticality in a light water reactor is not zero, but in the case of a fast breeder reactor re-criticality after the fuel melts is taken into account from the design stage because the degree of enrichment of the plutonium is so high and the critical mass is small.

When you think about that happening, it would be pretty bad.

Energy Forum: However, I do not think the reactor can be simply decommissioned. There would probably be opposition from the local people, too.

A: Since the sodium leak accident in 1995, it costs quite a lot of money every year to just put liquid sodium

into the [Monju]reactor. Certainly there have been various proposals in addition to the idea of bringing thereactor up to full-output operation then setting a time limit for decommissioning it. I think it is something that we should discuss openly after we set some scenarios and calculate how much those would cost.

C: Because of the Fukushima nuclear accident, scaling down [shukusho] nuclear energy will become the basis of government policy, even if we do not go as far as to break away from [datsu] nuclear energy. Nevertheless, it is safe to say that we will need nuclear energy for the next few decades. The question of what status to give to FBR development in that scenario is very difficult. There is a high possibility that [FBR development] will slow down. But, when we consider passing on the technology, the FBR is necessary from the viewpoints of future energy security, securing resources, and so forth.

Well, then, how should we handle Monju? There are doubts about waiting until it is in full-output operation and then stopping it. Mr. A pointed to the safety, and inspections will certainly be necessary. But even if Monju was shut down because of safety, wouldn't it be alright to continue operations if it could be verified that safety can be guaranteed for even that which is beyond expectation? Of course, in passing on the various technologies, some [of the know-how] is obtained by operating thereactor. It would be best if we did not go the direction of immediately stopping or shutting down Monju.

B: In view of the realities of the political situation and public opinion today, I do not think that Monju operation can resume. First, there is no budget appropriated for it. Because even the Atomic Energy Commission's policy is for the time being to not allocate a budget for the nuclear fuel cycle, and for Monju, in particular. So from now on there will be the problem of whether repairs can be made so that Monju can be operated.

As for the safety that Mr. A mentioned, I do not think that the deterministic approach to safety regulations that has been taken until now will continue. Until now [the electric power industry] regulated safety in an overly deterministic way [that dictates that], for example, there is this measure to take for this assumption. In a time when there are various fears and misgivings, [the power industry] must re-verify in an engineering sense that there is sufficient in-depth protection when we re-examine safety from other viewpoints. And that re-verification will take a considerable amount of time and money.

Then [the government] will also revamp its system of safety regulations, but with the ruling Democratic Party of Japan saying "reduce [the use of] nuclear energy," we do not know if people of superior ability will come to the new organization. There is also the problem that when a nuclear reactor such as Monju, about which little is known, is brought into full-output operation, there will likely be experts who can say the same standard line, and engineers from various fields who support those experts' statements.

Furthermore, there is no such data on FBRs in the world, either. Because Monju is a small reactor, some

may think that the effects of a serious accident there would be limited, but convincing people of its safety will be difficult.

Nevertheless, the renewable energies that the current administration wants to push are an impractical idea. If we look at things over the very long term, and also from the viewpoints of energy density, supply stability, and security, there is no denying that we will be effectively utilizing uranium sources. We still need to start new discussion about that point.

Energy Forum: The prime minister said that the government will revamp its nuclear fuel cycle policy. What do you think government officials are considering?

B: It seems that the people of the former Science and Technology Agency (that is now the) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology who have indeed promoted Monju behind the scenes are not interested in using Monju, nor the Mutsunuclear powered ship, right now for proper testing, even if those are running.

Will a Second Reprocessing Plant Be Realized?

Energy Forum: What [is the government] considering in connection with a second reprocessing plant that will process the spent fuel from the FBR? In the Nuclear Energy Policy Outline called for beginning discussions of that sometime around 2010.

C: When we consider spent fuel processing as a whole, reprocessing plants are fundamentally necessary. In various senses, it is better to do the reprocessing, whether the reactor is an FBR or not.

First, there were core meltdowns in the Fukushima nuclear accident, and when we think about ultimately reprocessing that fuel, too, it would be desirable to process it in some form or other. But that would be difficult for the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant. We must think about what the next reprocessing plant will do.

As for the spent fuel, there are many different ideas about what to do with it, including direct disposal, but very safe disposal can be achieved by reprocessing the spent fuel and vitrifying the high-level radioactive waste. Reprocessing also has that side to it. On the other hand, even if we were to operate the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant for 40 years, it would be able to process only 32,000 tons, so it would not be able to process all of the spent fuel that is generated. Considering that, I think that construction of the next reprocessing plant is necessary.

However, the second reprocessing plant was slated to process spent fuel from light water reactors and FBRs, and then spent MOX [mixed oxide] fuel. But there is the possibility that the specifications will be changed when FBR development slows down because of the Fukushima nuclear accident.

A: As for the backend of the nuclear fuel cycle, we should basically put priority on the long-term storage of spent fuel. There are mainly two reasons for doing the reprocessing. One reason is to ultimately make full

use of plutonium, and then to bring out the latent potential of uranium fuel. The other reason is, of course, to dispose of high-level radioactive waste. As Mr. C says, there is the view that reprocessing [the spent fuel] and turning it into solid chunks of glass is a more sensible way to dispose of radioactive waste.

The former is failing because of the poor prospects now for FBR development. All that is left is to process the high-level waste by reprocessing and then vitrifying it, but I am inclined to wonder if that will truly be good enough. After thinking about [what was learned] from the experience of the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant, the cost will be high, and there is the possibility of technical problems, as well. Now, Finland and Sweden, which are about to actually shift into disposal, are choosing to do direct disposal. The United States also appears to be making that choice, too. If they do, then for the future we ought to look into either reprocessing or direct disposal. We should probably attach importance to full-fledged storage in our government policy. On the other hand, it would be nice if we could move forward with basic research on reprocessing technology.

Energy Forum: The spent MOX fuel cannot be reprocessed unless a second reprocessing plant is built. The electric power companies that are involved in plutonium [power generation] are explaining to local people [living nearby proposed plutonium sites] that they "are waiting for a second reprocessing plant in the future for reprocessing the spent MOX fuel."

A: Given the current technology, I think that direct disposal of reprocessed MOX fuel is the most practical approach. Of course, that cannot be done right away.

B: Local residents will not allow sites to be established for even interim storage of spent fuel unless there is reprocessing done locally. As for the cost that Mr. A worries about, in the estimates that were made at the time that the Nuclear Energy Policy Outline was formulated, reprocessing would be somewhat more expensive than direct disposal, but it would not be that exorbitant. I used to think that keeping to the reprocessing schedule, including the second reprocessing plant, was an important pillar of government policy.

However, the risk of a nuclear accident has become reality this time [with the Fukushima disaster], and we know that the aftermath of that will have a domino effect in breaking up the plutonium program and other such efforts. In this time of dim prospects for plutonium usage, even if [the government and industry] were to go ahead and do a second reprocessing [plant], we would end up with leftover plutonium. There lies the biggest problem.

What must not be forgotten is that, gravely, spent fuel is left over, and because spent fuel will still be left over from now on, we must do something about it. As for a second reprocessing plant, apart from the question of whether we should immediately look into that, there is no need to decide to stop everything, and it would be good to think about things in a process of investigating how to promote over the long term

an overall energy policy and, within that, nuclear energy policy.

Issues Also Remain in Operating Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant

Energy Forum: The Fukushima nuclear accident will also impact the operation of the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant, which is slated [to begin] October 2012. Problems with the vitrification facility have been drawn out for a long time, but in the financial aspect, as well, Tokyo Electric Power Co. Ltd., which was the biggest supporter of Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd. through loan guarantees for interest-bearing debt, among other things, no longer has the strength to do so.

C: First, in the aspect of finances, certainly electric power companies are debating what to do in a situation where Tokyo Electric's business operations are so tough. However, Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd.'s interest-bearing loans still remain at about 1 trillion, but rather than growing they will decrease if [the Rokkasho reprocessing plant] goes into operation and reprocessing can begin.

As for the problems with the facility, as well, repeated tests were done with the KM OC (mockup facility) in Tokai-mura, and even with the current melting furnace, there is growing knowledge about "in which operational states and temperature states the glass can be solidified." And if testing resumes at the Rokkasho Reprocessing plant, I think the vitrification will go smoothly. Plus, with subsidies from the government and capital support from electric power companies, research is now being conducted on an improved type of melting furnace. The outlook is that that will go quite well. If the reprocessing plant is completed, it could get up and running without any problems.

A: In conclusion, I think that, because of a number of different circumstances, we must be thorough, right down to the very last details, in operating [the Rokkasho reprocessing plant]. Just as soon as [the government] says "stop," a place for bringing spent fuel will disappear, and that will pose a big threat to the operation of light water reactors. Nevertheless, we must operate [the reprocessing plant] while we continue to consider what lies ahead.

What we ought to think about in parallel with that is making provisions for spent fuel storage. In the wake of the Fukushima nuclear power accident, the safety of storing spent fuel in pools has once again come into question. On the other hand, the waste that was stored on-site in dry casks was confirmed to be safe after being inundated with the massive amounts of water from the tsunami. In that sense, too, it would be best to gradually move the spent fuel that is in pools on-site into cask storage. That will in itself result in increasing the storage capacity. Of course, that is with full awareness that there will be a problem in gaining the understanding of the local people.

On the other hand, if the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant does not move [into operation] either, Japan Nuclear Fuel will get bogged down financially, and the spent fuel balance will be upset, too. Then the final decision will probably be large-scale long-term storage of the fuel. There will probably be no choice but to make up a

story that takes things in that direction.

Energy Forum: However, for local people there is apprehension about having a storage facility nearby because the spent fuel would be put there semi-permanently.

A: That is totally illogical talk. It would be storage, not permanent storage. A facility that is slated to store [radioactive waste] for 50 years can technically be extended to [store the waste for] 100 years. But unless the term of the storage is decided, local people will flat out reject it. However, for local people the important thing is that [the stored waste] will be taken away when the term limit is reached. Unless we examine the backend scenario in its entirety, we cannot raise the issue of storage to the local people. In a time when we are still not sure about plutonium utilization, we need to have discussions about backend processing, including direct disposal.

B: The completion of the reprocessing plant was delayed because of a problem at the vitrification facility, but we must, and can, solve that problem. In order for it not to be said that "nuclear energy policy is irresponsible," I think it is very important, and socially, too, to completely use up all of the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant and show the Japanese people everything up to its last and final form. However, there is the issue of what to do with the MOX fuel that was produced. To use the fuel within Tokyo Electric's territory would be, first of all, out of the question. There is the possibility that [the local people] would be somewhat understanding about [the use of MOX fuel] in a pressurized water reactor, but soon, when using plutonium will be tough, how to get all the different components to work together will be difficult.

C: Certainly the biggest problem is, not surprisingly, what will happen to plutonium after the Fukushima nuclear accident. By some means or other, the plutonium that comes out must be used in light water reactors.

B: That probably depends on public opinion now. Because the antinuclear [movement] today is a realm that is at the height of popularity, it is no exaggeration to say that [use of plutonium in light water reactors] hinges on whether honest, levelheaded discussion can be had. Attention is focused on elections in municipalities where nuclear power facilities are located, and people who have cited the importance of nuclear energy to a certain extent are being elected. Local people who feel familiar with nuclear energy are levelheadedly considering the problems of energy and nuclear power. I anticipate the kinds of activities where that climate slowly spreads.

Energy Forum: We hope to continue with this discussion about the nuclear fuel cycle.

09/13/2011

Text of Japanese Prime  
Minister Yoshihiko Noda's  
Policy Speech

Tokyo, Sept. 13 Kyodo -- The following is a provisional translation, provided by the government, of the full text of a policy speech that Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda delivered before parliament Tuesday.

1. Introduction On the occasion of the opening of the 178th session of the Diet, I would like to offer my prayers for the repose of those who lost their precious lives in the Great East Japan Earthquake, as well as in the concentrated heavy rains and typhoon, which followed in succession. In addition, I would like to express once again my sincerest sympathies to those who have been affected by disaster and who still have to endure inconvenience in their daily lives.

I have been recently appointed as Prime Minister of Japan. In any era, there is only one thing that is required of politics, which can be expressed in a simple phrase: "sincere spirit and just intent." While listening to the voices of the people, with a just intent and sincere spirit, I am committed to being true to my conscious as a politician and doing everything in my power that is possible to take on the grave responsibility of dealing with the national crisis brought about by the disasters. In this endeavor I humbly ask for the understanding and cooperation of our coalition partner, the People's New Party, all other political parties and parliamentary groupings, and the people of Japan.

Already six months have passed since the fateful day of March 11. That disaster claimed so many lives and destroyed tranquil lifestyles in many hometowns. The scars it left are still deeply etched on the affected areas. Furthermore, the disaster, coupled with the accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station have had an enormous impact on the entire country, not only on the affected area. With the long-running challenges that face economic society in Japan still remaining, the disaster has imposed a further set of new and grave challenges that require urgent resolution.

Living during this national crisis, there is something that we should ensure we never forget. That is the high-minded spirit demonstrated by the Japanese people in the midst of despair after the earthquake disaster. Ms. Miki Endo was working as a disaster prevention staff member in Minami-Sanrikucho, where

she continued to urge residents to evacuate to high ground. It was her voice, relayed over the radio from the disaster prevention offices, which gave people courage and saved countless lives. Although her voice was tinged with fear and apprehension, Ms. Endo continued to broadcast to the very end. She was engulfed by the tsunami and never returned home. If she were still alive today, she should have been celebrating her marriage this month. Everywhere in the disaster affected areas, there were deep bonds with fellow human being without regard for their own lives, and filled with a sense of mission. Determination to fulfill a public duty in the midst of a crisis, as exemplified by Ms. Endo, and also, the countless people affected by the disaster who, showing kindness to others, have silently withstood the trials and hardships they face - are these not the qualities that ought to give us pride as Japanese and hope for the future? There is something else we should not forget. That is the people who are struggling on the frontlines of the disaster reconstruction effort to deal with the nuclear accident and provide support to affected people. Last week, in my capacity as chief of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters, I visited TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. There, more than 2,000 people are continuing to work silently and tenaciously, wearing masks and protective clothing and facing the dangers of both radiation and heatstroke, in order to bring the accident to a close. In the areas damaged by the earthquake and heavy rain disasters, there are also various local government officials, who, while affected by the disasters themselves, are nonetheless continuing to attend to the needs of residents, spearheading rescue, recovery and decontamination activities.

The mayor of Nachi-Katsuura, Mr. Shinichi Teramoto, is a supreme example of such commitment. Although filled with the pain of having lost family members, he continues to oversee and direct operations being undertaken in response to the heavy rains.

At this very moment, the struggle against the nuclear accident and disaster-related damage is continuing. Through various dedicated and ongoing efforts in the affected areas, Japan's present and future are being supported.

Shouldn't we give greater consideration to these people with our encouragement and gratitude? There is something else we should not forget. It is the feelings of the disaster-affected people, and above all those from Fukushima, for their hometowns. Although efforts towards reconstruction are now underway in many regions, residents of the area around the power station in Fukushima continue to face an unclear future and struggle with worries and unease about radiation they cannot see. I recall the words of a certain high school student about the feelings of the people of this area, "To be born in Fukushima, grow up in

Fukushima, and work in Fukushima. To get married in Fukushima, have children in Fukushima and bring up those children in Fukushima. To see our grandchildren in Fukushima, to see our great-grandchildren in Fukushima and to end our days in Fukushima. That is our dream." These words are from a play by high school students from Fukushima, which was performed at the 35th All Japan High School Cultural Festival in Fukushima last month. These young people have overcome feelings of sadness and anger, unease and impatience, resignation and helplessness, and are filled with a strong desire to take a step forward toward tomorrow. Does such young enthusiasm not give us the conviction that we can achieve reconstruction in the disaster-affected areas and Fukushima? It is highly regrettable that recently a Cabinet minister resigned following inappropriate statements lacking compassion for disaster victims. I would like to take this opportunity to pledge once again that the Cabinet will redouble its concerted efforts to bring the nuclear accident to a conclusion and advance assistance for disaster victims, restoring the public's confidence in the Government.

Even after the disaster, global developments continue as before. Views and perspectives on Japan continue to be subject to rapid change on an almost daily basis. The voices who have praised the high-minded spirit of the Japanese are being drowned out by critical views on Japan's politics. We now hear certain mocking comments from overseas suggesting that "procrastination and the inability to show political leadership" are "the Japanese way." The trust and confidence that our country has earned up to now is currently in real danger of being lost.

We must accept the severe and harsh realities we face. We must also overcome them. In order to prevail over the crisis before us, protect the lives of the people and restore hope and pride to Japan, now is the time for the executive and legislative branches of our country to fulfill their prescribed roles.

II. Recovery and Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake (Expediting recovery and reconstruction) It goes without saying that recovery and reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake are the greatest and highest priorities for my Cabinet. To date, the Government has worked in cooperation with local governments, making every effort to engage in recovery operations, including the construction of temporary accommodation, the removal of debris and support for the livelihoods of the people affected by the disaster. Although it is a fact that in comparison to the immediate aftermath of the disaster substantial progress has been made, we have received comments that the operations have lacked speed and assistance is not reaching those who need it.

What my Cabinet needs to do is self-evident. We will implement each needed specific measure steadily and

assuredly based on the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction. To this end, we will expedite preparations for the compilation of the third supplementary budget. We will also work to formulate such measures as the provision of grants that can be easily accessed by local governments, and the creation of a system for special zones for reconstruction as matters of urgency.

The basic principle regarding financial resources for recovery and reconstruction is that the burden of these resources should not be passed onto the next generation, but instead should be shared together by all generations living here in the present. First of all, we will endeavor to secure resources through various efforts, including reductions in expenditure, the sale of national assets and a review of civil servant personnel costs. In addition, the multiple options available for time-limited taxation measures will be considered in a multifaceted manner that duly examines the current economic situation and takes into account other matters, including specific items for taxation, the period for such measures and their scope and scale in each fiscal year.

We will promptly submit to the Diet a draft bill for the establishment of the Reconstruction Agency, which will function as a body that transcends the current framework of multiple ministries and agencies, providing a one-stop response to the requests received from local governments that have been affected by the disaster. In order to accelerate reconstruction of the disaster-affected regions, I would request that the ruling and opposition parties work together on a concerted response.

(Efforts to bring the nuclear power station accident to a conclusion and the revival of Fukushima) Bringing the nuclear power station accident to a conclusion is a national challenge. Without the revival of Fukushima Prefecture there will be no restoration of trust and confidence in Japan. We will engage in every possible endeavor to ensure that the release of radioactive materials into the atmosphere, ground and oceans is halted, and will steadily work on the realization of the Roadmap towards the conclusion of the accident, while making maximum efforts to ensure the safety of the workers engaged in operations at the power station. By accumulating knowledge and expertise from around the world, we will also overcome the technical challenges we are facing. To ensure that there is no recurrence of such a nuclear accident, we will work tenaciously to identify the causes of the accident based on international perspectives, and will provide comprehensive information on such causes and prevention measures.

The disbursement of provisional compensation payments to people affected by the accident is another urgent matter. There are residents who have been forced to evacuate and have endured inconvenience in

their daily lives over a long period; owners of livestock businesses who have faced the heartbreak of seeing their animals euthanized; farmers who have been forced to dispose of their crops; and owners of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), who have been forced to stop their operations due to unfounded reputational damages. To assist these victims of the disaster facing such a severe situation, we will expedite measures to provide fair and appropriate compensation and provisional payments.

In order to alleviate worries and concerns of residents and further accelerate reconstruction efforts, it is essential that thorough efforts be made to eliminate the radioactive materials that have already been dispersed and provide failsafe measures to manage the health of residents in the vicinity of the nuclear power station. In particular, we will prioritize health management programs for children and pregnant mothers. In order to ensure safety and peace of mind concerning food products that people consume on a daily basis, we will further enhance the inspection structures in place for agricultural produce and beef, among others.

There are still areas, predominantly in the vicinity of the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, where levels of radiation remain extremely high.

Keeping firmly in our minds the sorrow and despair of those who have been forced to leave their ancestral lands, with the cooperation of local governments, the Government will take responsibility for whole-hearted efforts to engage in large-scale decontamination measures that will eliminate the radioactive materials present in the living environment.

Furthermore, based also on the lessons learned from this disaster, as well as taking all possible measures to respond to the large-scale natural disasters and accidents which threaten the lives and health of the people, we will reassess the Government's disaster preparedness measures with the aim of creating a sustainable, disaster-resilient nation.

III. Response to the Global Economic Crisis In addition to recovery and reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, another priority issue that must be addressed by this Cabinet is the rebuilding of the Japanese economy. Since the March 11 disaster, issues such as the rapid appreciation of the yen, constraints on electricity supply and demand, and the instability of international financial markets have occurred in a composite manner. Japan is on the verge of suffering a major loss of national credibility due to the hollowing-out of its industries and its exacerbating financial situation.

(Reconstruction of energy policy) The first step towards rebuilding Japan's economy is reconstructing its energy policy. We continue to face a situation where the supply and demand of electricity is constrained due to the nuclear power station accident. Without the stable provision of electricity, which is the very "blood" of our economy and society, the foundation for Japan's affluent lifestyle will lose stability and we will become unable to bolster domestic industrial activities.

Thanks to the energy saving efforts of the public this summer, we did not have to resort to carrying out rolling power outages. I thank you for your sincere understanding and cooperation. In order to empower Japan to escape the situation of being forced to endure energy-saving measures, we will spend the next one or two years implementing supply and demand countermeasures. At the same time, we will revise from scratch the current Basic Energy Policy, which lasts until 2030, and will create a new strategy and plan by around summer of next year. In doing so, we will steadily consider a mid- to long-term energy composition that citizens can feel comfortable with from the perspective of energy security as well as using cost analyses, while widely taking into account the views of wide-ranging groups of citizens.

Concerning nuclear power generation, it is unproductive to grasp nuclear power as a dichotomy between "zero nuclear power" and "promotion." In the mid- to long-term, we must aim to move in the direction of reducing our dependence on nuclear power generation as much as possible. At the same time, however, we will restart operations at nuclear power stations following regular inspections, for which safety has been thoroughly verified and confirmed, under the premise that a relationship of trust is developed with the local government. As per an organizational restructuring of nuclear safety regulation, the Nuclear Safety and Security Agency will be established as an affiliated agency of the Ministry of the Environment and will work to boldly unify regulations for nuclear power safety.

The history of humankind is also a history of people attempting to develop new types of energy. Japan, a country with few fossil fuel resources, must lead the rest of the world in constructing a society that bases itself on new forms of energy. Japan will utilize its advanced technological power to pair regulatory reform with measures to promote dissemination in transmitting a cutting-edge model for energy conservation and renewable energies to the world.

(Implementation of bold countermeasures to the appreciating yen and industrial hollowing-out) Historical levels of yen appreciation paired with the rise of emerging economies and other factors are precipitating an unprecedented industrial hollowing-out crisis. The exporting companies and small to medium-size

enterprises that have led Japanese industry in the past are now crying for help. Unless something is done, there is the concern that domestic industries will drop in strength and employment will be lost. If that happens, overcoming deflation and reconstruction in the affected areas will become significantly more difficult tasks.

Countries in Europe, the US and Asia are engaging in a location battle where national efforts are being made to attract companies to their countries. In order for Japan to prevent the hollowing-out of its industries and maintain domestic employment, we must work together with the Bank of Japan, which conducts monetary policy, in utilizing all policy means available. First, we will utilize reserve funds and the third supplementary budget to implement emergency economic countermeasures that include the bold enhancement of location subsidies. Furthermore, we will take advantage of the merits of the appreciating yen to support Japanese companies in purchasing foreign companies and acquiring resource interests.

(Achieving both economic growth and fiscal health) Since before the March 11 disaster, Japan relied on national bonds for half of its national revenue, and the national debt was at risk of reaching one thousand trillion yen. The disaster has raised the crisis level of the public finance even further, making Japan's situation the worst among major advanced nations. Today, as Japan's national credibility is severely questioned, we cannot continue to manage public finance by covering old debt with new debt. Do we have the right to force more debt on future generations, who cannot now speak for themselves? The responsibility of today's politicians is being put into question.

Financial reconstruction is by no means a simple problem that can be realized in a direct manner. There is the path of cutting expenditures, which is achieved by the streamlining of politics and governmental administration. There is also the path of increasing revenues realized by revitalizing the economy and the affluent lives of citizens. While exerting every effort to realize these two paths, there is also the path of revenue reform where we must ask citizens to bear a greater burden so that we do not create problems for future generations. We must push forward while keeping view of all of these three paths, and that makes for a difficult journey.

Economic growth and fiscal health must be advanced in unison like two wheels of the same vehicle. For that purpose, efforts to realize the New Growth Strategy formulated last year will be accelerated and a strategy that takes into account the circumstances after the disaster will be enhanced with the aim of compiling, by the end of the year, a strategy to revitalize Japan.

In order for the Government to act as a "control tower" overseeing important national policies, including the realization of these strategies, we will gather the knowledge of the industrial, government, and academic sectors, consolidate existing meeting structures, and establish a new meeting structure, that I will administer.

It is the dynamism of private companies such as small and medium-size enterprises that will lead Japan's economic growth. We will develop an environment conducive to generating new industries and ample employment opportunities mainly in the environmental energy sector, which is also linked to resolving the problem of global warming, and the medical-related sector, which is in high demand due to Japan's longevity society. Moreover, in order to deepen relations with growing foreign markets, we will strategically promote economic partnerships and advance market development in a concerted effort between the public and private sectors, while at the same time strengthening efforts to attract expertise and funding from overseas.

The idea that "agriculture is the backbone of a country" is still alive today. Food supports and nurtures life. Due to the very fact that consumers demand a high standard of safety and reassurance, the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries industries may possibly become growth industries that assume the lead in the new era. Using efforts to revitalize agriculture, the core industry in affected areas in the Tohoku region, as a gateway, concrete measures will be compiled in order to swiftly revitalize the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries industries in accordance with the midterm recommendations of the Council for the Realization of the Revival of the Food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishery Industries.

In addition, post offices are a pillar of social infrastructure that supports rural communities. I will work to ensure that the bill for the Postal Reform Act is quickly passed so that post offices are able to provide the basic services of the three branches in a unified manner as bond-forming bases among the people of each community.

The Government will also continue to promote the reform for increasing local sovereignty.

IV. A Japan that has Hope and Pride Along with overcoming the "two crises" of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the world economic crisis, we must invest in Japan's future in order to be a country filled with promise and a country which each and every person can have pride in and be grateful that they were

born in this country.

(The Revival of a Large Middle Class and Social Security Reform) In times past, Japan used to be identified as a country in which all people belonged to the middle class. Supported also by one of the best social security systems in the world, the large middle class had been the basis of economic development and social stability. However, the birthrate decline and aging population have progressed rapidly, the employment and family patterns to date have largely transformed, and the "lifetime safety net" of the social security system, too, has begun to show some gaps. Among the people who used to belong to the middle class, there are now more people who are finding it difficult to get by.

Giving up could eventually turn to despair and then to anger, and then the collapse of the stability of the Japanese society from its core. "Hope" and "pride" will not emerge unless we bring back Japan which has "warmth" rather than "despair and anger." The social security system must be shifted to one that is tailored to all generations and one which all generations can feel is fair. Specifically, we need to strengthen support measures for the younger generation by advancing comprehensive support for children and child rearing, including the provision of child allowance agreed upon among the three parties of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and New Komeito party and the establishment of a framework for the unification of nurseries and kindergartens. Another major challenge is to eliminate any concerns about the healthcare and nursing care systems and to efficiently provide high quality services tailored to the community situation. Furthermore, amid prospects of a declining workforce population, we must improve the employment rate of young people, women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. We must advance the realization of a society in which all people participate, in which everyone with a will to work is able to work. And we must form a reliable safety net to ensure that no one falls into the poverty cycle.

In June of this year, the Government and ruling party's final draft plan for the comprehensive reform of social security and taxation systems was compiled after much discussion. With this plan as our basis, the ruling and opposition parties will sincerely carry out repeated discussions and we will aim to submit the relevant legislation during the next ordinary session of the Diet. In order for the ruling and opposition parties to have an open dialogue and to be able to reach an agreement on the passage of the legislation, I sincerely ask for the participation of the members of all parties and parliamentary groups in the policy discussions on the comprehensive reform of social security and taxation systems.

(The Aspiration to Engage Actively Overseas and Contribute to the International Community and to All of

Mankind) In order for Japanese people to regain "hope" and "pride," there is one more important thing. That is never to become "inward-looking" -- to have the aspiration to engage actively overseas. Since the Meiji Restoration, our forefathers paved the way to prosperity by boldly challenging the world. I believe there are definitely things that only we Japanese people can do to resolve the issues facing the international community and contribute to the future of all of mankind. In order to call forth the aspiration to become a pioneer of a new era among the young, we will advance the development of human resources, including the bringing up global human resources, and educate to develop people's ability to learn and think on their own. Furthermore, we will be exploring policies to open up frontiers of a new Japan, including the establishment of a new community development model which aims to achieve prosperous furusato (homelands), the development of sea areas which are said to be a reservoir of marine resources, and the establishment of a strategic scheme for promoting the development and use of outer space.

(Restoration of Confidence in Politics and Government Administration) The country cannot function without the public's confidence in politics and government administration. We will strive to restore confidence through the generation of tangible outputs of administrative reform and political reform.

Already, a Cabinet decision has been approved soon after the end of the war in 1946, which vowed to thoroughly revitalize the operations of the government in order to increase public confidence. Despite the fact that more than 60 years have passed since this Cabinet decision, government revitalization is still midway into the process. We will work to eliminate any wasteful spending and inefficiencies included in government administration and to strengthen the truly necessary government functions. These government revitalization efforts must be continued and reinforced consistently. We will enhance the methods of reviewing government programs (shiwake) that we have been undertaking since the change of government. Furthermore, the Government and ruling party will go back to the original goal of "putting the lives of the people first" and make concerted efforts to fight vested interests and to carry out an array of administrative reforms.

In order for the nation's civil servants to be able to truly demonstrate their capacities as those serving the needs of the people and realize efficient and high quality government services, we will endeavor to achieve the early passage of the legislation related to the reform of the system of national civil servants. Along with cutting the personnel costs of national civil servants, we will carry out efforts for materializing the reform of the civil servant system.

Our foremost priority in political reform is correcting the difference in weight attached to a vote, which is currently a violation of the Constitution.

I expect that serious discussions will take place among the ruling and opposition parties regarding the mechanisms of the election system, including the issue of the number of Diet members.

5. Foreign and National Security Policy that Addresses the New Requirements of the Times (Changes in the global situation and security environment surrounding Japan) The global situation surrounding Japan is continuing to change on a daily basis, even following the recent disaster. The global presence of emerging economies is increasing and in response to the new requirements of the times, brought about by multi-polarization it is vital that Japan's foreign policy respond robustly to these changes.

There is also an increasing lack of transparency in the security environment surrounding Japan. In such a situation it is naturally the responsibility of the Government to create a system in time of peace that is capable of responding swiftly to any crisis that may unfold in order to ensure regional peace and stability as well as safety of the people. In accordance with the new National Defense Program Guidelines that were formulated at the end of last year, Japan will enhance its readiness and mobility and work to build a dynamic defense force, thus responding to the new security environment.

(Deepening and developing the Japan-U.S. alliance) The Japan-U.S. alliance remains at the cornerstone of Japanese diplomacy and national security, and also a publicly shared asset fostering the stability and prosperity of not only the Asia-Pacific region, but also the world.

The significance of the Japan-U.S. alliance relationship that has been strengthened over the long course of more than half a century was reconfirmed during the disaster, through "Operation Tomodachi." In addition to moving quickly to build relations of trust at the leader level, we will work to deepen the Japan-U.S. alliance on various levels, focusing particularly on security, economics, and exchanges of culture and human resources, thus deepening and developing an alliance relationship that is appropriate for the 21st century.

Regarding the issue of the relocation of Futenma Air Station, in line with the Japan-U.S. agreement, it is important to avoid a situation in which the Air Station becomes fixed in its current location and ensure that the burden on Okinawa is alleviated. We will make every effort in this regard, while explaining the situation sincerely to the people of Okinawa to ask for their understanding. We will also actively implement

measures for the revitalization of Okinawa.

(Strengthening bilateral relations with neighboring countries) The Asia-Pacific region is expected to remain as a center for global growth in the future and Japan will naturally continue to strengthen political and economic relations with countries in the region and also to deepen exchanges in cultural aspects. We will make efforts to build trust as a fellow member of the region and ensure robust relations.

In relations between Japan and China, in view of next year's 40th anniversary of the normalization of relations between our two countries, we will work to promote specific cooperation in a broad range of areas and, while seeking for China to play an appropriate role befitting its responsibilities as a member of the international community with greater transparency, we will work to deepen our strategic relationship of mutual benefit.

In relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK), we will further strengthen relations, based on a future-oriented vision towards the next one hundred years. In relations with North Korea, in cooperation with other countries and based on the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration, Japan seeks to normalize its diplomatic relations with North Korea through the comprehensive resolution of the outstanding issues of concern, including the abduction, nuclear, and missile issues, and settling the unfortunate past. Regarding the abduction issue, this is a grave issue that relates to national sovereignty and as the responsibility of the State, we will spare no effort towards achieving the return of all abductees to Japan at the earliest possible juncture.

In relations with Russia, in addition to continuing tenacious efforts to resolve the issue of the Northern Territories, which is of prime concern, we will work to build an appropriate relationship as a partner in the Asia-Pacific region.

(Linkage in a multi-polar world) In order to cultivate assured bonds with each country in a multi-polar world, great strength of will be required to join together in resolving the challenges that the world faces in common. These "kizuna -- bonds of friendship --" must be broadened and expanded in multiple tiers of society, in various public and private sector bodies.

One example of such efforts based on such "kizuna" is recovery and reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake. The disaster-affected regions have benefited from the provision of countless instances of warm support from countries around the world. This assistance can be said to be one of the significant

fruits of Japan's contribution to the international community in the post-war period and the trust the world places in us. Japan is the only country in the world to have suffered the devastation of an atomic bombing and is also a country that has suffered from the recent unprecedented disaster. In addition to continuing to take the lead among nations to appeal for nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, Japan must pay back the kindness that has been shown by the world, by sharing the lessons and knowledge we have gained in the areas of nuclear safety and disaster prevention with other countries.

Efforts to strengthen linkages between countries in economic aspects are termed "economic cooperation." As a part of such cooperation, essential challenges are efforts to ensure growth in the global economy and prevent the hollowing out of industry. Based on the "Basic Policy on Comprehensive Economic Partnerships" we will make strategic moves seeking to conclude high-level economic partnership agreements (EPA). In specific terms we will advance the EPA negotiations with the ROK and Australia, and we will aim to initiate negotiations in the near term for a Japan-EU EPA and a Japan-China-ROK EPA. In addition, with regard to the participation in the negotiation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, we will conduct thorough discussions with a view to reaching a conclusion as soon as possible.

With regard to measures relating to such issues as securing natural resources and energy as well as a stable supply of food, we will proceed actively with economic diplomacy. In addition, in respect of various global challenges, including assistance to developing countries and a response to international negotiations on climate change, a response to the situation in the Middle East and North Africa, and measures for fragile states, Japan will continue to make an active contribution.

6. Closing Remarks Politics is all about working tenaciously to bring about realistic solutions to issues, while coordinating contradictory interests and values. The essence of parliamentary democracy lies in consensus building based on carefully wrought dialogue and understanding.

Under the previous administration we have already found a number of solutions through repeated dialogue. Given the constraints placed on us by a divided Diet, now is an apt and opportune moment to reflect on the rightful nature of the legislative branch of government, namely the aim of reaching consensus through discussion.

To the honorable members of the Diet gathered here, representing your constituents, and to the people of Japan, I would like to reiterate the following.

In order to revive Japan from this historic national crisis, do we not need to now amass and concentrate all the latent potential in our country? The members of the Cabinet will make concerted efforts to discharge their responsibilities.

The members of the bureaucracy will demonstrate their maximum abilities as experts in their fields. The ruling and opposition parties will engage in thorough discussions and dialogue and give their all to identify common ground.

Is it not now time for the Government, corporations and each individual, indeed every person in the nation, to be of one mind and united in our efforts to face this crisis? I will take the lead among the Cabinet in listening carefully to the voices and the heartfelt cries of each and every person in the nation. I will conduct myself with "sincere spirit and just intent." I will devote myself only to the people of Japan, and, in order to overcome the crisis before us and resolve the challenges that have beset Japan for many years, I am determined to spare no effort as I advance tenaciously and doggedly forward, one step at a time.

I close my policy speech by reiterating my request for the understanding and cooperation of my fellow citizens.

Japan: Tepco Drafts  
Fuel-removal Plan

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online inEnglish0140 GMT 02 Sep 11

09/02/2011

Tokyo Electric Power Co. has drafted a blueprint for removing fuel from reactors and storage pools at the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, a task described by experts as unprecedented, daunting and even mind-boggling.

In the draft plan presented at a meeting of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission on Aug. 31, TEPCO said it will fill containment and pressure vessels with water, inspect the condition of the fuel with cameras and then remove the damaged fuel.

The meeting was held in Tokyo's Kasumigaseki district to study measures to decommission the No. 1 through No. 4 reactors at the Fukushima plant.

However, TEPCO failed to provide a specific time schedule for removing the 1,496 nuclear fuel assemblies

from the No. 1, 2 and 3 reactors.

"We are not yet in a position to decide on details (of the plan)," said Kazuhiro Takei, general manager of TEPCO's Nuclear Fuel Cycle Department.

It could take up to a decade to even start the fuel-removal process.

Fuel melted and accumulated at the bottom of the pressure vessels of the three reactors after cooling functions were lost in the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

Experts who attended the meeting described the enormous challenge ahead in dealing with the unprecedented accident, in which meltdowns occurred simultaneously at three reactors.

"We will step into uncharted territory as far as working environment and job requirements are concerned," one participant said.

"A mind-boggling task lies ahead of us," said another.

Some experts said the melted fuel could change shape and lead to nuclear fission when it is being removed. They said workers must carefully monitor conditions while removing the fuel.

"We will be required to take a process of trial and error and review work procedures whenever it is necessary," said Hirofumi Nakamura, a senior official at the Japan Atomic Energy Agency.

In the first step of the draft plan, TEPCO will remove radioactivity inside reactor buildings with robots and remote-control equipment.

Workers will then determine the conditions of the containment vessels and repair the damaged parts to prevent water from leaking to turbine buildings and other places.

In the second step, TEPCO will fill the containment and pressure vessels with water to cool damaged fuel, which is emitting heat, and inspect fuel conditions inside the pressure vessels with cameras. Water shields radioactivity.

The company plans to vacuum out or grab away the fuel with special equipment. There has been no decision yet on how to dispose of the melted fuel.

TEPCO will also begin removing 3,108 nuclear fuel assemblies from storage pools of the No. 1 through No. 4 reactors in about three years because they are not seriously damaged.

Overhead cranes and fuel replacement systems will be installed at storage pools of the No. 1, 3 and 4 reactors because fuel removal equipment was destroyed in the hydrogen explosions at the reactor buildings.

Fuel removed from storage pools will be kept at a common-use pool near the No. 4 reactor building.

Step 2 of the road map for stabilizing the reactors at the Fukushima plant is scheduled to be completed between October and January 2012.

Within three years after Step 2 is completed, containers will be installed to cover the damaged reactor buildings.

TEPCO hopes to begin removing melted fuel in 10 years, according to its earlier estimate based on the Three Mile Island accident in the United States in 1979.

It will take several decades to dismantle and relocate the reactors, according to the estimate.

In the Three Mile Island accident, melted fuel remained inside pressure vessels. At the Fukushima plant, damaged fuel leaked to the outer containment vessels.

It will be extremely difficult to collect damaged fuel scattered in and outside the reactors. It will be no less easy to remove radioactivity and repair damages because various parts of the plant are contaminated with high levels of radioactivity.

Japan: Profile: Nuclear  
Disaster, Environment  
Minister Is  
Up-and-coming Dpj  
Lawmaker

Tokyo, Sept. 2 Kyodo -- Goshi Hosono, who was retained Friday as state minister in charge of dealing with the crisis at the crippled Fukushima Daiichinuclear power plant, is seen as a rising star in the ruling Democratic Party of Japan and has taken a key role in seeking to revamp the country's nuclear regulatory system.

09/02/2011

The 40-year-old lawmaker, who will double as environment minister, has also raised his profile by turning up at regular press conferences jointly held by the government and plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. to explain about the situation of the crisis, triggered by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Hosono, who grew up in Shiga Prefecture, western Japan, worked as a volunteer during the recovery period from the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake, which hit the western Japanese city of Kobe and its vicinity. He said the experience prompted him to become a lawmaker.

Prior to assuming the ministerial post in June, Hosono had served as a special adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan and an acting secretary general of the DPJ, also under Kan who stepped down earlier this week.

The graduate of Kyoto University is currently in his fourth term in the House of Representatives.

He drew public attention when a magazine reported in 2006 that he was involved in an alleged extramarital affair with a TV newscaster.

Japan's New Cabinet  
Inaugurated

Tokyo, Sept. 2 (Jiji Press) -- The cabinet of new Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda was inaugurated Friday after attestation ceremonies at the Imperial Palace.

09/02/2011

Noda became Japan's 62nd prime minister, three days after the Diet, Japan's parliament, approved him as successor to Naoto Kan.

In his selection of cabinet members, Noda, the new Democratic Party of Japan president, took care to give important cabinet posts to those close to DPJ bigwig Ichiro Ozawa, who was shunned by Kan, in order to ensure party unity.

Among those close to Ozawa, Kenji Yamaoka, 68, former DPJ parliamentary affairs chief, was named chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, while Yasuo Ichikawa, 69, a former acting policy chief of the ruling party, was appointed defense minister.

Meanwhile, Osamu Fujimura, 61, a former DPJ deputy secretary-general close to Noda, became chief cabinet secretary.

Noda put emphasis on the government's seamless response to the March 11 earthquake and tsunami and the subsequent nuclear crisis, by retaining Goshi Hosono, 40, as nuclear accident minister and Tatsuo Hirano, 57, as post-disaster reconstruction minister. Hosono doubles as environment minister.

Noda selected Kan's national policy minister, Koichiro Genba, 47, as foreign minister and Jun Azumi, 49, former DPJ parliamentary affairs chief, as finance minister.

Hideo Hiraoka, 57, previously senior internal affairs minister, was given the post of justice minister.

Motohisa Furukawa, 45, former deputy chief cabinet secretary, was appointed to serve as national policy minister as well as economic and fiscal policy minister.

Takeshi Maeda, 73, former chairman of the House of Councillors Budget Committee, was appointed land, infrastructure, transport and tourism minister.

Yoko Komiyama, 62, was promoted to health, labor and welfare minister from senior vice minister, while Masaharu Nakagawa, 61, was appointed education minister after serving as senior vice education minister.

Noda reappointed financial services and postal reform minister Shozaburo Jimi, 65, a member of the People's New Party, the DPJ's coalition partner.

Former Government Revitalization Minister Renho, 43, was given the same post by Noda after serving as special adviser to the prime minister in the final days of the cabinet of Naoto Kan.

Japan's New Leader Noda To Stick With Nuke Power for Now

Tokyo, Aug. 29 (Jiji Press) -- New Democratic Party of Japan leader Yoshihiko Noda is expected to make efforts to utilize existing nuclear reactors for the time being while reducing the country's dependence on nuclear power over time.

08/29/2011

Noda, who was elected DPJ president Monday and will certainly become prime minister on Tuesday, will be tasked with drawing up concrete steps to redefine the country's energy policy, following the crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power station, which was severely damaged by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

In the ruling party's presidential race, Noda said that the government should utilize nuclear power for the time being while making efforts to reduce the dependence in the medium to long term by promoting renewable energy.

Noda is, therefore, expected to follow basically the policy set by the outgoing Prime Minister Naoto Kan, except that he is more eager to restart reactors suspended for regular maintenance checks.

The central government should be responsible and its officials should visit municipalities that host nuclear power plants to win local consent for the restart of halted reactors, Noda said in a television program on Sunday.

He stressed that the government should restart reactors that prove to be safe through its stress tests, after it obtains local approval.

Though Noda emphasizes the importance of ensuring the stable power supplies needed for economic activity, he will continue face difficulties in winning local consent even after becoming prime minister, critics point out.

In the same TV show, meanwhile, Noda said it is impossible for Japan to build new nuclear reactors and that the government will decommission reactors once each one's lifetime ends.

In an essay carried by a recently published issue of a vernacular monthly magazine, Noda said that Japan should retain certain levels of nuclear power until 2030.

But at the same time, he called on Japan to raise its proportion of energy generated from solar and other renewable sources to 20 pct in the 2020s, from about 9 pct in 2009.

Noda's government is believed to review the nation's basic energy policy in line with the shown idea, pundits say.

The existing basic energy policy calls for Japan to raise its reliance on nuclear power to 53 pct and renewable energy to 20 pct.

Japan: TEPCO Says  
Difficult to Comment on  
A-Bomb-Fukushima  
Comparison

Jiji Press English News Service, August 27, 2011

08/29/2011

TEPCO said Saturday it is difficult to comment on a government estimate that the amount of cesium-137 spewed in the nuclear crisis is 168 times that of U.S. atomic bombing in Hiroshima, western Japan, in 1945.

At a news conference, senior TEPCO official Junichi Matsumoto said it is difficult to comment on the estimate as the accident of a nuclear plant is compared with a weapon.

An atomic bomb is a weapon that is designed to kill people and damage structures by releasing radiation, heat and blast in a short time, he said, adding that it is different in nature from the release of radioactive substances in the Fukushima accident over one week.

Matsumoto reiterated the company's apology for causing trouble to many people, mainly those in Fukushima Prefecture, home to the utility's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear station, which was knocked down by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

On Friday, the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency disclosed the radiation release estimate in response to a request by Hiroshi Kawauchi, chairman of a House of Representatives committee on promotion of technology and innovation.

But the agency said it is not rational to compare the atomic bombing and the nuclear plant accident simply based on the release amount of radioactive material.

The estimate said the amount of cesium-137 released from the No. 1, 2 and 3 reactors at the plant totaled 15,000 terabecquerels, in line with a government report submitted to the International Atomic Energy Agency in June.

The United States dropped atomic bombs in Hiroshima and another western Japan city of Nagasaki in the closing days of World War II. END

Japan: Tepco Knew of  
Tsunami Danger in 2008

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online inEnglish0145 GMT 27 Aug 11

08/28/2011

A top executive of TEPCO, as far back as June 2008, was informed by its own employees that a raging tsunami more than 10 meters in height could swamp its Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, TEPCO said Aug. 25.

According to the Tokyo Electric Power Co., the utility requested that the Japan Society of Civil Engineers review methods of tsunami modeling. Before the request was filed, the results of a trial calculation were presented to Sakae Muto, then deputy general manager of TEPCO's Nuclear Power and Plant Siting Division in June 2008.

The tests showed that the Fukushima No. 1 plant could be hit by tsunami in excess of 10 meters, well above the height calculated in safety measures for the plant.

The modeling results were also given to Ichiro Takekuro, then TEPCO executive vice president, after the request was filed with the JSCE in October 2008.

In December 2008, TEPCO ran another trial using a different modeling method. The two sets of modeling results were presented to the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency on March 7 this year, four days before the March 11 magnitude-9.0 earthquake and deadly tsunami that crippled the plant northeast of Tokyo. The modeling results were not made public.

"Even tentative modeling results are a matter for evaluations, and they should have been reviewed by government panels," Yoshinori Moriyama, NISA's deputy director-general for nuclear accident measures, said at an Aug. 25 news conference. "TEPCO should have reported and published them earlier."

Junichi Matsumoto, acting general manager of TEPCO's Nuclear Power and Plant Siting Division, was also present at the same news conference.

"We did not publish the modeling results because they were based on a number of assumptions and were subject to uncertainties," he said. "We will think about (whether we will publish them in the future)."

Japan Gov't Blames Tepco  
for Neglecting Tsunami  
Risk Warning

Tokyo, Aug. 25 (Jiji Press) -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501> could have been better prepared for the March 11 tsunami if it had taken into account a tsunami risk assessment in 2008, Japanese government spokesman Yukio Edano said Thursday.

08/25/2011

"There should have been enough time for preparation," Edano, chief cabinet secretary, said at a press conference.

Edano also blamed the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency for not having disclosed the 2008 assessment even though it had been informed of the risk to the utility's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant knocked out by the March tsunami.

It was revealed Wednesday that TEPCO learned in spring 2008 that the nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan was at risk of being hit by a tsunami with a height of up to 15.7 meters.

However, TEPCO maintained Thursday that the 14-meter-high tsunami that crippled the Fukushima plant was unexpected as it had prepared for a maximum height of 5.7 meters.

The assumption of 5.7 meters was reasonable as it was projected using figures drawn up by the Japan Society of Civil Engineers, senior TEPCO official Junichi Matsumoto said at a news conference.

The 2008 assessment was just one of a number of its estimates it had asked the organization to look at, TEPCO President Toshio Nishizawa told reporters.

TEPCO's then management was aware of the 2008 tsunami assessment, as was Nishizawa's predecessor Masataka Shimizu, who stepped down in June, at least after the March disaster, Matsumoto said.

Aging Reactors Mean

Bloomberg, 2011-08-25

08/25/2011

## Japan Faces \$13 Billion Decommissioning Cost

More than a third of Japan's nuclear reactors will need to apply for license extensions within five years or face decommissioning at a time when the industry's safety record is in tatters after the Fukushima disaster. The country's 54 reactors were licensed for 30 years and operators can apply for 10-year extensions to a maximum life of six decades. Twenty-one are nearing renewal, according to data from utilities and the World Nuclear Association. Of those seven will enter their fifth decade if extensions are granted, which should be avoided, according to a professor of metallurgy.

"Nuclear reactors shouldn't be in operation for more than 40 years," said Hiromitsu Ino at the University of Tokyo. "You can renew electrical wiring and other parts but you can't do anything with their pressure vessels. They just get old and deteriorate, increasing the risk of accidents."

Closing down about 17,000 megawatts of capacity, enough to power nearly 14 million average U.S. homes, would add to the electricity supply crunch that this summer resulted in Japan's first mandatory power savings measures since the 1970s. It would also trigger 1 trillion yen (\$13 billion) in decommissioning costs, according to estimates by Kazuya Idemitsu, a professor of materials engineering at Kyushu University.

Opinion polls show about 70 percent of the Japanese public wants to reduce reliance on nuclear power after the March earthquake and tsunami caused three meltdowns at the Fukushima Dai-ichi station. One of the damaged reactors was certified to run for a fifth decade only a month earlier.

Japanese utilities set aside part of their profits to cover costs for decommissioning, which include packaging radioactive waste for storage and dismantling the station. Kansai Electric Power Co., the most nuclear-reliant of Japan's utilities, in 2008 had 299 billion yen in reserve for decommissioning, according to its website.

Fourteen 30-year-old units in Japan need permits to run 10 more years, according to the World Nuclear Association data. Two 40-year old reactors also received decade-long extensions last year. No reactor in the world has yet lasted 50 years.

"What we witnessed at Dai-ichi was damage to an installation that was built 40 years ago and designed 50 years ago," said Gennady Pshakin, a physicist based in Obninsk, the site of Russia's first nuclear power plant. More recent models use better alloys and improved safety systems, he said.

Winning public support for extending reactor lives or building new ones won't be easy Prime Minister Naoto Kan said on July 22. Kan said in July Japan needs to reduce its reliance on nuclear power after the Fukushima crisis, the second time in four years an atomic plant has been damaged in a natural disaster in the country.

The world experienced a boom in nuclear power before the 1979 Three Mile Island accident in the U.S. and the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in modern-day Ukraine halted the industry's expansion outside a few countries including China and India.

Since Fukushima, Germany, Italy and Switzerland have decided to abandon nuclear power.

The U.K. has the world's oldest operating nuclear power plant, according to the London-based World Nuclear Association. India, Japan, Russia, Switzerland and the U.S. have the next oldest stations, with 21 operating reactors in the world aged 40 years or more, according to WNA data.

"If we have confidence in the engineering and believe that it's OK to run plants for more than 40 years, then we will apply for renewal," Kansai Electric Power Co. President Makoto Yagi said earlier this month.

Still, he said that after 30 years of operation, reactors are "pretty old." Yagi was speaking at a briefing at the company's Mihama nuclear station to mark the anniversary of the death of five workers in an accident in 2004.

Of Japan's nine operating reactors that will be 39 years or older in 2016, five are owned by Kansai Electric.

The No. 1 unit at Mihama received an extension in November and will work at most for 50 years, Yagi said.

Kansai Electric applied to extend the life of Mihama's No. 2 unit last month, he said.

Extensions are based on the assumption that plants will run for 60 years, Tomohiro Sawada, assistant director of the nuclear power division at Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, said. Assessments usually take between six months and a year, Sawada said.

Other companies that need to apply for license extensions by the middle of 2016 are Tokyo Electric Power Co., the operator of Fukushima Dai-ichi, Chugoku Electric Power Co., Kyushu Electric Power Co., Shikoku Electric Power Co. and Tohoku Electric Power Co., which shut all its reactors after the disaster.

So-called stress tests being carried out on reactors will also consider "aging problems," Trade and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda said on Aug. 5. Units that fail the tests must be decommissioned, he said.

The U.S., which has the most nuclear reactors, licensed its plants to run for 40 years and has extended the lifespan of the majority for a further 20 years.

The original license period was based on economics and "not on limitations of nuclear technology," according to the NRC website. Today, 70 of the 104 U.S. reactors have 60-year permits and 13 more applications are under review, the NRC said.

Upgrades come at a cost that make no sense when new nuclear plants are more efficient and have greater safety features, said Kyushu University's Idemitsu. Opposition to building new nuclear reactors may leave the utilities with no choice, he said.

"As public opposition to new reactors grows utilities will favor keeping old units," Idemitsu said. "That's not good."

To contact the reporters on this story: Yuriy Humber in Tokyo at [yhumber@bloomberg.net](mailto:yhumber@bloomberg.net); Masatsugu Horie in Osaka at [mhorie3@bloomberg.net](mailto:mhorie3@bloomberg.net)

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Teo Chian Wei at [cwteo@bloomberg.net](mailto:cwteo@bloomberg.net)

Japan: Miyagi Farmer To  
Ship Rice After Own  
Safety Inspection

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online inEnglish1905 GMT 20 Aug 11

08/22/2011

SENDAI--A rice farmer in Miyagi Prefecture plans to ship newly harvested rice after a private institute he approached found it free of radioactive substances and fit for human consumption.

Shigeo Kurosawa, a 63-year-old rice farmer of Wakuyacho, Miyagi Prefecture, announced the results of the inspection Thursday. He is expected to harvest rice earlier than any other rice farmers.

The central and prefectural governments are clearly disconcerted by the farmer's plan as other farmers in the prefecture have been asked to refrain from shipping rice due to the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.

Kurosawa asked the institute to check brown and white rice, as well as rice husks, of the Omotenashi brand rice on Monday. According to the results of the test, neither radioactive iodine nor cesium were detected. The inspection even failed to reach the detection limit of five becquerels per kilogram.

"I wanted to make sure of the safety of my rice by myself. As radioactive substances were not detected in either brown or white rice, which are both ready for consumption, they couldn't be safer," Kurosawa said.

He plans to harvest his rice on Thursday and will ship it at the end of August to co-ops in Tokyo and its vicinity.

"Some consumers are buying rice stored from last year's harvest. I want to prove the newly harvested rice is safe," he said.

On Thursday, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry held an explanatory meeting for farmers on rice inspections in Sendai. The Miyagi prefectural government will start inspections later this month.

At the meeting, the prefectural government called on about 200 people, mainly farmers, to refrain from shipping rice until the safety of the staple is confirmed to be lower than the government-set regulatory limit.

for rice of 500 becquerels of radioactive substances per kilogram.

Concerning the Kurosawa case, an official of the Miyagi prefectural government said, "We want [him and all other farmers] to refrain from shipping rice."

A farm ministry official said: "It's a moral issue and not legally binding. But due to the farmer's own action, consumers might think the prefectural government's system of inspection is not effective and they might distrust the prefectural government's efforts."

Japan: Retailers Begin  
Independent Radiation  
Checks

Tokyo Nikkei Telecom 21 in English 21 Aug 11

08/22/2011

TOKYO (Nikkei)--Supermarket operators and other food retailers are increasingly conducting independent radiation checks on their products amid growing concerns among consumers about food safety.

Supermarket chain Ito-Yokado Co. has started strengthening radiation checks at its own farms, and many restaurant operators have bought radiation dosimeters and begun their own inspections.

These moves come after sales of Japanese beef at supermarkets tumbled following the discovery that cattle fed with rice straw tainted with radioactive cesium had been shipped to many parts of the country.

Ito-Yokado has conducted radiation checks on cow manure, rice husks and wood chips that had been used at its own farms until August in four locations in the Kanto region, including Chikusei, Ibaraki Prefecture, and Tomisato, Chiba Prefecture. It has also used a third-party organization to check soil and unused manure at its farms.

The retailer will conduct independent checks on baby leaf vegetables and other produce grown at its farm in Chikusei, Ibaraki Prefecture, once a month. It has also started checks on its crops in partnership with local agricultural cooperatives in Tomisato and Fukaya, Saitama Prefecture.

Major supermarket operator Aeon Co. (8267) will ask a third-party organization to conduct radiation checks

on rice produced in 2011 for its "Topvalu" private brand.

Kakiyasu Honten Co. (2294), which operates a chain of shops selling prepared food dishes, spent about 20 million yen to buy a germanium semiconductor detector that can pick up even low levels of radiation and recognize different types of radioactive substances. It started checks on beef on Aug. 12.

Japan: New nuclear safety agency faces difficulties

The Daily Yomiuri (Tokyo), August 18, 2011

08/22/2011

Although the government has decided to establish a new external nuclear safety organization following the accident at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, the new watchdog is sure to face difficulties in maintaining its independence from other government bodies as well as in improving crisis management and response.

The Cabinet approved a basic plan for drastic reform of the government's nuclear safety regulatory organs Monday.

The new organization will be established in April 2012, integrating the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency under the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry, the Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission and other nuclear regulatory organizations.

The new agency will take on full control over nuclear safety, by integrating the organizations and nuclear regulatory functions of government offices.

"We'll clarify where responsibility lies and ensure a culture of safety," Goshi Hosono, minister in charge of the nuclear crisis, said Monday at a press conference after the day's Cabinet meeting.

The new watchdog will operate under the Environment Ministry. Hosono said, "The Environment Ministry is the most desirable organization to implement strict control [over nuclear safety]."

Environment Minister Satsuki Eda said, "We'll do our best to restore confidence in the nuclear safety agency."

The latest organizational reform will resolve the conflict of interest problem arising from the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency's falling under the economy ministry. Presently, the agency in charge of overseeing the country's nuclear facilities is a part of the same ministry that promotes nuclear policy.

However, based on the basic reform plan, it is unclear whether the new agency would completely separate itself from the ministry's influence and ensure its independence.

The Environment Ministry has a history of promoting nuclear power plants from the viewpoint of combating global warming.

The Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan, which obliges the government to reduce greenhouse gases by the end of 2012, says nuclear power plants have an extremely important role to play in combatting global warming. Furthermore, the government plans to utilize such energy.

"Although the reform is dubbed a separation of the promotion of nuclear power generation from control, the Environment Ministry is not necessarily in an impartial position," a senior ministry official said.

Concerning the establishment of the new agency, interests related to the ministries are complexly entangled.

The Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ministry currently has a budget of about 240 billion yen for nuclear-related policy. The ministry is expected to transfer the commanding role in the observations of radioactive materials to the new agency, although it will still be in charge of inspecting nuclear facilities and monitoring nuclear substances to prevent misuse for nuclear weapons.

However, education minister Yoshiaki Takaki did not clarify the details Monday.

"I think some of our staffers will be transferred to the new agency, but it's still under consideration. We don't know how many people will be moved there," he said.

#### Independence problems

One problem that emerges with the new safety agency is how it will ensure its independence, as an external agency, from the Environment Ministry.

After the new agency kicks off, the environment minister will have the authority to approve or disapprove nuclear power policy.

However, the new agency might violate the international standards set by the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear safety rules, as such an agency should be completely independent from any sectors of the government.

In addition, the new watchdog will probably face problems with the actual implementation of regulatory practices and with responding to crisis situations.

The current Environment Ministry was launched as the Environment Agency in 1971 to address environmental pollution problems. Since then, the ministry has been responsible for controlling pollution. However, radioactive substances are not within the ministry's jurisdiction. Therefore, the ministry will have to start from scratch on nuclear regulatory policies.

Some observers believe the new agency will be forced to rely on staff members with previous technical knowledge about nuclear power plants and administration at the beginning, such as those transferred from the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA).

The number of staffers to be transferred from NISA and other organizations is likely to be about 500. This will be about one-third of the total number of staffers at the ministry, which currently stands at about

1,250.

Some young officials at the Environment Ministry were surprised by the move. "I never expected I would be involved in the nuclear regulatory administration," one official said.

The new agency will be responsible for responding to severe accidents, but there are concerns as to whether the Environment Ministry can handle such accidents without knowledge and previous experience. Several senior officials said they are capable and up to the task. However, one official was quoted as saying, "We don't have any details [on the new agency] yet."

The initial responses by the Prime Minister's Office in cooperation with METI following the outbreak of the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant were criticized as inappropriate, although the two organizations were forced to serve as command and control centers.

Some experts point out cooperation with the Self-Defense Forces is likely to become more important in the future to prevent the recurrence of similar accidents. The SDF played an important role in addressing the Fukushima nuclear crisis.

In addition to setting up a new position called "emergency situation handling official," the government plans to establish a system in which the Environment Ministry will serve as the commanding office to oversee coordination and cooperation with other government ministries.

However, grounds for the organizational reforms--such as how the government will utilize lessons learned from the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant crisis--remain unclear, with the government's nuclear accident investigation and verification committee still analyzing the accident.

Japan: Utilities Ordered  
To Further Check  
Quake-safety Data on  
Reactors

Tokyo, Aug. 22 Kyodo -- Japan's nuclear regulatory agency on Monday ordered utilities to further review data on the quake-resistance of their nuclear reactors, after Kansai Electric Power Co. found errors in such data in its 2009 report.

08/22/2011

The agency expects the review to be completed by October at the latest.

Nuclear plant operators must first finish the review before aiming to pass the so-called nuclear "stress tests" required by the government in the wake of the Fukushima Daiichi power plant disaster. The tests were introduced to allay public concerns about the safety of nuclear power.

An official at the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency said that, so far, he does not think utilities would

experience a "significant delay" in submitting the outcome of the stress tests to the agency because of the order issued Monday.

Utilities are required to clear the first round of the government's two-stage stress tests before being allowed to restart nuclear reactors idled for regular maintenance and checkups.

Some errors have been found the past month in quake-safety data, leading the nuclear agency to issue orders aimed at enhancing the credibility of the data.

The latest order would make the companies check the data more broadly.

Kansai Electric said that errors were found in the Nos. 3 and 4 reactors of the Takahama plant in Fukui Prefecture and confirmed the reactors' safety by using the correct data.

Japan: Scientist  
Lambastes Lawmakers  
over Fukushima  
Radiation, Becomes  
YouTube Star

WSJ, 2011-08-16

08/16/2011

The idea of a graying scientist speaking in front of Japanese lawmakers during a parliament committee session may sound somewhat less than gripping.

But that's precisely what has turned out to be one of Japan's recent YouTube sensations. The video has been posted by multiple YouTube accounts and one of the clips has collected about a half million views over the past two weeks as people seek more information and better explanation of the risks they may face.

The end-July video shows increasingly impassioned University of Tokyo professor Tatsuhiko Kodama giving an unvarnished view on the dangers of radioactive contamination from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster — and calling lawmakers out for their failure to take action on it. At one stage near the end of a 15-minute dissection of the problems Japan's facing, and the perceived inadequacies of the government response, he exclaimed, "What on earth is the Diet doing when 70,000 people are forced out of their homes?"

"I'm filled with anger," said Mr. Kodama, head of the university's Radioisotope Center, during the Diet testimony, holding up papers and gesticulating as he pointed out that the government only approves a scarcely available machine for testing food for contamination, when new alternative technologies could be

made widely available. Mr. Kodama also talked about possible consequences of internal exposure to radiation after people ingest or inhale radioisotopes. He strongly urged the government to take all the necessary steps to protect children from such exposure, and lambasted lawmakers for failing to take such steps so far.

"This is nothing but negligence on the part of the Diet," he said. "We don't have the luxury to spare a single second...that's all," the professor thundered, striding purposefully from the microphone.

The interest in Mr. Kodama's comments is an indication of the public's growing frustration with the way the government has been dealing with the consequences of Japan's worst nuclear accident. On YouTube and Twitter alike, Mr. Kodama's won considerable praise for his straight talk and determination to make a difference, with many hoping to hear more from him.

But though in demand since his Diet appearance, Mr. Kodama's been keeping a relatively low profile while helping with decontamination work in the disaster area. His office is now refusing all media requests for interviews and further comments on the government's handling of the situation: he's a busy man, and he has work to do.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9sTLQSZfwo&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9sTLQSZfwo&feature=player_embedded)

Murky Science Clouded  
Japan Nuclear Response

WSJ, 2011-08-16

08/16/2011

IITATE, Japan—After a third explosion rocked Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex on March 15, the weather took a worrisome turn. A wind that had been blowing steadily out to sea shifted to the northwest, carrying plumes of radiation up a river known locally as the "corridor of wind." That evening, a late-winter snow began falling on this mountain village. Residents awakened the next day to a blanket of white over their homes, roads, cow pastures and pine forests. They stepped outside and began shoveling.

Back in Tokyo, officials had information suggesting that the snow carried radiation to this community 17 miles from the stricken plant, well outside the government's evacuation zone. Nevertheless, a week passed before government officials gave residents any clear indication that their town of 6,000 had become a nuclear "hot spot," and even then they were hesitant to order residents to get out. "We spent a lot of time debating because we knew we were making a very profound decision," says Toshimitsu Honma, a member of the Nuclear Safety Commission's emergency committee and deputy director general at the Nuclear Safety Research Center, a government agency.

Some young people in the village who were tuned in to Internet chatter about contamination grew frustrated. In late March, Kenta Sato, 29 years old, turned to his new Twitter account, sending hundreds of

dispatches from his smartphone. He attracted 5,700 followers, including several members of Parliament. "Since the government won't issue an evacuation order despite constantly high radiation levels, I have to keep working in a place where radiation comes falling down all day long," he wrote on March 26. "Please help!"

A Wall Street Journal examination of what happened in Iitate shows how challenging it can be to assess the dangers of fallout. Deciding to evacuate towns closer to the plant, where fallout was heavier, was a relative no-brainer. But radiation measurements taken at dozens of locations around Iitate differed widely, and science didn't offer a clear answer for whether the measured amounts were too much. In the end, it took government officials more than a month to decide that Iitate was too dangerous to inhabit. And by then, many residents, particularly older ones, didn't take the warnings seriously.

Confusion over what to do about radioactive contamination is playing out in various forms all over Japan. Officials are struggling to figure out where it is safe to live, what is safe to eat and how farmers decontaminate their fields. At present, 116,000 people remain unable to return to their homes due to the radiation threat. Even as the government continues to ask more people to evacuate, it is mulling allowing others to return to towns where contamination is relatively light.

While high levels of radiation are unequivocally dangerous, the science regarding health effects of the kind of lower-level contamination that has spread far from the plant is surprisingly hazy. There is no clear-cut scientific consensus on what level of fallout should trigger mandatory evacuation, or on how long-term exposure to radiation at the levels being measured in places like Iitate affect health. Further muddying the picture, the spread of radiation has been fiendishly unpredictable, skipping some areas and showing up in concentrated hot spots elsewhere.

For the first few days after the March 11 tsunami crippled the Fukushima Daiichi plant, authorities were confronted with a succession of frightening explosions and fires. The government ordered everyone living within 12.4 miles of the plant to evacuate, and those between 12.4 and 18.6 miles to stay indoors.

Residents of Iitate and other towns outside these zones had a sliver of good fortune: a steady wind was carrying the radiation out to sea.

The wind shift on the afternoon of March 15 erased that advantage. Back in Tokyo, a government computer system called Speedi was crunching weather data to predict how radioactive emissions would spread. After the wind shift, it forecast that contamination was heading toward Iitate.

By the next day, the ministry of education and science, which oversees nuclear research, had sent a team to Nagadoro, a hamlet in the southern part of Iitate, to monitor radiation. Soon other teams arrived from elsewhere in Japan. They drove specially equipped vans with radiation sensors mounted to the roofs. Before long, they were monitoring the air in 36 separate spots around Iitate.

The government posted radiation data online, but it provided no interpretation. When Mr. Sato heard about contamination from other young residents, he left town to stay with his mother two towns away. But on March 21, his father decided to reopen a small business he owns that cleans metal molds used to make concrete blocks. He asked all six of his employees, including his son, to report back to work. Feeling trapped, Mr. Sato began pressing for the government, via Twitter, to evacuate the village.

At the Nuclear Safety Commission, the government's nuclear-policy advisory body in Tokyo, Mr. Honma was monitoring data from Iitate and surrounding communities. The prefecture government had reported high levels of radiation in the air in Iitate as early as March 15. Mr. Honma says he became convinced that the area had received sizable doses of radiation.

But whether those doses were sufficient to warrant evacuation was another matter. Very high radiation doses, such as from an atomic bomb, can burn, poison or kill. But the effects of smaller doses aren't nearly as clear. In theory, any exposure to radioactive elements raises the risk of cancer, especially in young children. But the effects of slight increases are difficult to measure, particularly because about 40% of people eventually get some form of cancer under normal circumstances, according to the National Cancer Institute in the U.S.

Human radiation exposure is measured in units called sieverts. A chest X-ray delivers a dose of about 0.04 millisieverts, and traveling from New York to Tokyo by plane, where cosmic rays are higher than on the ground, comes in at 0.07 millisieverts. Such natural and man-made sources add up to around 3 millisieverts per year for the average U.S. resident, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates.

Many experts contend that a dose of 100 millisieverts raises the risk of cancer by 0.5%—no matter how long the time period over which it is absorbed. The International Commission on Radiological Protection, an independent international body, recommends immediate evacuation of people at that level. The U.S.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission says there is no hard evidence linking health problems to doses below 100 millisieverts.

Japanese government guidelines stipulated that residents should be evacuated once doses of accumulated radiation exceed 50 millisieverts. For exposures of 10 to 50 millisieverts, the guidelines said, they should be told to stay indoors.

Radiation levels in Iitate peaked on March 17 and 18, then began falling, Mr. Honma says. But because the radiation wasn't gone, the overall accumulated dosages continued to climb. At one of the town's hot spots, the accumulated dose was 28 millisieverts through March 28, according to the Nuclear Safety Commission, which projected that it would eventually reach 35.

By early April, Mr. Honma says, he was in favor of evacuation, but the government guidelines suggested it wasn't warranted. "The real problem was the 50 millisievert rule," he says.

Toshiso Kosako, a radiation-safety specialist who was then a special adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan—he resigned in late April to protest the government's handling of the crisis—urged Mr. Kan's cabinet on March 22 to classify parts of Iitate and surrounding towns as "highly contaminated zones." In a document submitted to senior government officials, he said that radiation monitoring needed to be beefed up, that childhood thyroid cancer was a risk. In another document two days later, he urged the government to consider expanding the evacuation zone to include those communities.

The government says it did beef up monitoring. Noriyuki Shikata, a government spokesman, said Mr. Kosako was just one adviser, and that others held different views.

With no consensus among its experts, the Nuclear Safety Commission didn't prod the government to expand the zone to include Iitate. "We are aware that there are some areas outside [the evacuation zones] that are contaminated, but it is our judgment that there won't be health consequences as a result," Haruki Madarame, the commission's chairman said.

Many villagers, including town officials, believed they were safe. By March 30, only 259 villagers had taken shelter at an evacuation facility outside of Fukushima prefecture.

Mr. Sato's own father, Koichi, continued to drink tap water and eat vegetables grown in local gardens. His father's elderly mother and five dogs stayed put in Iitate, too. One morning, he opened his windows to let in the spring air, triggering a shouting match with his son, who by then was carrying a compact radiation monitoring tool.

"I understand why young people may be worried, but in 20 years or 30 years, I'd be dead anyway, whether I get cancer from radiation or not," says the elder Mr. Sato, who is 57. He says he can't leave his company and moving it isn't an option.

The government sent several radiation experts to Iitate to talk to residents. On March 25, Noboru Takamura, a physician and Nagasaki University professor, told about 600 villagers that they could continue to live safely in Iitate if they took precautions like wearing face masks outdoors and washing hands frequently, according to the village newsletter. Mr. Takamura said recently that radiation readings in the village were below 100 millisieverts—considered the threshold for health risk.

On March 28, a group of independent experts led by Tetsuji Imanaka, an associate professor at Kyoto University's Research Reactor Institute and an opponent of nuclear power, visited Iitate to test the air and soil. The group took readings at more than 150 locations. At one spot, radioactivity was high enough that someone who stood there 24 hours a day would be exposed to an accumulated radiation of 160 millisieverts in a year—well above the 100 millisievert danger level. In other spots, readings were much lower.

"We saw grandpas and grandmas going about their lives in an environment that you'd only see in highly

controlled areas at a nuclear-power plant," says Mr. Imanaka, who had spent years studying the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

He says his readings differed from the government's because his team tested different locations. "Some of those places had higher radiation levels, some as high as 25 times the government figures," he says, adding that he doesn't think the government intentionally selected places with low dosages.

A ministry of education and science official said he hadn't seen Mr. Imanaka's data, but "in general, it is natural to get different figures in different places."

Before leaving Iitate, Mr. Imanaka advised Norio Kanno, the village chief, to evacuate children as soon as possible. Masuro Sugai, an economist in Mr. Imanaka's group, said the village chief was more interested in learning how to clean up contaminated soil so farmers could plant again. Mr. Kanno and other village officials declined to comment.

On March 30, the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency said the radiation level of a soil sample from Iitate exceeded what it considered the threshold for evacuation.

Doctors sent in by the government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency tested thyroid glands of several hundred children in Iitate around the same time. They said everyone cleared the government standard. Critics said the results were skewed because the test was done more than two weeks after the accident, when radiation levels were declining.

As the days wore on, village elders grew resistant to any evacuation. In a letter submitted to the central government on April 9, Mr. Kanno, the village chief, complained that the government had released information about Iitate's contamination before consulting village officials, inflicting "immeasurable pain and stress" on residents.

"I have tried everything I can to avoid emptying the village completely," Mr. Kanno said in a recent speech. Some young residents, including the younger Mr. Sato, criticize village officials for not taking the lead in evacuating people. "People in power—the village chief and assembly members—are all in their sixties and seventies and can't abandon the village," says Mr. Sato. "Because they are staying, children can't leave. These adults have become a burden on the young people."

On April 22, Tokyo finally ordered residents of Iitate and four other municipalities with similar hot spots to evacuate. The government cited a recommendation by the International Commission on Radiological Protection that once the emergency phase of a nuclear accident passes—it didn't specify when that point arrives—the exposure of local residents should not exceed 20 millisieverts per year.

Some in Iitate were in no hurry to get out. When village schools reopened for a new school year in mid-April in rented space in a neighboring town, roughly 400 children were still living in Iitate and had to be bused to the new locations. The village hall stayed open until June 22. Nine businesses have gotten permission to

continue operating and let their workers commute in.

"My reaction was 'Why now?'" the elder Mr. Sato, who wasn't allowed to keep his business in litate open, said in June. "They had told us time and again levels here were low enough."

By last week, the only people still living in litate were 108 residents of a nursing home—the elderly were not required to evacuate—and 10 others who refused to budge, including Mr. Sato and his mother.

Japan: Ex-chief of Nuclear Safety Panel Calls for Independence of New Agency

Tokyo, Aug. 16 Kyodo -- A former head of the Nuclear Safety Commission on Tuesday questioned the government's decision to set up a new agency in charge of nuclear safety under the Environment Ministry.

08/16/2011

"It is inappropriate to set it up under an existing ministry," Shojiro Matsuura said at a hearing held by the Atomic Energy Commission. "I am afraid it will have neither independence nor power." The envisioned agency should have a large staff of people from law enforcement and fire fighting authorities as well as the Self-Defense Forces to utilize their crisis management experiences, Matsuura said.

The government decided Monday to establish the new agency in April next year as a key pillar of Japan's basic policy on improving nuclear safety regulation in the wake of the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The planned entity will integrate the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, the Cabinet Office's NSC, and theradiation and other environmental monitoring functions from the science ministry.

The government decision is based on Prime Minister Naoto Kan's call for the separation of the current nuclear safety agency from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which promotes the use of atomic energy.

Japan: Nuclear Reactor in Hokkaido To Restart as Early as Tuesday

Sapporo, Aug. 15 (Jiji Press) -- A reactor at Hokkaido Electric Power Co.'s <9509> Tomarinuclear power plant could restart commercial operations shortly with local government approval, informed sources said Monday.

08/15/2011

The prefectural assembly of Hokkaido, northernmost Japan, decided the same day to hold a meeting of its

select committee on energy issues on Tuesday afternoon to discuss resumption of the No.3 reactor at the Tomari plant, which is suspended for regular inspections.

After attending the meeting, Hokkaido Governor Harumi Takahashi is expected to inform industry minister Banri Kaieda of her intention to give the nod to the reactor's restart in light of views in the committee, the sources said.

Kaieda said Wednesday night that he would not issue a certificate of completion for the routine checks to resume the reactor's operations until he obtains the governor's consent.

He made this stance clear after his ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency earlier in that day completed final regulatory examinations and judged that there were no problems with the Tomari plant reactor.

Takahashi has been summarizing the opinions of four local municipalities involved and the Hokkaido assembly since Thursday. The municipalities already have decided to accept the resumption.

The Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission approved the inspection results on Thursday.

Japan's Cabinet Oks New Nuclear Agency Under Environment Ministry

Tokyo, Aug. 15 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING DETAILS) Japan's Cabinet approved a plan Monday to set up by April next year a new agency in charge of nuclear safety under the Environment Ministry in the wake of the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, as a key pillar of the country's basic policy on improving nuclear safety regulation.

08/15/2011

The new entity will integrate the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, the Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission, and the radiation and other environmental monitoring functions from the science ministry.

Goshi Hosono, minister in charge of the nuclear crisis, told a news conference after the Cabinet approval that work to prepare for drastic reforms will begin promptly with a preliminary panel to be created as early as within the month.

Eyeing a major overhaul of Japan's nuclear regulatory framework, Prime Minister Naoto Kan has been calling for the separation of the current nuclear safety agency from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry,

which promotes the use of atomic energy.

The current setup of the nuclear safety agency under the industry ministry has been criticized for lax government supervision of nuclear facilities, and a slow response to the Fukushima power plant crisis triggered by the devastating March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said in a separate news conference that integrating the functions of nuclear safety regulation in several government ministries and agencies would "improve" the way the government regulates nuclear safety, and the new agency would also be handling nuclear security.

The envisioned entity would also play a key role in crisis management immediately after an accident occurs, the top government spokesman said.

The government plans to submit necessary legislation during the ordinary parliamentary session starting in January.

Edano said the government also plans to draw up by the end of a 2012 a final plan to strengthen the functions of the new agency based on the outcome of a third-party panel reviewing the nuclear crisis.

Environment Minister Satsuki Eda meanwhile said his ministry will "make every effort to restore trust in the administration of nuclear safety." Hosono, who was instructed by Kan to draft a set of ideas to improve nuclear safety, had been pushing for the new agency to be placed under the Environment Ministry. However, the idea of placing it under the Cabinet Office was floated by some government officials who argued that doing so would make coordination easier with the prime minister's office during an emergency such as a nuclear accident.

Proponents of putting the new entity under the ministry said placing it under the Cabinet Office would not make it independent from the industry ministry, which loans its staff to the office.

On why the Environment Ministry was eventually chosen, Hosono said the ministry would be able to thoroughly regulate nuclear safety and make it clear who would be accountable for ensuring such safety, indicating that regulation in the past was blurred since the functions were dispersed and the existing nuclear safety agency was under the wings of the industry ministry.

Japan: Light Shed on Issue of Safety of Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Pools	<p>Tokyo Enerugi Foramu in Japanese 01 Aug 11 pp 40-43</p> <p>The hydrogen explosion at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Unit 4 Reactor, which was stopped, was a surprise to those with ties to nuclear power. The initial explanation was that the fuel in the spent fuel storage pool became exposed and hydrogen was produced, but this explanation now appears to be erroneous. However, desperate operations to inject water into the spent fuel pool emphasized the issue of maintaining the safety of spent fuel in the event of a serious accident. This time we look at the problem of spent nuclear fuel storage.</p> <p><b>Spent Nuclear Fuel Stored in Large Volumes</b></p> <p>The Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station has 6 spent fuel storage pools, one for each of its reactors, as well as a shared storage pool and a spent fuel dry cask storage facility. At the time of the accident on 11 March, there were 292 spent fuel assemblies stored in the pool for the Unit 1 reactor, 587 spent fuel assemblies in the Unit 2 reactor pool, 514 in the Unit 3 reactor pool, 1,331 in the Unit 4 reactor pool, 946 in the Unit 5 reactor pool, and 876 in the Unit 6 reactor pool. In addition to these spent fuel assemblies, there were also 6,375 assemblies stored in the shared pool and 408 in the dry cask storage facility. The reason that so many spent fuel assemblies were stored in the Unit 4 reactor pool is that the reactor was undergoing a periodic inspection at the time and all of the reactor core fuel including relatively new fuel was transferred to the storage pool in order to make structural repairs inside the reactor. A large volume of spent fuel exceeding a total of 10,000 assemblies had accumulated at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, but the spent fuel at the Unit 4 reactor was a particularly unique case because of the urgency for maintaining the cooling capacity.</p> <p>Spent fuel contains a large amount of nuclear fission products, but by about one month after the fuel has been removed from the reactor, the heating value drops to about 0.1% compared to the time of operation. Therefore, compared to the overall nuclear reactor, the conditions for maintaining the safety of the spent fuel storage are more relaxed, and other than the building, special facilities to house the spent fuel are not established. Many of those that have toured a nuclear power plant have probably seen spent fuel submerged at the bottom of the storage pool. However, spent fuel storage pools, which store more radioactive material than the radioactive material inside a reactor, can become a major threat to safety when an abnormality occurs such as the total loss of power that occurred this time for an extended period of time. Scenarios that pose a threat include fuel damage associated with a hydrogen explosion caused by a drop in the pool water level, which was a concern this time, direct radiation exposure due to fuel exposure when the reactor building is damaged and the water disappears even with shielding material in place as occurred with the Unit 3 reactor, and the possibility of recriticality due to a reduction in fuel spacing caused by seismic shaking.</p>
--	--

Typically, spent fuel is first stored in a pool inside the reactor because of the cooling capacity and space. However, dry storage technology was also developed to store spent fuel in metal or concrete casks after a certain amount of cooling time has passed, and this technology is already used by many nuclear power plants in Europe and the United States. However, in Japan, dry storage is used for only a small amount of spent fuel and most spent fuel is stored in pools. During normal conditions, there are no safety-related concerns with either of these methods, but with this recent accident, the problem of maintaining safety with pool storage in abnormal conditions was highlighted as a new issue.

#### Maintaining the Safety of Storage Pools

First, let's take a brief look at the details of the accident at the Unit 4 reactor of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. Around 6am on 15 March, an explosion believed to be a hydrogen explosion occurred in the Unit 4 reactor building, the reactor building was significantly damaged, and fires then broke out twice. As stated previously, the spent fuel pool of the Unit 4 reactor contained 1,331 spent fuel assemblies including the 548 spent fuel assemblies that were removed in December of last year. As a result, the heating value of this pool was higher than that of the other pools. Initially, the pool's cooling capacity and water replenishment functions were lost as a result of the total loss of power caused by the earthquake and tsunami. As a result, it is believed that the water level in the pool dropped, the fuel became exposed, and the cladding tube reacted with the water to produce hydrogen and cause an explosion. However, based on measurements taken at 4:08 on 14 March, the water temperature of the Unit 4 reactor pool was 84°C. This temperature was not high enough to cause a hydrogen explosion the next day on 15 March. Also, in the Unit 4 reactor building, the lower floors were more significantly damaged than the operation floor on the highest floor where the pool was installed, and therefore it is hard to believe that the explosion was due to hydrogen that was generated from the pool at the top of the building. Also, in a later examination of the pool water, the water appeared transparent and it was confirmed that the concentration of radioactive materials was not very high. Hence, the cause of the hydrogen explosion is still not clear, but it is believed that it could have been due to the penetration of hydrogen from an external source such as the Unit 3 reactor.

Continuing with the accident details, next the safety of the spent fuel pool of the Unit 3 reactor, where the reactor building had been destroyed, became a particularly large problem. The Japan Self-Defense Forces began to spray the pool with water from the air and fire crews began desperately flooding the reactor with water from the ground. These efforts and others symbolized the intensity of the accident response measures and this situation continued. In reality, if operations to inject water through these types of efforts had not been successful, the accident this time would have been much worse. We must also not forget that the injection of water into the pools continued even after these initial efforts.

This series of events highlighted the fact that there are problems with the safety countermeasures that are in place for spent fuel storage pools when conditions that exceed conventional expectations occur such as the loss of coolant due to long term power loss and earthquakes. Spent fuel pool storage is a method that is necessary to cool fuel that contains a high amount of decay heat immediately after it is removed from the reactor core. From this perspective, in order to maintain safety, the capacity to inject water using an alternative method based on portable pumps and such is necessary as demonstrated this time. Hence, it also appears that there is a need to install an independent water injection system that differs from the current water injection line and that can be connected externally. As for the likelihood of achieving the capacity to inject water using an alternative method with portable pumps and such, this capacity will become the target of stress tests on nuclear power plants as discussed in the previous article in this series. Spent fuel countermeasures are also an important issue from the viewpoint of nuclear security, and the importance of countermeasures to nuclear terrorism has even been pointed out by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and in stress tests in Europe.

#### Striving for the Expansion of Dry Storage

Spent fuel produced from the operation of nuclear power plants continues to accumulate today in spent fuel storage pools located at Japan's nuclear power plants and we are approaching the upper capacity limit of these pools. There are a variety of definitions about the capacity allowance of storage pools and detailed data has not been disclosed. However, according to March, 2011 documents from the Cabinet Office, the sites that have come the closest to approaching their upper limits are the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, the Fukushima Daini nuclear power plant, and the Japan Atomic Power Company's Tokai Daini nuclear power plant. (As of the end of September, 2010, the Fukushima Daiichi plant reached 87% of its pool storage capacity, the Fukushima Daini plant reached 83% of its capacity, and the Tokai Daini reached 84% of its capacity.) These sites had planned to transport spent fuel to an intermediate storage facility now being constructed in the city of Mutsu in Aomori Prefecture (with a final storage capacity of 5,000 tons and a storage period of 50 years). Looking at PWR nuclear power plants, Kyushu Electric's Genkai Nuclear Power Plant storage pool (at 71% of its storage capacity) and the storage pool for Kansai Electric's Takahama Nuclear Power Plant and Oi Nuclear Power Plant (at 67% of storage capacity) are reaching critical levels and if countermeasures are not taken, Kansai Electric's storage pool will be full in 5~6 years. The reason that spent fuel must be stored at each site is that there has been a delay in the completion of construction of a spent fuel reprocessing plant. Because reprocessing has not been started, the 3,000 ton capacity spent fuel storage pool at the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant where spent fuel is delivered from nuclear power plants throughout Japan is also reaching its capacity limit. If the reprocessing plant does not begin operating, Aomori Prefecture will demand that each nuclear power plant take back the spent fuel

that it sent to the reprocessing plant, and if this situation should occur, then Japan's nuclear power plants will not be able to continue operating. The level of urgency resulting from storage pool capacities reaching maximum levels differs with each site, and therefore the possibility of transferring spent fuel to sites with more capacity has been considered. However, because an agreement must be reached with the local area for the transfer to storage pools with excess capacity, the reality is that this transfer of spent fuel to sites with excess capacity cannot be accomplished. This is true not only for transferring spent fuel between nuclear power plants operated by different power companies but also for transfers between plants that are operated by the same power company, and this fact makes the problem even more difficult. The solution to the problem of overflowing spent fuel can be divided into two major methods. The first is to increase the storage capacity at each nuclear power plant and the second is to establish storage facilities that are separate from the nuclear power plants. Furthermore, there are two methods that can be used to increase the storage capacity at a nuclear power site: (1) increase the storage capacity of the storage pool, and (2) establish a dry storage facility that uses casks at the nuclear power site.

Method (1), which is referred to as "reracking", is already being implemented. This method is used for the densely packed storage of fuel using the safety allowance of the storage pool within an envisioned range. With this method, more fuel can be stored in a pool with the same capacity, and as a result, when an unexpected situation arises, the situation can unfold in a difficult direction. On the other hand, the dry storage method is not suited for the storage of spent fuel that generates a high amount of decay heat immediately after being removed, but this method can be used to safely store fuel that was removed 5 or more years ago because the heat that it generates has settled down.

The dry storage method requires a larger amount of space to store the same amount of spent fuel compared to pool storage, but with the dry storage method, the fuel can be cooled with the natural circulation of air and there is no need for coolant or an electric power supply. Also, because the spent fuel is placed in thick, heavy metal or concrete containers, the safety of cask storage is high including safety against terrorist attacks. This safety was also discussed in a report from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In fact, the metal cask storage facility at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant is located on the coast and was hit by the tsunami, but it has been confirmed that there are no abnormalities in radiation levels surrounding the dry storage facility.

As stated previously, there were a total of 10,921 spent fuel assemblies stored in the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant pools including the pools for the Units 1~6 reactors and the shared storage pool and there were 408 spent fuel assemblies stored in the dry storage facility. Of these assemblies, it is presumed that the 8,197 spent fuel assemblies stored in the Unit 5 and Unit 6 pools and in the shared storage pool were not affected immediately after the recent accident and these assemblies can be

transferred to the intermediate storage facility in Mutsu. However, until those assemblies are actually transferred, I propose that they be moved to the dry storage facility as needed in the cleanup process of the Fukushima Daiichi site. I also want to propose that casks be developed for the spent fuel located in the spent fuel storage pools of the Units 1~4 reactors and that dry storage be implemented while confirming the soundness of that storage. As for the storage space, it is assumed that various facilities will be constructed on the overall site as needed for cleanup, and therefore thought should be given to utilizing underground space such as digging tunnels in higher elevation walls. This underground space can also be used not only for the storage of spent fuel but also for the temporary storage of radioactive materials produced in the cleanup of the disaster-stricken nuclear power plant.

We absolutely must avoid a situation in which our shortage of spent fuel storage capacity becomes a huge obstacle to continuing the operation of our nuclear power plants. To achieve this, we must expand countermeasures to severe accidents at nuclear power plants and we must implement spent fuel countermeasures to ensure that there is no impact from the uncertainties of reprocessing. In other words, in addition to the technical problems of vitrification at the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant, obstacles could also emerge in efforts to procure funds depending on the course of deliberations about Tokyo Electric Power Company's payment of compensation for damages. Therefore, we must respond to this situation that could make operations difficult, and this requires of course that we endeavor to establish another intermediate storage facility in addition to the one in Mutsu and that we immediately begin dry storage (dry cask storage) at nuclear power plant sites.

#### Strategic Importance of Spent Fuel Storage

The following was pointed out even before the recent accident, but if for example the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant is operated as planned at a capacity of 800 tons per year, it will still not be enough capacity to process all of the spent fuel that is generated from Japan's nuclear power plants, and thus an intermediate storage facility would be necessary. With the recent accident, the uncertainties of the reprocessing plan increased even further and the necessity for spent fuel storage became even greater. An effective means of strategically dealing with these types of uncertainties in the nuclear fuel cycle is the full-scale introduction of dry cask storage, which is superior in terms of the economic efficiency of long-term storage, easily enables the expansion of storage capacity in stages, and allows simple maintenance control. Dry cask storage is also superior in terms of safety and security as already pointed out.

Spent fuel storage initially did not exceed one step for the cooling of fuel until reprocessing. However, now we must recognize that spent fuel storage has strategic importance when it comes to dealing with the back end uncertainties of the nuclear fuel cycle.

As stated previously, spent fuel storage can be done either at the nuclear power plant site or at a location outside of the nuclear power plant. However, we must seriously pursue the possibilities of both of these options. The understanding of the local government is needed in both cases, and from the viewpoint of the local community, ensuring safety is of course an absolute must. If back end policies do not go well, there will of course be concerns that the local area could become the final disposal site for the spent fuel. Hence, when obtaining local consent for the introduction of a dry storage facility, the storage period must also be clearly specified with government guarantees. For example, Aomori Prefecture recognizes that it will store the vitrified waste output from the reprocessing plant for a period of 50 years. This type of agreement was made without concrete plans for the final disposal site because there is a guarantee that 50 years from now, the power companies will carry out the waste. Following this example, a scenario can be depicted in which spent fuel storage for a certain period of time is approved under the condition that the power companies and the government promise to take back the spent fuel after that period of time. One contender for the guideline for that specific period of time is a period of 50 years.

Towards the New Expansion of Future Nuclear Fuel Policies

The accident this time shed light on the blind spots that exist in measures to ensure the safety of spent fuel storage pools, and in order to deal with this problem, we must ensure the cooling function of storage pools under harsh conditions, and we must introduce dry cask storage on a full-scale level. Dry cask storage offers superiority in terms of safety and security and is beneficial for long-term storage and capacity expansion in stages. We should also recognize the strategic importance of dry cask storage in the new expansion of future nuclear fuel related policies.

[Description of Source: Tokyo Enerugi Foramu -- monthly magazine on general energy issues in general]

Japan To Form New Nuclear Agency Under Environment Ministry

Tokyo, Aug. 11 (Jiji Press) -- The Japanese government is poised to set up its planned new agency in charge of nuclear plant safety under the Environment Ministry, informed sources said Thursday.

08/11/2011.

The new organization will be established through the merger of the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, the Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission and the science ministry's radiation monitoring department.

Relevant cabinet ministers will meet Friday to decide on details of the reorganization. The government aims

to adopt the plan at a cabinet meeting next week, according to the sources.

The government is reviewing its nuclear regulatory system in response to the crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, which was knocked out by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The government hopes to establish the new organization in April 2012. The organization's chief will be selected from among experts in nuclear issues.

Goshi Hosono, minister for handling the nuclear crisis, explained the plan to put the new agency under the Environment Ministry at a meeting of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan's special team on the crisis.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano has proposed that the envisioned agency be placed under the Cabinet Office.

But the government chose Hosono's option because the Environment Ministry's regular tasks include devising and implementing measures to cope with environmental pollution. The ministry also has regional offices, while the Cabinet Office does not.

Japan Gov't To Foster  
Radiation Control  
Specialists

Tokyo, Aug. 11 Kyodo -- A government task force on the nuclear emergency said Thursday it will foster radiation control and measurement specialists in an effort to prevent workers at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi power plant from being exposed to excessive radiation.

08/11/2011

The task force said the government is set to have the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, in cooperation with the Japan Atomic Energy Agency, provide training programs on radiation management techniques for employees of firms including general contractors.

The government plans to recruit around 250 trainees by the end of this year, it added.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., known as TEPCO, which operates the Fukushima plant, also said it started in-house training programs on radiation measurement from May 30.

Nearly 1,900 employees have already learned how to investigate the extent of contamination using measuring devices and have worked to check the radiation levels of the belongings of people who temporarily returned to their homes near the nuclear plant, according to TEPCO.

About 4,000 employees are scheduled to complete the training programs within the year, TEPCO said.

Meanwhile, the government and TEPCO said they will recruit experts on electric work, welding and crane operations, as the numbers of such workers are expected to run short if it takes a long time to contain the crisis at the power complex crippled since the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Japan: Kan's Call for  
Nuclear Cycle Review a  
Huge Policy Shift

Tokyo Nikkei Telecom 21 in English 0033 GMT 10 Aug 11

08/10/2011

TOKYO (Nikkei)--Prime Minister Naoto Kan's comments suggesting the possible decommissioning of the Monju prototype fast-breeder reactor and a facility that reprocesses spent nuclear fuel represent a 180-degree shift in Japan's energy policy.

Kan called for creating a society that does not rely on nuclear power and hinted he is looking into the possibility of scrapping Monju and the Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant in Aomori Prefecture.

The Monju reactor is the source of much divisiveness. In mid-July, Science Minister Yoshiaki Takaki told a press conference that the government would consider suspending development of the reactor. But his remark stirred criticism in Fukui Prefecture, where the reactor is located, forcing him to backtrack on the same day.

Monju and the Rokkasho reprocessing facility epitomize Japan's drive to make the most effective use of energy. To promote nuclear power, the government has long pursued the nuclear fuel cycle, in which spent fuel from reactors is reprocessed for reuse.

But efforts to promote the nuclear fuel cycle have been stalled due to a spate of accidents. The Monju reactor, for example, closed for 15 years due to a fire caused by a sodium leak in 1995.

Massive costs In simple terms, the review of nuclear fuel cycle policy means Japan will relinquish its long-term strategy of using recycled uranium as an energy resource. Given the huge amount of money spent on constructing the reprocessing plant and related facilities, the issue must be discussed with extra caution.

Among the countries that use nuclear energy, the U.S. and several others dispose of their spent fuel. France and Japan, in contrast, reprocess the spent fuel into plutonium and uranium for reuse.

Japan's possession of plutonium, a key material used in nuclear weapons, has sparked strong international criticism. But Japan has stuck with its nuclear fuel cycle policy because it has been trying to make the most of its limited uranium resources.

Japan: Ex-worker of Tepco  
Affiliate Recruited as  
Gov't Inspector

Tokyo, Aug. 10 (Jiji Press) – A former employee of a Tokyo Electric Power Co. affiliate has been recruited as a government inspector of the utility's Fukushima No. 2 nuclear power plant, it was learned Wednesday.

08/10/2011

The worker was hired by the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency on April 1 after quitting the affiliate company and was sent to the nuclear plant in May.

The person was on loan to the power company, known as TEPCO, between 2004 and 2008, to work at the nuclear plant in Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan, according to the agency and the company.

The agency has about 100 nuclear plant inspectors across the country, and more than half of them previously worked for power companies or nuclear plant makers, agency sources said.

Agency spokesman Yoshinori Moriyama downplayed concerns over the employment of people with experiences at the companies under the agency's regulations.

Inspection results are reported to the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan and transparency in the process is ensured, he said.

Japan: Panel Claims  
Kyushu Electric Power

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online 0905 GMT 10 Aug 11  
FUKUOKA -- The deputy chief of Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s nuclear power generation headquarters

08/10/2011

Destroyed Documents on Pluthermal Plant Proposal ordered documents on a pluthermalnuclear power project destroyed in connection with a campaign to realize the restart of reactors at the GenkaiNuclear Power Plant in Saga Prefecture, an investigative panel has found.

Nobuo Gohara, head of the utility's third-party panel investigating the case, told a news conference in Fukuoka on Aug. 9 that Akira Nakamura, the deputy chief of Kyushu Electric'snuclear power generation headquarters, instructed the destruction of the documents stored at the firm'snuclear power headquarters and Saga branch.

The discarded documents included data on briefings on the pluthermal project to be submitted to the central government, and the third-party panel says it will probe the case to see if Kyushu Electric had engineered a cover-up.

According to the third-party panel's findings, Nakamura ordered his subordinates to dispose of documents about a briefing on the pluthermal project at the Genkai power plant in October 2005 in response to a request on July 21 this year as part of an in-house probe.

Nakamura allegedly sought disposal of the documents, saying the documents would inconvenience a certain individual, Gohara said.

Gohara, a former prosecutor and now a lawyer and professor at Meijo University, speculated that "the individual" would be a politician or a prefectural or central government official.

In wake of Kyushu Electric's massive e-mail campaign to facilitate the resumption of operations at the Genkai plant's reactors, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) ordered electric power companies across Japan to provide details of their measures to mobilize participants in state-sponsored briefings onnuclear power plants.

The briefing in October 2005 was one of those under scrutiny, and Kyushu Electric submitted a report on the briefing to METI on July 29. But the third-party panel's discovery of the alleged cover-up questions the credibility of the utility's report.

On Aug. 5, Nakamura also allegedly ordered the disposal of documents on the pluthermal project kept at

Kyushu Electric's Saga branch, which the third-party panel sought.

But a tip from a whistle-blower prompted the third-party panel to retrieve 15 files left at a disposal site.

Nakamura told the Kagoshima Prefectural Assembly on July 4 just before the staged e-mail scandal surfaced that there was no such e-mail campaign scheme.

Japan: Outgoing Nuclear Agency Chief Admits To 'inadequate' Regulation

Tokyo, Aug. 10 Kyodo -- Outgoing nuclear safety agency chief Nobuaki Terasaka said Wednesday the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi atomic power plant showed Japan's nuclear regulation was inadequate, but insisted he did his best to deal with the world's worst nuclear accident in 25 years.

08/10/2011

Terasaka admitted "not enough" had been done in some respects, while there "may have been other ways" to respond to the crisis. But he did not elaborate, saying the government's accident investigation committee is looking into the cause of the incident triggered by the March 11 megaquake and tsunami.

"We have done our best to respond to the accident since March 11 in the face of various criticism. The evaluation (of our response) should be conducted elsewhere," said Terasaka, chief of the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

Terasaka is one of the three top officials of the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry, which has the agency under its wing, to be effectively fired over the handling of the crisis. He will be replaced on Friday by Hiroyuki Fukano, METI's director general for commerce and distribution policy.

METI and the nuclear safety agency have been under fire since the nuclear crisis over such issues as delayed public announcements, power supply problems and alleged attempts to manipulate public opinion to show support for nuclear power.

It was unclear how Terasaka felt about being sacked, as he said only that he heard industry minister Banri Kaieda wanted to refresh the leadership to deal with issues concerning nuclear safety regulations.

He "accepted the story as it is," Terasaka said.

Terasaka did say that he was aware of the possibility that reactor fuel had been damaged "in some way" on

March 12. Hit by a magnitude-9.0 earthquake and massive tsunami on March 11, the Fukushima nuclear plant lost nearly all of its power sources, and consequently the ability to cool the four reactors operating when the earthquake struck as well as the spent fuel pools.

The government acknowledged in June that Nos. 1 to 3 reactor cores suffered meltdowns soon after the megaquake and tsunami caused all power systems to fail, leading to a build-up of heat and gas inside the reactors that resulted in a series of devastating explosions.

Five months after, Japanese authorities are still working to contain the damage and secure the plant site.

As part of restoration efforts at the Fukushima plant, Tokyo Electric Power Co. on Wednesday began setting up some steel framing around the No. 1 reactor from which to drape air-tight polyester sheets to prevent radioactive material from escaping from the crippled reactor.

The plant operator known as TEPCO also started operating the same day a system to efficiently cool the spent nuclear fuel pool at the No. 1 unit, meaning that all the crippled spent fuel pools at the Fukushima plant are being stably cooled.

Japan to sack top nuclear energy officials

Agence France Presse, August 4, 2011

08/04/2011

Japan will sack three top energy officials over their handling of the Fukushima atomic disaster and scandals that have eroded public trust in the country's nuclear policy, the government said Thursday.

Banri Kaieda, the minister of economy, trade and industry, told a press conference that he was planning sweeping staff changes at his powerful ministry, which both promotes and regulates the nuclear industry.

Kaieda said the reshuffle aimed to "breathe new life" into the ministry.

He signalled that the changes will include his ministry's top bureaucrat, a vice minister, and the heads of the ministry's Agency for Natural Resources and of the watchdog body the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

"Regarding the personnel changes at the ministry of economy, trade and industry, we have been discussing that for about a month," Kaieda told reporters. "It will be on a significant scale."

When asked whether the changes will include the top three energy officials, Kaieda responded: "It's OK for you to think that." He said the changes would be officially announced later, without specifying when.

The three senior government officials will be the first to lose their jobs over the nuclear crisis, although a reconstruction minister stepped down after causing outrage with his scathing remarks to leaders of tsunami-hit regions.

Japan's magnitude 9.0 seabed quake and tsunami caused the world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl 25 years ago at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, which has since leaked radiation into the air, ground and sea.

Since the March 11 disaster, the ministry has come under in for criticism for its decades-old heavy promotion of nuclear power, and for seeking to manipulate public opinion by planting questions at open talks.

Kaieda's comments followed a news report that he and Prime Minister Naoto Kan were in the final phase of talks about personnel changes, and that Kaieda himself was considering resigning soon after he dismisses the top officials.

The minister, who has been at odds with the premier in recent months, showed the personal pressure the nuclear crisis has put him under when he burst into tears during a recent grilling by opposition lawmakers.

Kan, a former grassroots activist, has advocated a nuclear-free Japan and criticised the ministry, which has formed cozy ties with the energy industry. Power companies have given cushy jobs to many retired government officials.

The public has grown distrustful of Japan's nuclear policy amid the crisis at the nuclear plant, run by Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO).

Anger has intensified in recent weeks after media reported that the safety agency had asked power companies to mobilise their workers and contractors to plant questions in support of nuclear energy at public talks.

The nuclear safety agency, which should regulate but not promote nuclear energy, said it would create a third-party panel to investigate the matter.

Kan is planning to split the watchdog agency away from the industry ministry to boost its independence and regulatory strength.

It would become part of the environment ministry, according to a proposal drafted by Goshi Hosono, minister in charge of the nuclear crisis.

The UN atomic watchdog, the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, in June stressed the importance of "regulatory independence and clarity of roles" after officials visited Japan's tsunami-hit atomic power plant.

Japan: Foreign Ministry  
Simulated Nuke Plant  
Blackouts in 1984, Kept  
Results Secret

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online 0145 GMT 02 Aug 11

08/03/2011

The Foreign Ministry had simulated a possible attack on nuclear plants in 1984 that included a scenario in which all power sources were lost—as occurred at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant—but chose to keep the results confidential, The Asahi Shimbun learned.

If the ministry report had been shared with many officials in the government, it could have helped to raise attention to the need to prepare for a possible nuclear power station blackout.

The ongoing nuclear crisis was triggered by a complete loss of the electricity grid, emergency diesel generators and depletion of backup batteries in the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami. Pumps for cooling water were also broken down in the disaster.

The report on the study of possible attacks on nuclear facilities and projected damages, compiled in February 1984, was obtained by The Asahi Shimbun.

It is the first of its kind known to have been compiled by the government. The report's first scenario anticipated that a complete loss of power sources would lead to a situation where damaged fuel rods would fall to the bottom of the containment vessel, breaching the vessel. That would result in the leakage of radioactive materials into the atmosphere. The report also projected that a hydrogen explosion would likely be triggered.

This is precisely what occurred in the No. 1 and No. 3 reactors at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant.

The station blackout scenario came to be discussed in the 1990s and later in Japan. But no adequate measures were taken to address the possibility.

Tetsuya Endo, who was involved in the compilation of the report as an official at the ministry's division handling affairs related to the United Nations, said the report was designed to be just a reference for the ministry.

"No measures were taken for nuclear facilities" to improve safeguards, Endo said.

The report projected up to 18,000 deaths from acute radiation exposure in an attack on a nuclear reactor that damages the containment vessel and the cooling system, resulting in a meltdown and immediate release of radioactive materials into the air.

But the ministry decided not to disclose results of the study, even to the prime minister's office, fearing it could inflame the anti-nuclear power movement.

The United States and European countries carry out contingency drills based on studies simulating terror attacks on nuclear power plants.

The ministry commissioned the study to the Japan Institute of International Studies, a private organization, after the global community was shaken by Israel's bombing of a research nuclear facility in Iraq in 1981.

The attack did not lead to a leak of radioactive materials because the nuclear reactor was under construction at the time.

Japan at that time had 20 nuclear reactors operating.

Under the study, three scenarios were explored: 1) a complete loss of power from the grid and from backup diesel generators; 2) a complete loss of power and ability to cool a reactor after an attack by a powerful bomb that destroyed a containment vessel; 3) destruction of not only the containment vessel but also the pressure vessel in an attack by a guided bomb with extremely high targeting accuracy.

The scenarios did not envisage any specific nuclear power plants in Japan.

In the second scenario, the study set the amount of leaked radioactive materials at more than 100 times the figure in the accident at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant to project the number of deaths and injuries.

These numbers were arrived at under various weather conditions based on the 1982 U.S. technical guide for development of reactor site criteria, which assessed the safety of a nuclear reactor.

The U.S. document was used because the distribution of the population given in the report was similar to Japanese communities hosting nuclear plants.

The Japanese report concluded that under the second scenario, up to 18,000 people could be killed unless people evacuated immediately, and the average death toll would be about 3,600.

It also projected that on average, a radius of 30 kilometers would be rendered uninhabitable. In the worst-case scenario, a radius of 87 km would have to be abandoned.

For the third scenario, the report stated that (the situation) "would likely be harsher."

However, the report on the country's study of possible attack on a nuclear plant was never made public.

An official at the ministry's disarmament division who was in charge of the report stated in the report that the document was for internal use only, given the possible "impact on the anti-nuclear power movement."

The ministry made 50 copies of the report for its officials.

Copies were never submitted to the prime minister's office and the Japan Atomic Energy Commission, a panel tasked to formulate Japan's policy of research, development and use of nuclear power and established under the Cabinet Office.

An official at the ministry's Arms Control and Disarmament Division admitted the existence of the study, but added that few details are available.

"I have no knowledge of circumstances at that time since related documents are no longer kept," the official said.

Hisashi Ninokata, professor of reactor engineering at Tokyo Institute of Technology, said that an attack against a nuclear reactor should be acknowledged as an inherent risk to the safety of the facility.

"Many researchers, worrying about reinvigorating anti-nuclear power movement, argued that a severe accident resulting from a terror attack would be unlikely in Japan," he said. "But the government should explain the danger and safeguard measures to the public by admitting that an attack (on a nuclear reactor) is a risk involved."

Japan: Nuclear Safety Agency May Be Set up Under Environment Ministry

Tokyo, Aug. 3 Kyodo -- The government is considering separating the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and merging its functions with a new agency to be created under the Environment Ministry, according to a minister's draft plan revealed Wednesday.

08/03/2011

The proposal, drafted by Goshi Hosono, minister in charge of the Fukushima nuclear crisis, aims to decouple the promoter of nuclear power, METI, from the agency in charge of regulating it. The lack of such clear organizational separation has been criticized for hindering the government's response to the ongoing crisis that erupted March 11.

In addition, the Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission, which has also been in charge of ensuring nuclear safety, will be turned into an advisory body under the new agency to be set up in April next year, according to the plan.

As consensus has yet to be reached within the government over the plan, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said at a regular press conference that the proposal provides a springboard for discussions but that no decision has been made on whether or not to proceed in such direction.

"We must consider (options) including carrying out the reorganization in two or three stages," the top government spokesman said, indicating the possibility of first detaching the nuclear safety watchdog next April and then carrying out other procedures later.

While consolidating nuclear safety regulations, the proposed agency will also take charge of the initial response to any future nuclear accident and investigate it should one occur.

For the environment monitoring that involves multiple government bodies, the envisioned agency will be in charge of planning and liaison.

The Cabinet minister overseeing the agency will become the deputy head of the government's taskforce on nuclear disaster led by the prime minister, virtually playing the commanding role.

As for the widely criticized personnel exchanges between METI and its nuclear safety agency, bureaucrats taking senior posts at the proposed agency will be prohibited from returning to their original ministry, in a move to prevent vested interests arising.

The plan was drafted amid calls by Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Hosono himself for a drastic revision of the nation's nuclear regulation system.

The draft favors the establishment of a new government agency over the creation of an independent committee on the grounds that the government should take charge of nuclear safety and regulatory matters.

Japan: Spent Fuel Pool Cooling System Starts at Fukushima, Aug. 1 (Jiji Press) – A substitute system to cool spent nuclear fuel has started at the No. 4 reactor of Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant. 08/01/2011

Fukushima No. 4 Reactor

The temperature of water in the pool stood at 86 degrees Celsius when the system started operations Sunday. TEPCO intends to lower the temperature to about 55 degrees in a month.

Similar cooling systems have already started at the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors since the March 11 tsunami broke down the cooling systems for all the spent fuel pools at the No. 1 to No. 4 reactors.

The power utility has pumped water into the pools since the accident.

The company expects to launch an alternative cooling system for the No. 1 reactor's spent fuel pool early this month.

As the No. 4 reactor was undergoing a regular checkup when the quake and tsunami struck, its spent fuel pool had 1,331 fuel assemblies, more than double those in the pools at the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors.

This situation raised concerns that quick evaporation of pumped water causes damage to the nuclear fuel, but the fuel suffered little damage because a flow of water from the upper part of the reactor pressure vessel, which was filled with water for the checkup, according to TEPCO.

Japan: Chubu Electric  
unable to remove  
damaged nuclear fuel rod  
for 17 years

Philippines News Agency (PNA), July 28, 2011

Chubu Electric Power Co. revealed Thursday it has been unable to remove a spent fuel rod that was damaged in an accident 17 years ago from its Hamaoka nuclear power plant in Shizuoka Prefecture.

While spent nuclear fuel is normally sent to the reprocessing plant in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture or elsewhere, the damaged rod remains inside the fuel pool of the plant's now decommissioned No. 1 reactor, in a special container, it said.

The company said it had asked domestic research organizations and foreign nuclear fuel firms to take it but to no avail, and is still pondering how to get the rod outside in the absence of clear government rules on how to dispose of damaged fuel that requires more delicate handling. (PNA/Kyodo)

08/01/2011

Japan's Nuclear Reactor  
'stress Test' Format  
Officially Approved

Tokyo, July 21 Kyodo -- The government's nuclear regulatory agency won approval Thursday from another oversight body over a format to implement a two-stage "stress test" on nuclear reactors in Japan, after revising the initial draft that had been criticized as "intricate" for nonprofessionals.

07/21/2011

While preparing some reference materials aimed at clarifying the content of the safety assessments, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency added another disaster scenario to be looked at in the first-stage assessment, namely the case in which both an earthquake and tsunami hit a reactor like the situation that triggered the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

In the initial plan, the agency said the first stage should examine four situations -- an earthquake, tsunami, loss of all power, and the failure of the function to remove heat from a reactor and release it in the sea. The combination of such situations was to be checked in the second phase.

Following the revisions, the Nuclear Safety Commission said during its meeting that it thinks the plan is "appropriate." The implementation plan for the stress test, modeled after nuclear plant safety assessments conducted in the European Union, is the focus of attention because the first-stage assessment will lead the government to decide whether to allow nuclear reactors that are idled for checkups to restart.

The second-stage assessment will involve determining whether reactors should remain in operation.

Japan: Tsunami Reached  
Record 40.4 Meters in  
Miyako

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online 1905 GMT 17 Jul 11

07/19/2011

The Omoeaneyoshi district of Miyako, Iwate Prefecture, was hit by a 40.4 meter (132.5 feet) tsunami--the largest on record--following the Great East Japan Earthquake, according to a national joint survey.

A group of about 150 researchers from 48 research organizations presented the results at a meeting held in Osaka Prefecture on Saturday.

The data was collected from 5,400 locations from Hokkaido to Okinawa Prefecture.

The researchers surveyed the runup height of tsunami from the traces of waves left on building walls or trees, and compared the data with observation data compiled by the central and local governments.

In a survey conducted in April, it was confirmed Omoeaneyoshi was hit by a tsunami measuring 38.9 meters during the March 11 disaster, beating the 38.2-meter record set in 1896 when the area was hit by the Meiji Sanriku Earthquake. But the latest survey has revealed the March 11 tsunami reached a massive 40.4 meters elsewhere in the district.

===

Study shows reactors are safe

At least 37 of the 54 nuclear reactors in this country would be able to withstand tsunami as powerful as the one that hit the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant on March 11, an organization of industrial facility maintenance experts claims to have proved through its research.

The Japan Society of Maintenance recently investigated reactors' resistance to tsunami, applying assessment criteria almost the same as those that will be used for reactor stress tests being planned by the government.

The research covered 37 reactors--specifically, all the reactors in the nation that are not operated by Tokyo Electric Power Co.

Taking into account emergency safety measures implemented at nuclear power plants after the March 11 disaster, which included raising the respective plants' maximum expected tsunami height by 9.5 meters, the JSM concluded that should tsunami strike, a serious accident--such as damage to a reactor's core--would not occur.

The cooling functions of reactors would continue to operate safely, even if they were hit by tsunami as large as the one that struck the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant on March 11, the JSM concluded.

The research was based on a scenario in which external and emergency power sources were disabled due to an earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

07/19/2011

Japan Nuclear Deals with  
Several Countries in  
Limbo

Chandigarh The Tribune Online (India) 17 Jul 11

New Delhi: The fate of a civil nuclear deal between India and Japan has become uncertain. Tokyo is learnt to have decided to suspend talks with India and four other countries concerning the sale of Japanese-made nuclear power equipment and technology after Prime Minister Naoto Kan's recent declaration that he wants to phase out the use of nuclear energy.

The decision concerns negotiations over completing separate nuclear power cooperation agreements with India, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. Negotiations with all five countries have stalled since the earthquake and tsunami in March triggered a nuclear crisis in northeastern Japan.

Japan needs to sign bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement with a foreign country and have it endorsed by Parliament in order to export nuclear power technology and equipment.

Any move to proceed with the talks now "could risk contradicting the Prime Minister's policy," government sources were quoted as saying by the Japanese news agency Kyodo.

So the government will not schedule any high-level talks with the five prospective buyer countries on completing nuclear cooperation accords without a green light from Kan, the sources indicated.

Tokyo's decision could give a major setback to India's ambitious civil nuclear energy programme. India and Japan have been negotiating a nuclear agreement since June last year. Top officials of the two countries have so far held two rounds of talks but differences persist on many critical issues.

There were apprehensions in New Delhi since the Fukushima nuclear disaster in March that the radiation fallout could affect the nuclear deal that the two countries were considering to formally announce during the Japanese PM's visit to India towards the end of the year.

The talks on the pact with India had triggered an outcry in Japan from survivors of the 1945 US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They expressed fears that the deal would hamper global efforts to realise a world without atomic weapons.

In the event of an India-Japan nuclear deal not materialising, American and French nuclear majors too would find it difficult to enter the Indian nuclear market.

Setback for India

\* Tokyo has decided to suspend talks with India and four other countries concerning the sale of N-power equipment and technology after Prime Minister Naoto Kan's recent declaration that he wants to phase out the use of nuclear energy.

\* If the deal is called off, it will be a major jolt to India's ambitious civil nuclear energy programme. India and

Japan have been negotiating a nuclear agreement since June last year. Top officials of the two countries have so far held two rounds of talks.

\* If Japan pulls out, American and French nuclear majors too would find it difficult to enter the Indian nuclear market. They can't sell N-plant technology to India without the approval of the Japanese industry.

Japan: Fake Report  
Helped Justify Need for  
Atomic Energy  
Commission in 1950s

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online 0125 GMT 19 Jul 11

07/19/2011

Documents show that the central government was not upfront from even before moving into nuclear energy in the 1950s and used a fake report in deciding on the administrative structure to be used in the nuclear energy field.

The report was compiled by the first fact-finding mission sent abroad by the central government between December 1954 and March 1955 to look into how foreign governments administered nuclear energy.

Although the United States was the only nation that had established a commission for nuclear energy, the report stated that many nations had such a commission and recommended that Japan also establish such a body to oversee the administration of nuclear energy.

A document compiled by the science and technology ministry contains a statement by a late official of the former Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) admitting to the false entries in the report.

The document is a 620-page transcript of recordings of lectures given by 33 politicians, bureaucrats and scholars who had at one time been engaged in nuclear energy policy.

The lectures were given between 1985 and 1994 at a study group hosted by the late Takehisa Shimamura, who was also closely involved in nuclear energy policy.

The Asahi Shimbun obtained a copy of the document compiled by the science and technology ministry.

In December 1954, the central government dispatched 15 individuals divided into four groups to visit 14 nations, such as the United States, Britain, France, India and Sweden, to look into the administrative

structures established for nuclear energy policy.

The fact-finding mission was made possible with the first inclusion in March 1954 of a budgetary item for nuclear energy policy of 250 million yen (\$3.2 million at current exchange rates).

In the report compiled by the mission after its return home, the recommendation was made to establish a commission in Japan to promote and develop nuclear energy. The report stated, "Almost all of the administrative agencies in those nations have taken the form of a commission with many members. It is believed that is done to allow for a sufficient range of opinions to be heard."

Serving in the secretariat that helped compile the report was the late Sumio Hori, who served as the first head of the nuclear energy section in the former Agency of Industrial Science and Technology under the old MITI.

According to the science and technology ministry document, Hori gave a lecture in 1988 to the Shimamura study group in which he stated, "The United States is the only nation that has a commission."

While he pointed to the fact that nations such as Britain and France had other agencies overseeing nuclear energy policy, Hori admitted to the false entry in the report about all nations having a commission and said that was the reason why the report strongly recommended that Japan also establish a commission.

Hori also said, "A young bureaucrat became angry at having to write such a lie."

Hori revealed that the bureaucrat was Keiya Toyonaga, who would go on to serve as deputy director-general of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy.

In an interview with The Asahi Shimbun, Toyonaga said, "Because a commission was only found in the United States, I felt it would not take root in Japan because its responsibility would be vague. I advised my superior that a stronger administrative organization should be established instead."

However, based on that false report, the central government established the Japan Atomic Energy Commission in 1956.

The first head of the commission was Matsutaro Shoriki, a state minister, and other members were Hideki Yukawa, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist, and Ichiro Ishikawa, the chairman of a predecessor of the Keidanren (Japan Business Federation).

The inclusion of such luminaries was likely an attempt to weaken public doubts about nuclear energy triggered when the No. 5 Fukuryu Maru fishing boat was showered by deadly radioactive fallout from the testing of a hydrogen bomb in 1954 by the United States on the Bikini Atoll.

Japan: Tepco Takes Steps  
Against Powerful  
Typhoon

Fukushima, July 19 (Jiji Press) -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501> has taken steps to protect its crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant from powerful Typhoon Ma-on, which is approaching Japan.

07/19/2011

The power company reduced the pace of cooling water injection into the plant's No. 1 and No. 2 reactors, in order to cut the amount of radiation-tainted water that leaks into reactor-related facilities, TEPCO officials said, noting that rain from the typhoon could make its way into these facilities.

As of 5 a.m. Tuesday (8 p.m. Monday GMT), TEPCO was pumping water into the No.

1 and No. 2 reactors at a pace of 4 tons and 4.1 tons per hour, respectively.

The pace of injection was slowed to 3.8 tons for both reactors shortly past 10 a.m.

The firm concluded that it can safely scale down the water injection because the temperatures around the feed-water nozzles in the upper parts of the two reactors' pressure vessels are stable at around 110 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Meanwhile, the pace of cooling water injected into the No. 3 reactor has been kept unchanged at 9.1 tons per hour as the temperature at the nozzle at its pressure vessel is higher at 135 degrees, they said.

TEPCO also continued work to install makeshift covers over the holes on the roof of the damaged turbine building of the No. 3 reactor.

Japan Moves To Seek  
Cold Shutdown of  
Fukushima Reactors

07/19/2011

Tokyo, July 19 Kyodo -- (EDS: UPDATING WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROAD MAP) Japan said Tuesday it has succeeded in stably cooling the crippled nuclear reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant and reducing the radiation dose around the site, an announcement that would lead restoration efforts to move on to the next stage of seeking a "cold shutdown" of the reactors by January.

In an updated road map to contain the four-month-old nuclear crisis, unveiled the same day, the government said it plans to work out safety guidelines to maintain the crisis-hit plant's stable condition for a long period, while plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. included the removal of spent nuclear fuel as one of the "medium-term" issues to be dealt with during a three-year span.

"We're starting to see a tremendous critical condition heading toward a certain level of settlement," Prime Minister Naoto Kan told a parliamentary committee in the morning as he welcomed the completion "almost as scheduled" of the so-called "step one" phase of the utility's restoration road map.

Kan said earlier that the government would try its best to move up the work schedule so people forced to evacuate from their homes because of the crisis can return, but the initially set timeline to achieve the "step two" process, which includes the goal of realizing a cold shutdown, was left unchanged in the latest road map.

Restoration efforts have continued since the March 11 magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami hit the six-reactor complex and led the cooling functions of the reactors and spent nuclear fuel pools at the Nos. 1 to 4 units to fail.

Summing up the progress seen in the past months, TEPCO said it has seen a "steady decline" in radiation dose around the plant, which is currently at a maximum 1.7 millisieverts per year.

The amount of radioactive substances leaking from reactor buildings at present is a maximum 1 billion becquerels per hour, which is about one two-millionth of the level at the time of the accident, TEPCO also said.

During the step-two process, to be implemented in the three to six months following the completion of the first phase, the radiation dose is expected to be "greatly" reduced by continuing to stably cool the reactors

and spent fuel pools, according to the road map.

TEPCO also plans to start designing an underground "shielding wall" to surround the reactor buildings and reactor turbine buildings so as to prevent contaminated water from seeping from the buildings and getting mixed in with groundwater. The wall is expected to extend 30 meters deep to a layer that does not absorb water.

One of the key challenges during the past months has been how to deal with the massive amount of highly radioactive water that has accumulated in the reactor turbine buildings and nearby areas as an outcome of an emergency measure to keep injecting water into the reactors to cool the fuel inside.

Workers have now succeeded in installing devices to remove radioactive substances from the polluted water and recycle the decontaminated water to cool the crippled Nos. 1 to 3 reactors.

Nitrogen, an inert gas, is also being injected into the three reactors to prevent hydrogen explosions from occurring inside the reactors, since such explosions may lead to the release of massive amounts of radioactive substances.

But not all of the process has gone smoothly.

Most notably, the key water decontamination devices, which started operating in June, have repeatedly faced problems such as water leakage. The system was operating at 73 percent of its capacity by mid-July, compared with the 80 percent target.

Japan: Hitachi To Retain Nuclear Reactor Business Plan

Tokyo, July 19 Kyodo -- After reviewing the business outlook for nuclear power in the wake of the Fukushima plant disaster, Hitachi Ltd. has decided to keep its nuclear business development plan and aims to land orders for more than 38 nuclear reactors from around the world by 2030, a top company executive said.

07/19/2011

"Nuclear plants are globally important electricity sources," Tatsuro Ishizuka, a vice president and executive officer, said in a recent interview with Kyodo News. "We would like to further improve the safety of nuclear

plants and promote them as a key business pillar." While the Japanese government, following the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi plant caused by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, is reconsidering its policy of expanding the number of nuclear plants in Japan, Hitachi has decided to retain the nuclear business plans it adopted prior to the March disaster.

Ishizuka indicated that even if Japan freezes construction of new nuclear reactors, Hitachi may accelerate its reactor marketing efforts in foreign countries, including emerging economies where electricity demand is expanding sharply.

Hitachi hopes to get orders for 20 reactors from utilities in Asia and the Middle East, and for 12 nuclear reactors from utilities in North America, he said.

"We'll give priority to negotiations with India, Vietnam, the United States and other countries" featuring growing energy demand, Ishizuka said. "There are many countries that have adopted plans to expand nuclear energy under their national (energy) policies and we will meet their expectations." Nuclear plants remain an effective means of cutting carbon dioxide emissions to help prevent climate change over the medium to long term, Ishizuka said.

Hitachi helped construct the Fukushima Daiichi plant crippled by the March natural disasters and left leaking radioactive material for weeks afterward.

Ishizuka said Hitachi will cooperate fully in stabilizing the plant by making proposals for a permanent reactor-cooling system and methods to extract nuclear fuels. "We will consider medium to long-term measures and make steady contributions to the stabilization."

Japan Govt Rules Out  
Immediate End To  
Nuclear Power

Tokyo, July 14 (Jiji Press) -- Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan does not mean that the country will abolish nuclear power anytime soon, his top spokesman said Thursday.

07/14/2011

Kan suggested that the country will continue to use nuclear power for now while ensuring improved safety, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said at a news conference.

Kan's announcement that Japan should pursue a society without nuclear plants showed his desire in the distant future, Edano said.

But he added that all Japanese political parties agree to reduce the country's dependence on nuclear power and that this appears to be a sort of national consensus.

Kan said Wednesday that the country needs to cut its reliance on nuclear power in a staged and gradual manner. But he stopped short of presenting any concrete steps to achieve the goal.

Japan: PM's Pursuit of Nuclear Power-free Society Should Be Commended, But Details Lacking

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online in English 0750 GMT 14 Jul 11 Prime Minister Naoto Kan announced at a news conference on July 13 that Japan will gradually decrease its reliance on nuclear power, with the ultimate goal of achieving a nuclear power plant-free society. This represents a fundamental rethink of Japan's basic energy policy -- a change we essentially support and appreciate, as we have repeatedly asserted that Japan has no choice but to rely less on nuclear power.

07/14/2011

What the prime minister said at the news conference, however, lacked specifics and raised numerous questions. Kan said the government will aim to achieve a society without nuclear plants in the future, but when does "in the future" refer to? How will the government promote the development and introduction of substitute energy sources? At the outset of the news conference, Kan said he would clarify his own ideas on the issue, but is it just his personal view or a policy adopted by the Cabinet or the entire Kan administration and ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) legislators?

As Kan is supposed to step down in the not too distant future, the Cabinet and the ruling coalition should quickly work out basic policy principles on his initiative.

Differences have recently surfaced between Kan and Economy, Trade and Industry Banri Kaieda over whether to resume operations at two reactors at the Genkai Nuclear Power Plant in Saga Prefecture, which have been suspended for regular inspections. The prime minister apologized at the news conference, saying that a delay in issuing his instructions on the matter caused confusion.

Critics have raised doubts about how far a nuclear power-free policy has been discussed within the Cabinet.

Needless to say, it is indispensable to promote the policy on the initiative of the prime minister. However, considering the fact that even top officials of the DPJ executive office are distancing themselves from the prime minister and that attention is focused on the timing of Kan's resignation, it is feared that the pursuit of an end to nuclear power will end up being merely a Kan pet project.

In the meantime, Kan declared that despite the ongoing crisis at the tsunami-hit Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant, company and household power-saving efforts will be enough to carry Japan through the summer and winter without electricity shortages. However, his declaration apparently failed to convince the public because he did not present any supporting figures.

Moreover, he said the government will promote the use of natural gas-fired thermal power stations and take other measures to make up for electric power shortages next summer and beyond. However, he only said he "would like to work out a specific plan" and stopped short of giving details. Such an explanation will never convince the industrial world, where distrust of the Kan Cabinet is already growing over inconsistency in basic policy.

The important question is how the government will protect people's safety and livelihoods as well as business. It is certainly an important policy issue that members of the public should decide on. The issue will emerge as a major point of contention in the next general election, and it is the DPJ's responsibility as the governing party to clearly show its basic thinking on the issue.

The prime minister again stopped short of clarifying the timing of his resignation during the news conference, but his failure to do so could give rise to groundless speculation that he is trying to use his anti-nuclear power policy to cling to power.

Japan: Mitsubishi Heavy  
To Set up Nuclear Safety  
Division

Tokyo, July 14 Kyodo -- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. said Thursday it will set up a new division dedicated to enhancing safety measures at nuclear power plants in Japan.

07/14/2011

A team of about 20 people, including veteran engineers, will work on devising measures to improve nuclear power plants' ability to withstand natural disasters. This month the government announced it would subject all nuclear reactors in Japan to stress tests, designed to assess their ability to withstand extreme natural disasters like the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The new division will help nuclear plant operators prepare to cope with a complete loss of power in the event of a disaster. The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power complex 220 kilometers north of Tokyo experienced "station blackout" when a powerful earthquake and tsunami struck it in March.

The loss of power meant plant operators were not only unable to shut down the four nuclear generators operating at the time, but even to maintain critical cooling once normal procedures failed and back-up functions were rendered inoperable by the power blackout. That led to the meltdowns of three reactors, explosions and the release of radioactive material in the worst nuclear accident ever in Japan.

Mitsubishi Heavy is a manufacturer of pressurized water reactors run by such utilities as Kansai Electric Power Co. and Kyushu Electric Power Co.

Japan's nuclear industry  
credibility crumbles amid  
email scandal

TOKYO 2011-07-08 (Reuters) - A Japanese nuclear power plant has come under fire for trying to sway the outcome of a public forum on atomic safety, dealing a fresh blow to the industry's credibility four months after the world's biggest nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

An employee with Kyushu Electric Power Co instructed workers at the utility and affiliates to pose as ordinary citizens and send e-mails backing the restart of reactors in southern Japan to a televised public hearing.

A massive earthquake and tsunami crippled the coastal Fukushima-Daiichi power plant in northeast Japan on March 13, sparking a fuel-rod meltdown and the biggest nuclear crisis since Chernobyl in Ukraine in 1986.

The plant is still leaking radiation in a protracted disaster which prompted the government to go back to "scratch" on its nuclear energy policy. Only 19 of Japan's 54 reactors are running, the others idled mainly by quake damage or scheduled safety inspections.

Kyushu Electric President Toshio Manabe apologised for the email scandal on Friday.

"I am reflecting deeply on the actions that tried to influence a hearing that should be fair and neutral," Jiji news agency quoted Manabe as telling a senior vice minister for trade and industry. "I apologise to the people."

Analysts say the scandal reflects panic in Japan's atomic power industry, long coddled by political, corporate and regulatory interests dubbed the "nuclear village" but now facing growing anti-nuclear sentiment as workers battle to end the Fukushima crisis.

"There is growing suspicion that power companies are playing fast and loose with data to support their cause and will go so far as to orchestrate public support," said Jeffrey Kingston, director of Asian studies at

07/08/2011

Temple University's Japan campus.

"The more the media pulls back the veil, the angrier the public is getting." The e-mail scandal has been daily fodder for mainstream media, often accused of being soft on the industry.

#### TATTERED TRUST

Public trust in utilities and their regulators has already been dented by patchy and slow disclosure about the crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima plant.

"They (Tokyo Electric) have zero credibility," Kingston said, adding the email affair was also embarrassing for the government itself.

Industry critics said the e-mail scandal was no surprise, but added it nonetheless deepened doubts about both safety and whether threatened power outages were a real risk.

"The public reaction is leaning against nuclear power and I think the utilities feel a sense of crisis," said Harumi Kondaiji, a local lawmaker in the western city of Tsuruga, host to three reactors. "At this point, we cannot believe them."

With the government's own credibility on the line after confusing signals on preconditions for restarts, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said on Friday that safety came first.

"I believe ensuring nuclear-related safety and a sense of security take higher priority than ensuring a feeling of security about energy supply," Edano told a news conference.

With just 19 reactors still running and many of those set to undergo regular inspections in coming months, the country could be without nuclear power -- which before the crisis supplied almost 30 percent of electricity -- by the end of April.

Even local authorities previously inclined to take the utilities at their word expressed anger.

"We thought we had a relationship of trust, but now there are cracks," Hideo Kishimoto, mayor of the southern town of Genkai which hosts the Kyushu Electric reactors in question, told a TV broadcaster.

The e-mail scandal was another twist in a confusing saga over whether utilities can win local communities' agreement to resume operations at reactors shut down for regular checks.

The central government announced abruptly this week that it planned stress tests to check the safety of all 54 reactors, despite earlier safety assurances and requests to restart reactors after regular inspections were finished.

On Thursday, Genkai's Kishimoto withdrew approval for the restart of two Kyushu reactors and a day later another utility said it was postponing a planned restart after failure to gain local approval, which is required not by law but by custom.

With the peak summer demand period approaching, the government has told firms to cut peak electricity use by 15 percent from July 1, and along with utilities has warned that failure to comply risks blackouts and

further harm to the economy as Japan tries to recover from its triple disasters.  
But with industry and government credibility in doubt, gauging the actual extent of the risk is tough.

Japan's Nuclear 'Stress  
Test' To Be Modeled After  
EU Testing Method

TOKYO, July 6, 2011 (AFP) - Japan said Wednesday it will run "stress tests" on all its nuclear reactors in the wake of the Fukushima Daiichi atomic accident sparked by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami disaster.

07/07/2011

The ongoing crisis, the world's worst atomic accident since Chernobyl 25 years ago, has ignited debate in Japan about the safety of nuclear power, which before the disaster accounted for a third of its electricity needs.

The centre-left government ordered a round of initial tests on the quake-prone country's other atomic plants after the disaster, and said the new stress tests aimed to reassure the public that the facilities are safe.

"The safety of nuclear power plants has been secured, but this is to gain a further sense of security among the people," said Trade, Economy and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda, according to the Jiji Press news agency.

Speaking on television, he added: "We are planning the stress tests to gain the understanding of local residents. We will get further confidence from the people and will restart operations at some plants."

He did not give details of what the tests would entail or when they would start, saying only they would commence soon.

An official at his ministry told AFP that the tests would be modelled on those announced recently by the European Union.

Following the Fukushima crisis, the EU ordered tests for its 143 nuclear plants, saying it would look at how they could withstand extreme and multiple disasters previously considered unthinkable.

The EU said the facilities would be checked for their ability to cope with natural disasters such as quakes and floods as well as man-made actions such as plane crashes and terrorist attacks, and combinations of

such events.

Japan's nuclear crisis was sparked by a powerful 9.0 seabed quake, the country's biggest on record, that sent a massive tsunami barreling into the northern Pacific coastline, shattering entire towns.

During a power blackout, the wave knocked out Fukushima's back-up generators, which disabled reactor cooling systems and led to meltdowns, explosions and continuing leakage of radiation into the air, soil and sea.

Utilities not directly affected by the seismic disaster have refrained from restarting reactors that were under maintenance at the time, amid objections from local governments and a wave of anti-nuclear public sentiment.

Only 19 of Japan's 54 reactors are now operating, with more due to shut down for regular checks soon, forcing companies and households to save power in the sweltering summer months.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan in May told the operator of another quake and tsunami-prone plant, the ageing Hamaoka facility southwest of Tokyo, to shut down its reactors until it builds higher sea defences.

The prefectural assembly in Fukui, which hosts 13 reactors, on Wednesday said it would oppose the resumption of operations for now at five reactors that have been suspended for regular checks.

And the governor of Saga prefecture, Yasushi Furukawa, said after Kaieda's announcement that the region would await the outcome of the stress tests before deciding whether to restart two reactors at its Genkai plant.

The European Union in May announced stress tests starting June 1, saying that Japan's cascading series of disasters had shown that "the unthinkable can happen".

Japan: Saga Governor Frustrated With Flip-flops Tokyo, July 7 (Jiji Press) -- Saga Governor Yasushi Furukawa expressed his frustration Thursday with the central government's flip-flops on nuclear energy policy, following its sudden announcement of plans to

07/07/2011

## on Nuclear Plants

conduct safety checks on all nuclear plants across the country.

At a meeting with Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano, Furukawa said he cannot understand why so-called stress tests should be implemented immediately, although he supports the government's additional efforts to ensure the safety of nuclear plants.

Edano apologized to Furukawa for causing confusion and said that he will consult Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda about how best to inform the public of the government's position on the issue.

Kaieda unveiled plans Wednesday for stress tests to be carried out on all reactors in Japan to confirm their preparedness against major disasters.

The announcement came after Kaieda asked the local authorities to restart operations at two reactors at Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s Genkai nuclear plant in Saga Prefecture, southwestern Japan, by giving an effective government guarantee of their safety.

Furukawa reiterated his view that Kan should visit the prefecture before he decides whether to allow Kyushu Electric to restart the operations of the reactors, which have been suspended for regular checkups.

He pointed to the differences in opinion between the prime minister and the industry minister, demanding that the government speak with one voice.

After the meeting, Furukawa told reporters that he thinks the Genkai reactors will not be able to resume operations until after the stress tests are completed.

He said he has held phone talks with Hideo Kishimoto, mayor of Genkai, the Saga Prefecture town that hosts the nuclear reactors.

It will be very difficult to receive approval from Genkai authorities, which have cancelled their approval to restart the reactors, he said.

On Monday, the mayor effectively gave Kyushu Electric the green light to restart the Genkai reactors, after

securing the central government's guarantee of their safety.

But he withdrew his approval on Thursday following the government policy flip-flops and the revelation of the power utility's attempt to influence local opinion at a government-sponsored town hall meeting last month in favor of restarting the reactors.

Genkai was the first host municipality that has given the go-ahead for the restart of reactors following regular maintenance since the outbreak of the nuclear crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 plant in northeastern Japan, which suffered severe damage from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Japan nuclear restart in  
doubt as test plan  
provokes fury

2011-07-07 (Reuters) - Japan's government scrambled to assure wary public Thursday that stress testing nuclear reactors did not call into question their safety after confusion over the plan threatened to delay the first restart of reactors since the March 11 earthquake triggered a radiation crisis.

07/07/2011

Wednesday's announcement of planned tests prompted the mayor of the southern town of Genkai, who had accepted earlier safety assurances, to call off a planned restart of two reactors at a local plant run by Kyushu Electric Power.

The government has hoped that Genkai's approval would encourage other communities to give a green light to reactor restarts and help avert crippling power blackouts at a time when the Japanese economy is still recovering from the post-quake slump.

Trade Minister Banri Kaieda told reporters stress tests would serve as an additional assurance, suggesting, but not saying explicitly, that local officials did not have to wait with their decisions for the tests results.

"The safety of the nuclear reactors has already been confirmed, but safety tests will be conducted to further increase the sense of safety," he told reporters.

An official at Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency that is due to oversee the tests, quoted by the Kyodo agency was more direct, telling residents of another town hosting a nuclear plant that it could be restarted without a stress test.

Kaieda, who took the blame for the confusion, indicated he was prepared to resign, but that this was not the right time to do so.

"I'll take responsibility when a time comes ... But for now I need to tackle the tasks that are piling up."

Kaieda's departure would add to problems faced by increasingly isolated Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who

has just lost his reconstruction minister after barely a week in office and faces calls for his resignation both from the opposition and from within his own party.

Kan's government has been reviewing its energy policy to reduce the nation's reliance on nuclear energy but says restarting reactors is essential to meet peak energy demand, and hoped the tests would ease public mistrust of the nuclear industry.

"We want the stress tests to serve as a reference point for restarting nuclear reactors. This is so the public can feel more safe and secure," Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano told reporters.

That, however, has backfired, sowing confusion among local governments and prompting investors to sell utility stocks out of fear that the tests could lead to prolonged shutdowns forcing power companies to depend more on costly imported fuels.

Shares of Genkai plant operator Kyushu Electric Power Co, fell 7.5 percent, while Kansai Electric Power Co was down 8.4 percent.

The tests will use simulations to confirm how well each reactor could withstand a severe event such as the March earthquake and tsunami that triggered meltdowns at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima plant. Kaieda said the tests should be similar to those now carried out by the European Union and take similar amount of time.

EU stress tests that began on June 1 require each nuclear plant operator to submit a progress report on August 15 and a final report on October 31. These will become the basis for national reports to be subjected to peer review, which will be completed by April 2012.

The EU Commission is due to file a final report to the EU Council in June 2012.

Safety fears after the March disaster knocked out cooling systems at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, 240 km (150 miles) north of Tokyo, triggering reactor meltdowns, have made restarting reactors shut for regular maintenance problematic.

Only 19 out of Japan's 54 reactors are now in operation and the trade and industry ministry, which manages the nuclear industry, is keen to get idled ones back on line to avoid power blackouts during the summer, when electricity demand peaks.

Wednesday's sudden announcement that the government was planning stress tests for all nuclear facilities caught local authorities off-guard and came under fire in media as Kan's latest policy flip-flop.

"Prime Minister Kan made a statement suggesting that stress tests are necessary for reactor restarts," said Genkai Mayor Hideo Kishimoto.

"This made me feel my decision was meaningless, and I feel furious about it."

Yasushi Furukawa, governor of Saga Prefecture, also slammed Kan for lacking a consistent policy on restarting reactors.

The consent of the governor is needed for the reactors to resume operation.

06/29/2011

Japan: Spent Fuel Causing  
Headaches for Nuclear  
Power Plants

Tokyo Asahi Shimbun Online in English 0150 GMT 29 Jun 11

The accident at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant has brought to light the cascading problem of spent nuclear fuel that threatens to overwhelm Japan's nuclear power plants.

Local governments are demanding that electric power companies remove the spent nuclear fuel from nuclear power plants, but plans for a reprocessing facility and an off-site storage facility are on hold.

According to a survey by The Asahi Shimbun, while the nation's 17 nuclear power plants are capable of holding 83,000 spent nuclear fuel assemblies in storage pools, 70 percent of the combined storage capacity has already been used.

Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant has the highest ratio of 93 percent, followed by Japan Atomic Power Co.'s Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant in Ibaraki Prefecture with 86 percent.

The figure exceeds 60 percent at 10 other nuclear power plants.

If storage pools are filled, a nuclear power reactor cannot continue to operate because newly created spent nuclear fuel cannot be removed from the reactor.

At the Fukushima No. 1 and Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plants, operators have put some spent nuclear fuel in containers and stored them in a separate building on the plant premises.

Spent nuclear fuel needs to be cooled in storage pools because it emits large amounts of heat and radiation even after it is removed from a reactor.

But fuel in storage pools, mainly located in reactor buildings, is separated from the outside only by the buildings' concrete walls, while a pressure vessel within a container vessel holds nuclear fuel in a reactor.

In the accident at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, storage pools lost cooling functions, raising the possibility that spent nuclear fuel is damaged and large amounts of nuclear materials are released.

Electric power companies are resorting to a last-ditch measure known as "re-racking."

In storage pools, spent nuclear fuel is usually put into grid-like containers called racks and placed at certain intervals.

Re-racking means that racks are repositioned and intervals are narrowed so that more spent nuclear fuel is stored in a given space.

A survey by The Asahi Shimbun found that electric power companies have taken this approach at 29 nuclear power reactors.

TEPCO repositioned spent nuclear fuel at the Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 nuclear power plants in the past.

At the Hamaoka nuclear power plant in Shizuoka Prefecture, Chubu Electric Power Co. more than doubled the capacity of the No. 2 reactor's storage pool to 1,820 spent nuclear fuel assemblies from the initial 840.

Currently, the pool contains 1,164 assemblies. The No. 2 reactor, which started operations in 1978, has been shut down for decommissioning.

But experts say narrowing intervals between spent nuclear fuel could increase risks.

Tadahiro Katsuta, associate professor of nuclear engineering at Meiji University, said re-racking is a stopgap measure.

"Nuclear fuel assemblies will be located closer to each other than initially designed," Katsuta said. "At least theoretically, the possibility will increase that criticality (self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction) occurs when assemblies are damaged in a severe accident."

To lower such risk, boron is added to rack materials because the chemical element absorbs neutrons, which cause nuclear fission.

Electric power companies are also considering plans to build intermediate facilities to store spent nuclear

fuel in steel containers that can shield radiation.

An official of Kansai Electric Power Co., which operates 11 nuclear power reactors in Fukui Prefecture, said, "We are aware of the need of building an intermediate storage facility and are considering it."

Japan aims to recover plutonium from spent nuclear fuel at a reprocessing facility for use as nuclear fuel again.

The spent nuclear fuel reprocessing facility is scheduled to begin operations in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture, in October 2012.

But the plant was suspended during trial runs due to a series of technical problems, and no date has been set for resuming trial operations.

The reprocessing plant has accepted spent nuclear fuel from nuclear power plants, but there is little room left because the amount has exceeded 90 percent of its capacity.

TEPCO and Japan Atomic Power are planning to build an intermediate storage facility in Mutsu, Aomori Prefecture, to accept 5,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel that cannot be held at their nuclear power plants for 50 years.

But construction was suspended after the Great East Japan Earthquake.

"I think the government is considering reviewing safety guidelines," Mutsu Mayor Junichiro Miyashita told a news conference in April. "With such a move in mind, we have to take a cautious stance to the intermediate storage facility."

Japan Considering  
Expanding Nuclear  
Disaster Planning Zones

Saga, June 29 (Jiji Press) -- Japanese industry minister Banri Kaieda on Wednesday indicated the government's intention to expand the scope of areas covered by nuclear emergency planning zones.

06/29/2011

Under the nuclear disaster guidelines set by the government's Nuclear Safety Commission, areas between 8

to 10 kilometers from nuclear facilities are designated as emergency planning zones.

But as relatively high levels of radiation have been detected in areas 20-30 kilometers from Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> stricken Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power station, the government now sees the need to expand the zones.

On Wednesday, Kaieda visited the southwestern prefecture of Saga to obtain local understanding for the restart of reactors halted for regular checkups at Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s <9508> Genkai nuclear plant in the prefecture.

He also met with Hideo Ishii, head of the Saga prefectural assembly, and said the government is considering reviewing the designation of the emergency planning zones.

Municipalities in the zones make advanced nuclear disaster preparations, including evacuation drills, and have necessary equipment and other items.

A number of municipalities outside the emergency planning zones have been calling for an expansion of the scope of areas covered by the zones.

Japan Considers Joining  
Convention on  
Supplementary  
Compensation for Nuclear  
Damage

Vienna, June 20 (Jiji Press) -- Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Banri Kaieda on Monday expressed the country's readiness to consider joining an international nuclear accident liability regime.

06/21/2011

Kaieda showed the plan when he met with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman on the sidelines of an International Atomic Energy Agency ministerial meeting on nuclear plant safety that kicked off the same day for a five-day run through Friday.

As Japan's ongoing radiation crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant may cause damage to other countries as well, the nation could face huge amounts of damages in lawsuits abroad if it continues to stay out of an international nuclear liability regime.

Poneman is believed to have told Kaieda that Japan should join the IAEA's Convention on Supplementary

Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC), which has yet to meet requirements for its effectuation.

The CSC will take effect after the number of its members reaches five and combined electricity generation capacity of nuclear reactors involved totals over 400 million kilowatts. It currently has four members including the United States.

Among other international nuclear liability conventions are the IAEA's Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage joined by six countries, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy, which has 16 members including European countries.

All these conventions allow damages suits to be filed only in countries where nuclear accidents have happened and hold only nuclear power plant operators responsible for compensation payments.

An official at the Japanese science ministry said that Japan's participation in an international convention would exempt domestic nuclear reactor makers from liability over accidents.

But it remains uncertain if Japan can draw a conclusion on its participation in such a treaty any time soon because its government has been unable to decide how to do with the country's strategy on nuclear plant exports in the wake of the Fukushima crisis, analysts said.

Japan - Nuclear Crisis:  
How It Happened

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online in English 1855 GMT 08 Jun 11  
Kan's Visit Wasted Time

06/15/2011

Nearly three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a nuclear crisis that shows little sign of ending any time soon.

This is the first installment in a series that looks into what has given rise to the unprecedented crisis, dealing a fatal blow to the myth of safety at nuclear power plants in this country.

Shortly after 1 a.m. on March 12--about 10 hours after the massive earthquake and tsunami struck--Prime Minister Naoto Kan was becoming increasingly exasperated.

Kan, 64, told his aides at the Prime Minister's Office that he wanted to go and visit the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant to grasp the situation in person. But Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano, 47, tried to dissuade him from doing so, saying, "If you leave the Prime Minister's Office at this moment, you'll come under fierce criticism."

Kan shouted in anger. "You idiot! Which is more important, ending this situation or thinking about the risk of drawing fire?"

Pressure in the No. 1 reactor's containment vessel shot up to a level nearly double its designed strength. Given the situation, plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. came to the conclusion that venting radioactive steam from the reactor was needed to prevent an explosion. Such a measure had never before been taken in this country.

TEPCO workers called a situation that required venting the worst-case scenario. And the company was hit by more unexpected trouble--loss of all power. That hampered preparations for the venting.

At 6:14 a.m. Kan headed for the plant in a Self-Defense Forces helicopter and arrived there at 7:11 a.m.

"Has the venting been done yet?" he shouted in a meeting room in a strongly earthquake-resistant building used as a base for the restoration work.

At that moment, more than five hours had passed since the government had told TEPCO to vent steam from the reactor.

Kan regained his composure as Masao Yoshida, 56, head of the plant, told him, "We'll form a suicide squad to do it."

As soon as Kan left the crippled power plant after 8 a.m., Yoshida immediately instructed his men to carry out the venting. It was as if he had been waiting until the prime minister's departure to do so.

Work to prepare for the venting at the No. 1 reactor started at 9:15 a.m.

Workers headed for the reactor building, carrying nitrogen cylinders and batteries over their shoulders. They called the mission their "last service."

In a severe working environment where they were exposed at one point to more than 106 millisieverts of radiation, a level that exceeded the limit permitted for workers at nuclear power plants, three teams of two people took turns venting steam from the reactor. At about 2 p.m., the venting was deemed a success.

However about 1-1/2 hours later, there was a hydrogen explosion at the reactor.

TEPCO has cited slowness in the evacuation of residents in neighboring areas as a reason for its delay in carrying out the venting. But the government-ordered evacuation of people living within three kilometers of the plant was completed by 12:30 a.m. on March 12.

It remains unknown why Yoshida waited for hours to order workers to conduct the venting.

A photograph provided by TEPCO showed that updates of the situation on the site were given on a whiteboard in the No. 1 reactor's central control room. But from 6:29 a.m., shortly after Kan departed the Prime Minister's Office, to 9:04 a.m., an hour after he left the plant, there was nothing written on the board. Speculation has arisen that work to fight the crisis was stalled during the missing 2-1/2 hours.

"The director had to accompany the prime minister. I'm not sure if the hydrogen explosion could have been prevented, but I'm sure [Kan's visit] wasted our time," a senior TEPCO official said.

Meanwhile, Kan has apparently viewed TEPCO's handling of the crisis as problematic, saying they failed to respond promptly to the government's instruction to carry out the venting.

---

Hydrogen Blasts at Plant Surprised Experts

The Daily Yomiuri Online in English 1856 GMT 09 Jun 11

Nearly three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a nuclear crisis that shows little sign of ending any time soon.

This is the second installment in a series that looks into what has given rise to the unprecedented crisis,

dealing a fatal blow to the myth of safety at nuclear power plants in this country.

"An explosion was heard at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant."

At 3:36 p.m. March 12, this information was conveyed from the Fukushima prefectural police via the National Police Agency to the government's crisis management center, located in the basement of the Prime Minister's Office.

But officials of the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency and Tokyo Electric Power Co. who were at the Prime Minister's Office at the time refused to accept the information, some of them repeatedly saying, "That's not possible."

It was not until five hours later that the government acknowledged that a hydrogen explosion had occurred at reactor No. 1. Such an explosion had not been factored into their scenarios, and it took some time for officials to analyze the situation.

At 8:40 p.m., Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano held a press conference. "The explosion destroyed the reactor building, but the containment vessel [housing the reactor] has not been damaged," he said, stressing that the reactor was safe.

Meanwhile, TEPCO, the plant operator, had only made an announcement that it was analyzing the incident.

"No expert had predicted that a hydrogen explosion would occur at the reactor building," said Goshi Hosono, special adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan.

Haruki Madarame, chairman of the Nuclear Safety Commission, had said, "The containment vessel has been refilled with nitrogen, so a hydrogen explosion won't happen." Kan accepted the explanation.

Nuclear experts, including Madarame, overlooked the risk of a hydrogen explosion because they were shackled with what was considered common sense among many nuclear experts. Instead it turned out to be more like excessive self-confidence.

The 2002 report, compiled by TEPCO and five other power companies, on response measures to be taken in

the event of core meltdowns and other severe nuclear accidents, stated, "There is no need to take a hydrogen explosion into consideration." This belief came from the common knowledge that such an explosion would not occur if the containment vessel was filled with nitrogen, which would keep the concentration level of hydrogen low.

The government's safety screening was based on similar beliefs.

Tomoho Yamada, director of the NISA's Nuclear Power Licensing Division, said, "[The reactor] was designed to keep hydrogen from leaking out of the containment vessel into the reactor building."

"In the safety screening, we assumed that a hydrogen explosion would not occur in the reactor building," Yamada added, admitting that due to this assumption, measures to prevent a hydrogen explosion in the reactor building were not included in the list of safety measure evaluations.

But according to an analysis by TEPCO, after all of the nuclear fuel at the No. 1 reactor melted 16 hours after the massive earthquake and tsunami on March 11, the pressure and the containment vessels became damaged. Hydrogen, which was generated from the reaction between the zirconium cladding of the fuel rods and oxygen, leaked out and began accumulating in the reactor building.

A former TEPCO executive said: "I'd never have thought such a large amount of hydrogen would be generated after the nuclear fuel was exposed. We must accept that we were overly confident."

TEPCO attempted to ventilate other reactor buildings at the power plant, but workers struggled with high radiation levels, and failed to prevent a hydrogen explosion at the No. 3 reactor on March 14.

The hydrogen explosion at the No. 1 reactor was indeed a critical point leading to delays in responses to the nuclear accident.

When nuclear reactors are in operation, hydrogen tends to be generated by the radiolytic decomposition of water and other chemical reactions. But hydrogen generation was not the cause of most past explosions at nuclear plants, so close attention was not initially paid to the phenomenon during the Fukushima crisis.

In the 1979 accident in which a cooling malfunction crippled the Three Mile Island nuclear power station in

the United States, a hydrogen explosion took place inside a containment vessel about 10 hours after the malfunction began. But the reactor building and containment vessel stood intact despite the blast. Several hours later, the cooling system was restored.

But it took four days until the threat of immediate catastrophe was declared to be over after hydrogen was eliminated.

An explosion that occurred at Chubu Electric Power Co.'s Hamaoka nuclear power plant in Shizuoka Prefecture in November 2001 was due to hydrogen combustion inside a pipe used for the emergency cooling of a reactor core.

Reactor design a factor

The Fukushima No. 1 plant suffered a series of explosions because the design of its reactors made it prone to hydrogen blasts, but this risk was overlooked, according to some experts.

At the plant, the Nos. 1-5 reactors are the Mark-1 model developed by General Electric Co. of the United States in the 1960s. The Mark-1 is one of the oldest light-water reactor models. Construction of Fukushima's No. 1 reactor dates back to 44 years ago.

"[The Mark-1] containment vessels are relatively small and pressure fluctuates greatly, so its operation is difficult," said a former senior TEPCO official who worked at the Fukushima plant. "As hydrogen accumulates easily, I felt a potential risk."

In the United States, among 104 reactors in use at 65 nuclear power plants, the Mark-1 model accounts for 23 reactors at 16 plants, a major subject of criticism among antinuclear activists.

In the 1970s, U.S. nuclear regulators considered a ban on the use of the Mark-1 model out of concern that its containment vessels could be vulnerable to serious accidents. But as the model was already being widely used, authorities stopped short of forbidding its use.

However after the 1970s, experts pointed to the need for measures to prevent rapid hydrogen buildup. As a result, plant operators have since taken steps such as installing equipment that regenerates water from

hydrogen in turbine buildings and injects nitrogen into containment vessels.

Such measures have also been taken at the Fukushima plant.

But in the 1980s, a senior official of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission named Harold Denton pressed the argument that Mark-1 reactors had a 90 percent probability of suffering an explosion if fuel rods overheated and melted in an accident.

In the late 1980s, GE attempted to help the model survive such criticism by equipping it with improved devices such as a venting system to reduce pressure in the containment vessel.

NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko has said all existing reactors in the United States, including Mark-1 reactors, are operating safely.

But regarding the Mark-1 model and its 40-year history, a senior official of a nuclear reactor manufacturer said, "The biggest problem is we lacked knowledge of the workings of devices that were vulnerable to a loss of power."

Even the device to regenerate water from hydrogen cannot work if power is lost.

"Unexpectedly, nuclear engineers aren't so familiar with electric systems," a TEPCO official said.

TEPCO uses Mark-2 reactors at its Fukushima No. 2 nuclear power plant. Immediately after the March 11 disaster, the cooling system temporarily halted at the plant's three reactors, but a hydrogen blast did not occur there.

In Japan, the Mark-1 model also has been used at the Nos. 1 and 2 reactors at the Hamaoka plant. Nuclear plants in Onagawacho, Miyagi Prefecture; Matsue, Shimane Prefecture; and Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, each have one Mark-1 reactor.

In a report prepared for the International Atomic Energy Agency, the government has included the installation of equipment to eliminate hydrogen from reactor buildings as a measure to prevent hydrogen explosions.

---

Government Radiation Data Disclosure--too Little, Too Late

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online inEnglish1909 GMT 10 Jun 11

Three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a nuclear crisis that shows little sign of ending any time soon.

This is the third installment in a series that looks into what has given rise to the unprecedented crisis, dealing a fatal blow to myth of safety at nuclear power plants in this country.

On June 3, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency released a shocking, but very belated, report about what happened around the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant immediately after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

At 8:39 a.m. on March 12, about 18 hours after the earthquake, radioactive tellurium-132 was detected in Namiemachi, Fukushima Prefecture, six kilometers from Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s damaged plant, according to the report from the agency.

The detection of Te-132 meant the temperature of nuclear fuel at the plant had shot up to more than 1,000 C. It also meant nuclear fuel pellets in the reactor cores had been damaged and nuclear material had leaked into the environment.

Seven hours later, a massive hydrogen explosion rocked the plant's No. 1 reactor.

Attempting to explain the delay in making the information public, agency spokesman Hidehiko Nishiyama said later, "We never meant to conceal the information, but it never occurred to us to make it public."

---

SPEEDI data unused

Throughout the ups and downs of the nuclear crisis, the government's transparency record has been consistently atrocious.

At 5:44 a.m. on March 12, the government expanded the evacuation area around the plant to 10 kilometers from three kilometers. Namiemachi authorities moved residents by bus to the Tsushima district in the western part of the town.

Meanwhile, the System for Prediction of Environmental Emergency Dose Information (SPEEDI) had been pumping out estimates of radiation doses once every hour since 4 p.m. on March 11.

SPEEDI—a system used to make forecasts of radiation diffusion patterns—had been showing that the Tsushima district was being hit with high radiation doses. This crucial information, however, was not passed on to town authorities.

Mayor Tamotsu Baba said later, "We weren't told anything important."

According to the government's basic nuclear disaster plan, SPEEDI should be used to help make evacuation recommendations. The system cost more than 11 billion yen in taxpayer money to install. When Prime Minister Naoto Kan directed a disaster response drill at Chubu Electric Power Co.'s Hamaoka nuclear power plant in Shizuoka Prefecture last year, SPEEDI simulations were used to set evacuation areas.

However, the March 11 calamity severed power at the Fukushima plant, meaning SPEEDI data could not be transmitted. The government said it did not make forecasts from the system public because "accurate predictions could not be made."

Despite the information blackout on radiation levels, SPEEDI continued to churn out useful data about radiation emissions immediately after the earthquake and tsunami by inputting provisional readings.

The system's estimates on radiation pollution for the afternoon of March 12 show high contamination in areas eerily similar to those the government eventually designated as "planned evacuation areas" in April.

"Although the system was supposed to be used to deal with a crisis, we weren't fully prepared to actually use it," said one senior education ministry official. "There were no ideas or discussions about if the [SPEEDI] data should be made public," he said, essentially admitting the ministry wasted the system.

On May 2, Goshi Hosono, special adviser to the prime minister on the Fukushima crisis, made public about 5,000 SPEEDI radiation-prediction images. Explaining why the disclosure had been so late, Hosono said the government had been "afraid of triggering a panic."

Commenting on the matter, Hirotsugu Hirose, professor emeritus of Tokyo Women's Christian University and specialist in risk psychology, said, "In a fast-changing crisis situation, delays in releasing information to try to ensure accuracy often aggravates people's suspicions and unease."

"Even if information is only about possible developments, data obtained through scientific methods should be disclosed," he said. "In the initial phase of the Fukushima crisis, scientifically valid forecasts should have been made public, with the understanding that the information would be modified immediately if the situation changed."

===

#### Numbers, but no analysis

In addition to the problems with transparency, the Fukushima nuclear crisis has also highlighted issues with the arrangements the government has made for measuring radiation from the nuclear power plant and how the data are evaluated.

The government's basic disaster response plan assumes the task of measuring radiation levels around a nuclear plant in the event of an accident would be done by the prefectural government involved. The education ministry's role is only "supplementary" to the duties of the prefectural government.

In this crisis, however, the Fukushima prefectural government was unable to handle the task of making radiation measurements on its own.

Therefore, on March 16, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano instructed the education ministry to cooperate with the prefectural government in analyzing and announcing radiation dosage data.

The ministry then brought observation vehicles and robots to construct 13 observation networks in April to measure air, sea and soil radiation levels. Findings were subsequently posted on the ministry's Web site.

Since the networks were only makeshift and there was no way to digitally transmit the data to the ministry, trips to the observation stations were a cumbersome necessity. The readings were sometimes even called in over public pay phones. The result was chaos--wrong data were sometimes made public, while information that had been gathered and reported sometimes was not released.

Looking back at the situation, senior vice minister of the education ministry Ryuzo Sasaki said, "Both personnel and equipment were sorely lacking, as there was no proper plan in place for the central government to take the initiative in addressing the situation."

Data, no matter how much effort was expended to collect it, does not serve people's needs unless it is combined with expert evaluation and analysis. Organs in charge of making evaluations, however, failed to do their jobs.

On March 16, Yasutaka Moriguchi, deputy minister of the education ministry, announced that radiation doses of 330 microsieverts had been measured about 20 kilometers from the crippled nuclear plant. When asked about possible health hazards, Moriguchi only said, "Our duty is confined to providing the public with data."

===

'No comment'

The observation point Moriguchi was reporting on was in an area where residents had not been evacuated but were currently being told to stay indoors.

The data alone would likely have fanned anxiety among residents near the nuclear facility, but Moriguchi, when pressed over why he was only reporting the data, told the press conference, "We have been instructed by the chief cabinet secretary not to make any comments on the data."

Around that time, Chief Cabinet Secretary Edano had issued an order that evaluations of radiation data could only be done by the Nuclear Safety Commission.

Chief of the commission Haruki Madarame, however, was tied up advising Kan and other government leaders. For a full week after Edano's order, no evaluation of the radiation data was announced by the commission, the nation's expert body on the matter.

Instead, Edano repeated in press conference after press conference that radiation levels would not cause any "immediate" health damage.

On March 23, Madarame finally held his first press conference. In it, he apologized. "We are very sorry, but we cannot make any [radiation evaluations] because we are very understaffed."

---

Government, Tepco Brushed off Warnings From All Sides

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online inEnglish 1932 GMT 11 Jun 11

Three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a nuclear crisis that shows little sign of ending anytime soon.

This is the fourth installment in a series that examines what caused the unprecedented crisis, which has dealt a fatal blow to the myth of the safety of nuclear power plants in this country.

"The lands of Mutsunokuni were severely jolted. The sea covered dozens, hundreds of blocks of land. About 1,000 people drowned."

This is a description of the massive Jogan Earthquake and tsunami that hit the Tohoku region about 1,150 years ago. It is contained in "Nihon Sandai Jitsuroku" (The official history of three reigns of Japan), which was compiled during the early Heian Period (794-1192).

Mutsunokuni is the name of the region that covered most of the present-day prefectures in the Tohoku region.

It is now clear the government and Tokyo Electric Power Co. did not learn from history.

Since 1990, Tohoku Electric Power Co., Tohoku University and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology have researched the traces left by the Jogan Earthquake. Their studies have shown

that the ancient tsunami was on the same scale as that caused by the March 11 earthquake.

According to a report submitted by the national institute to the government in the spring of last year, the Jogan Earthquake occurred off Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures and is estimated to have had a magnitude of about 8.3 or 8.4.

The Jogan Earthquake tsunami penetrated more than four kilometers inland in the Sendai plain in Miyagi Prefecture, and about 1.5 kilometers inland in an area where Minami-Soma, Fukushima Prefecture, is currently located, the report said.

According to a recent study conducted by Tohoku University, two tsunami equivalent to the size of the Jogan Earthquake tsunami have hit the Sendai plain in the past 3,000 years.

Before March 11, scholars had repeatedly warned at academic conferences and other occasions that a massive tsunami could hit the Tohoku region in the future.

However, the government's Central Disaster Management Council and TEPCO never factored such studies into their estimates of the damage that earthquakes and tsunami could cause to nuclear power plants.

TEPCO said there was not much evidence of the damage caused by the Jogan Earthquake. It was more appropriate, the utility said, to reference the Shioyazaki-oki Earthquake--a magnitude-7.9 temblor that hit Fukushima Prefecture in 1938 and caused much smaller tsunami than the March 11 earthquake--when estimating the damage earthquakes and tsunami could cause at the Fukushima No. 1 power plant.

Robert Geller, a professor at the University of Tokyo and an expert in seismology, said that if TEPCO and the government had referred to the study of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, they might have increased the size of tsunami they thought the Fukushima plant might encounter. The government and TEPCO should have taken the risk of tsunami more seriously, he added.

"This crisis at the power plant is not a natural disaster. It is a man-made disaster," Geller said.

According to Geller, four earthquakes measuring magnitude-9 or stronger occurred in the 60 years to 2009.

"In 2004, there was the Indian Ocean earthquake. [The government and TEPCO] should have been aware that similar earthquakes could occur anywhere," Geller said.

The government plays an enormous role in the safety of nuclear power plants, checking reports submitted by power companies regarding the quake-resistance measures implemented at each of their nuclear plants.

However, it takes time for the government to factor new studies into its evaluation of the reports. In addition, both the government and power companies have focused more on measures against earthquakes than tsunami.

According to sources, people who tried to raise the alarm about the risks of tsunami were in the minority at TEPCO. Many thought it was enough to arm against earthquakes equivalent to the size of the Shioyazaki-oki Earthquake, they said.

A former TEPCO executive once said: "Tsunami are a threat to ria coasts, such as the Sanriku coast. However, they're not a threat to straight coasts, such as the one where the Fukushima No. 1 power plant is located."

There are other examples of risks regarding earthquakes and tsunami being ignored.

In its annual reports, which have been made public since 2008, the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization (JNES) has predicted possible damage tsunami could cause to Mark-1 nuclear reactors that are about the same size as the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors at the Fukushima plant.

One report said if a breakwater that extended up to 13 meters above sea level was hit by a 15-meter-high tsunami, all power sources would be knocked out—including outside electricity and emergency power generators. In such a situation, the report said, cooling functions would be lost and the reactor's core would be 100 percent damaged—a meltdown, in other words.

The breakwater at the Fukushima No. 1 plant was about 5.5 meters high, less than half the assumed height in the JNES report.

TEPCO assumed the tsunami hitting the plant would be 5.4 meters to 5.7 meters high. But the wave that

struck on March 11 was 14 meters to 15 meters high.

Another report by the organization released last year predicted that if all power sources were lost due to an earthquake, fuel rods will begin melting after only 100 minutes. This report said a reactor's containment vessel would be damaged after about seven hours and a large amount of radioactive material would be released into the air.

According to an analysis by the government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, damage to the core of the Fukushima plant's No. 1 reactor started about two hours after the tsunami and its pressure vessel was damaged in about four hours--very close to what JNES had predicted.

Both entities are under the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry and are in charge of safety regulations at the nation's nuclear power plants. Findings by JNES are often reflected in safety measures adopted by plant operators. But one TEPCO official said, "We prioritized preparing for high-probability incidents, so we couldn't respond to everything."

Wataru Sugiyama, a lecturer on nuclear power safety at Kinki University's Atomic Energy Research Institute, said, "From a cost-performance perspective, it's difficult to prepare for low-probability disasters and prevent all accidents.

"But by thinking about things after an accident, it's possible to prevent worse situations," he said.

His words were proved true by Japan Atomic Power Co.'s Tokai No. 2 nuclear plant in Tokaimura, Ibaraki Prefecture, which was also hit by the disaster but managed to avoid a serious accident.

After the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant was hit by the Niigata Prefecture Chuetsu Offshore Earthquake in July 2007, Japan Atomic Power decided to build anti-tsunami walls at the Tokai No. 2 plant. The walls were built to withstand a tsunami 5.7-meters high, up from about four meters.

Construction had not been completed by the time the March 11 tsunami struck, but a finished section on the south side of the Tokai plant protected a seawater-intake pump needed to cool an emergency diesel power generator, which prevented a complete loss of power at the plant.

Economic factors are not the only reason why power utilities were reluctant to take action on safety measures. The firms also wanted to avoid losing the trust of local residents.

Many cases of cover-ups or altered data have been unveiled since 2002, including some at the Fukushima No. 1 plant. TEPCO believed that launching repairs to solve these problems would make their explanations about the safety of nuclear power to local residents ring false.

Another issue was that the voices of workers at the plant did not reach the higher-ups.

"Workers at the plant thought from before the quake that there was a risk all power could be lost if a tsunami flooded the emergency power generators," according to one TEPCO employee who has worked as an operator at the Fukushima No. 1 plant.

But a former TEPCO executive who is now an adviser to the firm said, "If there was a risk of losing all power, why didn't workers present their views at board meetings? It's really too bad."

When asked why the government failed to act on tsunami warnings, industry minister Banri Kaieda said his ministry had blindly believed Japan's nuclear plants "were the safest in the world."

---

#### Safety Vows Forgotten, 'safety Myth' Created

Tokyo The Daily Yomiuri Online in English 1926 GMT 14 Jun 11 Three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake triggered a nuclear crisis that shows little sign of ending anytime soon.

This is the fifth installment in a series that examines what caused the unprecedented crisis, which has dealt a fatal blow to the myth of the safety of nuclear power plants in this country.

A former employee of Tokyo Electric Power Co. still remembers the enthusiasm of the early days of atomic energy when he was sent across the Pacific Ocean to be trained to operate a nuclear power plant.

The 76-year-old former employee was involved in operating the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant from when its No. 1 reactor went on-line in 1971 until he became a top executive at the plant in the 1990s.

In spring of 1969, TEPCO sent 16 workers in their 30s and 40s to the Dresden nuclear power plant southwest of Chicago, Ill. They underwent intensive training by General Electric Co. engineers, including on a nuclear plant simulator. "We really felt it was our mission to bring back nuclear power know-how and help it take root in Japan," he recalled.

After returning home, they translated GE's operation manuals and other resources into Japanese, eventually filling about 10 telephone book-sized volumes.

Whenever he entered the central control room for the No. 1 reactor, he said he made a vow to operate it safely. "We always felt a sense of urgency that any mistake could lead to an accident," he said.

He said TEPCO also stressed safety. The utility was proactive about adopting operators' suggestions for improvements, such as by installing a different type of emergency light in better locations. Improving safety was always top priority, according to the former employee.

While learning from their experiences, domestic engineers aggressively adopted technology from overseas. Over time, Japan's nuclear industry changed from student to teacher.

From 1992 to 2001 the Japanese government accepted about 1,000 trainees from nations of the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe. The program was designed to spread a culture of safety at nuclear power plants around the world.

"We believed Japan's nuclear plants were top class. But there was probably a bit of overconfidence there," said a former top TEPCO official, 68, who was in charge of developing new plants.

According to government opinion polls from the 1980s and '90s, however, more than half of respondents continued to express "worry over nuclear plants," likely reinforced by the Chernobyl accident in 1986 and the criticality accident at JCO Co.'s facility in Tokaimura, Ibaraki Prefecture, in 1999.

Shunichi Tanaka, former acting chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, said people in the nuclear industry were always on guard.

"If we even mentioned there was a slight possibility that nuclear plants were dangerous, antinuclear

advocates pushed for shutting every plant down," he said. "So, we just kept on declaring the plants were safe."

This combination of overconfidence and trapping themselves with their own words gradually built up the "safety myth" of nuclear power plants.

"You can take all kinds of possible situations into consideration, but something 'beyond imagination' is bound to take place, like the March 11 tsunami," said the former plant operator. "The possibility of a worst-case scenario should have been assumed, and there should have been a reliable system in place with proper training to keep damage to a minimum."

The United States, which has provided Japan with nuclear technology and currency has 104 reactors, began a secret program called "B5b" in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to prepare for a possible loss of power to reactors.

The program was designed to prevent serious radiation leakage even if an aircraft crashed into a nuclear plant, and also to ensure plants could withstand natural disasters like floods or tornados.

A senior official of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which was in charge of planning the program, said confidently there was "no possibility" that any U.S. nuclear facility could lose all its cooling functions, as occurred at the Fukushima plant.

The San Onofre nuclear power plant on the Pacific Coast in California houses its four backup generators in a reinforced concrete building, separate from the power plant and designed to withstand being hit by a tsunami.

Sin of complacency

Japan, in fact, had ample opportunity to bolster disaster-prevention measures at domestic nuclear facilities.

The first opportunity came after the 1979 accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear facility in Pennsylvania, in which the world witnessed the first core meltdown of a nuclear reactor. But it was not until 13 years later that Japan's Nuclear Safety Commission revised its position that no serious accident could take place as

long as its safety guidelines were followed.

Based on lessons learned from the Three Mile Island accident, in which mechanical troubles were compounded by operation errors by workers, the NSC asked electric utilities to come up with countermeasures for a "severe accident" beyond the specifications their reactors were designed to withstand.

In written instructions issued in May 1992, the NSC said the new guidelines for severe accidents would surely reduce the risk of such accidents from an already low level.

In 1994, TEPCO adopted a new policy to enhance safety at its nuclear plants. It decided to increase the number of emergency power sources by installing additional backup diesel generators and other means.

At the Fukushima No. 1 facility, the utility equipped the Nos. 2, 4 and 6 reactors with air-cooled backup generators from 1997 to 1999, in addition to 10 water-cooled generators already at the six-reactor complex.

The March 11 earthquake and tsunami, however, painfully exposed the insufficiency of these measures, which were meant to ensure emergency power would not be lost.

In the calamity, only one of the air-cooled generators for the No. 6 reactor, which sat 13 meters above sea level, was still operable after the tsunami. The generator barely got the Nos. 5 and 6 reactors into a state of stable cooling.

The other air-cooled generators at the Nos. 2 and 4 reactors--even though they were 10 meters above sea level--were rendered useless when the tsunami submerged their switchboards. All 10 of the plant's water-cooled emergency generators were also inundated.

"We took it for granted that the quake-resistant design of our Fukushima and other nuclear plants was fail-safe," one former TEPCO executive said. "But I now doubt how serious we were about preparing for a severe disaster."

"If only we'd put the backup generators on even higher ground away from the reactors, the Nos. 1 to 4

reactors might not have been damaged,"he said.

Guidelines sat unchanged

The "safety myth" of the nation's nuclear plants lay behind this failure to fully implement preparations for severe accidents.

Safety inspection guidelines the NSC revised in 1990 said, "We do not need to take into account the danger of a long-term power severance, as we could anticipate recovery of power transmission lines and emergency generators in a short period of time."

The first sentence of a TEPCO report from March 1994 on action to be taken in the event of a serious accident said, "Our country's nuclear power plants have attained a high degree of safety from a global point of view."

The report emphasized, "It is inconceivable that a severe accident could actually occur." The report seemed to imply that efforts to prevent an "inconceivable" accident would be a waste of time and energy.

"The NSC's guidelines for coping with a severe accident were left unchanged since they were set in 1992, and no additional steps were taken," said a preliminary government report on the Fukushima crisis submitted June 7 to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Japan, US To Boost Ties  
Between Local  
Government, US Forces in  
Disasters

Tokyo, June 14 Kyodo – Tokyo and Washington will agree at upcoming security talks to boost cooperation between Japan's local governments and U.S. forces during disasters, in the wake of the devastating March 11 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster, sources close to bilateral relations said Tuesday.

06/15/2011

The agreement will be included in their joint statement to be issued after the meeting, possibly next week in Washington.

In a new set of common strategic goals to be included in the statement, they will also express hope that China will take responsible action on global issues, according to the sources.

Based on the outline of the statement, the U.S. military's key role in relief activities under Operation Tomodachi, named after the Japanese word for friend, will be noted, and they will reaffirm the importance of the U.S. military's cooperation with local governments in times of disaster, in addition to working closely with the Japanese Self-Defense Forces.

To speed up working together during emergencies, the central government is hoping to have the U.S. military take part in local government-sponsored drills and local planning of disaster management, the sources said.

The statement will also note the need for both Japanese and U.S. governments to share information and take joint actions in addressing disaster, while working well with the private sector.

The two countries will also reaffirm the vital role of a bilateral joint working group to counter chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats, under a renewed need for the SDF and U.S. forces to respond promptly in the wake of a nuclear accident. In the past, they only envisaged the threat of weapons of mass destruction, including that from North Korea.

Although the schedule remains uncertain due to the ongoing Diet session, which may prevent Japanese ministers from leaving the country, Japan and the United States are arranging the "two-plus-two" meeting of their foreign and defense ministers in Washington to be held June 21.

Touching on the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station in Okinawa Prefecture, which locals continue to deeply oppose, the two countries specified the building of the replacement facility in the Henoko area in Nago in the form of two runways in a V-shaped formation.

Seeing that sticking to the earlier agreed deadline of 2014 for completing the relocation is impossible, Tokyo and Washington are in the final stages of referring to the relocation deadline as "as early as possible," the sources said.

On the updated common strategic goals, China will be urged to improve transparency in its military affairs, observe international rules and maintain consistency between its stated policies and actions, the sources said.

The goals, which were originally drawn in February 2005 and updated in May 2007, will include a call for China and Taiwan to engage in dialogue that will lead to a peaceful resolution.

Japan and the United States will also stress the need to enhance trilateral frameworks involving Australia and India as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, respectively.

The ministers will also agree in the statement on a policy for Japan to allow the United States to export to third countries a jointly developed ballistic missile interceptor, while specifying the uninhabited Mage Island in Kagoshima Prefecture as a candidate relocation site for U.S. carrier-borne aircraft landing drills.

Japan: TEPCO To Cover  
No.1 Reactor With  
Polyester Sheets

Tokyo NHK Online in English 2226 GMT 14 Jun 11

06/15/2011

The operator of the Fukushima Daiichinuclear plant will begin to cover the No.1 reactor building with polyester sheets this month to prevent the dispersal of radioactive substances.

The buildings of the No.1, 3, and 4 reactors were severely damaged by explosions and radioactive elements are still being released into the atmosphere. There are fears that heavy rain may hamper the workers' activities and that the rainwater may become contaminated with radioactive materials.

To prevent these situations, Tokyo Electric Power Company, or TEPCO, plans to enclose the reactor buildings with polyester sheets. The covering of the No.1 reactor building will begin later this month.

The roughly one-millimeter-thick sheets will be attached to the steel frames of the 54-meter-high building.

To minimize workers' exposure to radiation, TEPCO will use a special method with very few personnel. A large crane designed to ward off radiation will set up 62 pre-assembled parts at the reactor building.

TEPCO aims to complete the covering operation in late September.

The utility plans to carry out similar work at the No.3 and 4 reactor buildings.

Japan: Nuclear Safety  
Agency Starts On-site  
Inspection of Atomic  
Power Plants

Tokyo, June 15 Kyodo -- Japan's nuclear safety agency on Wednesday started on-site inspections of nuclear power plants across the country to evaluate their measures to prevent serious disasters such as the ongoing crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power station, agency officials said.

06/15/2011

The government agency, which supervises safety regulations at atomic power facilities, will compile its own assessment of the preventive measures as early as this week after examining the plants during the scheduled two-day inspections, they said.

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency will inspect facilities such as Kansai Electric Power Co.'s Mihama and Takahama nuclear power plants in Fukui Prefecture and Chubu Electric Power Co.'s Hamaoka plant in Shizuoka Prefecture on Wednesday, the officials said.

On Thursday, it will check Hokkaido Electric Power Co.'s Tomari power plant, the Monju prototype fast-breeder reactor in Fukui Prefecture operated by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency, and other facilities, they added.

The on-site inspections are a follow-up to current reports on preventative measures against accidents submitted by the 11 operators of nuclear power plants in Japan at the agency's request.

The move is aimed at avoiding cases such as the nuclear disaster at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima Daiichi power plant that was ravaged by the devastating March 11 earthquake and tsunami, as the damage exceeded the design standards at the facility.

The agency asked the plant operators to compile the reports based on five criteria such as ensuring safe working environments in control rooms and avoiding hydrogen explosions, which were stated in a report that the Japanese government submitted earlier to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Some operators said in their reports that they are installing equipment that would remove hydrogen from troubled facilities and rip holes in the roofs of buildings housing nuclear reactors to prevent hydrogen explosions.

Japanese nuke plants add vents, other safety steps TOKYO (AP) 2011-06-14 — The operator of the tsunami-damaged nuclear plant is installing rooftop vents and taking other safety measures at two more nuclear plants to prevent a crisis in case of another severe accident.

06/14/2011

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Tuesday it will add a rooftop vent for seven reactors at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant in north-central Japan to prevent hydrogen explosions like what occurred at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant in mid-March.

While those measures are taken, TEPCO will tentatively store equipment to cut a hole in roofs at

Kashiwazaki and the Fukushima Dai-ni plant and take other safety steps at both sites.  
The Fukushima Dai-ichi plant had several hydrogen explosions after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.  
The explosions had not been anticipated and spewed radiation into the environment.

Japan cabinet approves  
Fukushima nuclear  
compensation

guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 14 June 2011 08.32 BST

06/14/2011

Japan's government has approved a plan to help the owners of the stricken Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant provide trillions of yen in compensation, but political manoeuvring could delay payments to tens of thousands of victims of the country's nuclear crisis.

The cabinet's approval of the scheme on Tuesday came after the plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power [Tepco], said a further six workers had exceeded the annual legal dose of radiation, underlining the risks they face as they struggle to stabilise overheating nuclear reactors by early next year.

Shares in Tepco rose dramatically after the compensation scheme was approved, but anger is mounting at the slow progress made in paying families and businesses more than three months after the worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl.

Under the bill, the government would set up a fund and issue special bonds to enable Tepco to pay compensation that the Mainichi newspaper said could reach US\$124bn (J75bn). Other power utilities would be asked to contribute to the fund, and Tepco is expected to repay the full sum over an, as yet, unspecified number of years.

In return for state help, Tepco will have to cut costs and turn its management over to the government "for a certain period of time".

Tepco, whose share price has fallen 90% since the 11 March tsunami crippled the Fukushima Daiichi plant, promised to make repayments as quickly as possible. "We hope that the proposed bill will be enacted in parliament as soon as possible," it said in a statement.

The measure's fate is far from certain, however. Some government and opposition MPs oppose the use of public funds to help Tepco, and the prime minister, Naoto Kan, is still under pressure to resign immediately despite surviving a recent no-confidence motion by promising to step down once the crisis is under control.

The current parliamentary session is due to end on 22 June, but the Kan administration is pushing to extend it in the hope of passing the compensation package, as well as an emergency budget to fund post-tsunami reconstruction.

News that the bill had gained cabinet approval lifted investor confidence in Tepco, but concern persists that

the company will look to consumers to help fund damages claims in the form of higher electricity bills. The trade and industry minister, Banri Kaieda, denied media reports that the government had already approved a 16% increase in electricity charges from next April. "The government will make sure that any costs passed on to consumers will be kept to a minimum," he said.

Tepco and two other power utilities are coming under pressure to end their involvement in nuclear power, with groups of investors expected to raise the issue at shareholders meetings at the end of the month. The risks facing the thousands of workers who have taken part in the operation to stabilise Fukushima Daiichi were underlined when Tepco said six more were feared to have exceeded the legal limit of 250 millisieverts [mSv] a year, bringing the total to eight.

The limit was raised from 100mSv a year early in the crisis to allow workers to spend more time at the plant, where nuclear fuel in three reactors suffered meltdowns.

In the worst cases, two control room workers were exposed to well over twice the legal limit, Tepco said, as it released preliminary results of radiation tests on almost 2,400 workers who were based at the plant in March, when radiation levels were at their highest.

The health ministry also said on Monday that at least 90 others have exceeded the original limit of 100mSv, including several who are nearing the 250mSv level.

Experts believe that exposure to more than 250mSv increases the chances of a person developing cancer in their lifetime by 1%.

Hidehiko Nishiyama, a spokesman for Japan's nuclear and safety agency, described the findings as "extremely regrettable".

Tepco said none of those affected have showed signs of ill health, but added that they would need long-term monitoring.

Japan: Kyodo:  
Commission To Review  
Safety Guidelines for  
Nuclear Plants

Tokyo, June 14 Kyodo -- The Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan said Monday it will start, possibly later this month, to review screening guidelines for designing safety, quake-resistance and disaster preparedness at nuclear power plants in the wake of the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

06/13/2011

Haruki Madarame, chairman of the commission, told a news conference, "We have to conduct a thorough review" of the guidelines so that nuclear plants can cope with unexpected situations, including a loss of power sources in the event of a tsunami.

One of the current guidelines stipulates, "There is no need to presume that all power sources may be lost

for a long period of time." But in the case of the Fukushima crisis, the nuclear plant lost its reactor cooling functions for an extended period after a tsunami crippled its emergency generators.

The provision "is clearly wrong," Madarame said, adding, "We would like to rectify incorrect points as speedily as possible." The commission will set up a subcommittee consisting of experts from various fields to draw up measures to ensure the safety of nuclear power plants even in the event of a massive earthquake or tsunami.

"We would like to quickly amend what can be corrected, as the process of our deliberations should not take years," he added.

Japanese Think Tank: No Nuclear Plant Use To Push up Power Bills by 1,000 Yen

Tokyo, June 13 (Jiji Press) -- Electricity rates for an average household in Japan would surge by over 1,000 yen a month if the country halts operations of all nuclear power stations and use thermal plants instead, an industry ministry-affiliated think tank said Monday.

06/13/2011

Monthly charges in fiscal 2012 ending in March 2013 would increase by 1,049 yen from fiscal 2010 due to soaring fuel costs, the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan said.

Such a hike may have adverse impacts on international competitiveness of Japanese businesses and the country's economic growth, the institute said, adding that it is an urgent task to seriously consider restarting nuclear reactors that have been halted for regular checkups and other reasons.

According to its estimate, Japan's nuclear power generation would be zero in June 2012 if 35 halted reactors do not restart operations and the other 19 reactors in the country suspend operations for checkups.

As a result, its electricity generation capacity would fall short of maximum power consumption in the summer 2012 by 7.8 pct, raising the possibility of nationwide electricity shortages.

The institute also said that Japan would have to bear 3.5 trillion yen in additional fuel procurement costs as high utilization of thermal power plants requires increased consumption of coal, liquefied natural gas and petroleum.

Japan: Fukushima set to test water treatment system

Kyodo, 2011-06-13

06/13/2011

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Monday it will start testing Tuesday a troubled new system to treat highly radioactive water at the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant after its test run was delayed due to piping problems.

If the test run goes well, the utility wants to fully start the equipment to decontaminate radioactive water by the end of this week — two to three days behind the originally scheduled date of Wednesday, Tepco said.

On Sunday, the utility said its preparations for a test-run of a newly installed equipment to absorb cesium hit a snag again as the piping in the equipment developed by Kurion Inc. of the United States may be clogged. On Friday, water leaks were also found on the equipment.

France's nuclear technology giant Areva SA is also providing other decontamination facilities for the entire water-purification system at the plant.

Repairs to fix the water leaks on the cesium absorber were completed by Sunday and the clogging problem was also cleared, Tepco said, adding it is getting ready to conduct a test run.

But Tepco's initial target to put the water-decontamination system in full operation from mid-June will be inevitably delayed, increasing the risk of flooding all available storage tanks at the plant.

Even so, both Tepco and the government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency appeared optimistic. They said there won't be any overflow of radioactive water until the last week of June.

Nations Fear Change in Japan's Nuclear Power Policies

Tokyo Nikkei Telecom 21 in English 0018 GMT 07 Jun 11

06/07/2011

TOKYO (Nikkei) — The crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant occurred 25 years after the 1986 Chernobyl accident in Ukraine, but as one senior German government official sees it, Fukushima had a bigger impact, primarily because Japan's nuclear power facilities were thought to be the world's safest.

In fact, the crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s (9501) plant in Fukushima Prefecture has seriously eroded public confidence in nuclear energy throughout the world, prompting Germany's decision to phase out the

use of nuclear power.

But most countries, particularly emerging economies that face rising energy demand, have yet to change their nuclear power generation policies. China, where 28 new nuclear plants are under construction, has maintained its pro-nuclear stance, as has India. In the industrialized world, the U.S. and France -- the world's biggest operators of nuclear power plants -- have also been quick to reaffirm their faith in nuclear power generation.

**Nuclear needs** On May 27, the Group of Eight nations made a joint declaration at a summit in Deauville, France, to express their "determination to draw all the lessons from the nuclear accident in Japan, including the necessity to promote the highest levels of safety." The inclusion of this passage in the statement apparently reflected the desire of French President Nicolas Sarkozy, who hosted the summit, to achieve consensus among the G-8 states to continue to generate nuclear power.

The Japanese government's post-Fukushima stance on nuclear energy was a concern for Sarkozy. So when the French leader met with Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan on the sidelines of the G-8 summit, he was keen to confirm Tokyo's ongoing commitment to nuclear power generation, while focusing on efforts to increase the safety of power plants.

Sarkozy was not alone in pressing Japan to remain committed to nuclear power at the G-8 summit. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev urged Kan to push ahead with the early ratification of a bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement, which would clear the way for joint Japanese-Russian projects in the field of nuclear energy.

**Supply side** These efforts by foreign leaders to urge Tokyo to remain committed to nuclear energy are based on their concerns about a possible shift in Japanese energy policy that could see the nation turn its back on these technologies.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty allows only five powers -- the U.S., the U.K, France, China and Russia -- to possess nuclear weapons. But as an exception to this rule, the international community permits Japan to maintain a nuclear fuel cycle, from fuel production to reprocessing.

This has enabled Japan to play a leadership role in the supply of components for nuclear power plants. But if

the nation stops playing this role, it could lead to disruptions in the global nuclear supply chain.

A team of 20 experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency entered the Fukushima power plant on May 27. On June 1, shortly before the team left Japan, Mike Weightman, the leader of the IAEA fact-finding mission, focused on praise rather than criticism when discussing Japanese efforts to contain the nuclear crisis.

"One of the biggest things the world can learn is about that spirit of the Japanese people (in the face of adversity)," said Weightman, a U.K. nuclear regulation official.

By phrasing the matter in this way, he was expressing hope for what Japan can do to help improve the safety of nuclear plants throughout the world.

Japan To Separate  
Nuclear Bodies To Clarify  
Roles, Responsibilities

Tokyo NHK Online 2040 GMT 06 Jun 11

06/07/2011

The Japanese government will restructure its nuclear-related organizations to clarify roles and responsibilities in the event of a nuclear disaster.

NHK has obtained a draft of a report that the government plans to submit to the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety later this month.

The report says the government will make the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, the country's nuclear regulator, independent from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The report also says that Tokyo Electric Power Company should improve the design of its nuclear plants to ensure that cooling can be carried out in the event of a serious accident.

The height of the storage pools for spent nuclear fuel in the troubled Fukushima Daichi plant has hampered efforts to cool the reactors.

The report also says that the government will carry out a study on nuclear safety, with the help of the international community, to identify ways to strengthen global nuclear safety.

The government's nuclear disaster taskforce will review the draft report on Tuesday.

Japan Seeks Enhanced Cooperation in Response To Nuclear Accidents

Budapest, June 6 Kyodo -- Japanese Foreign Minister Takeaki Matsumoto called Monday for enhanced international cooperation in responding to nuclear accidents and strengthening nuclear safety standards at a foreign ministerial session of the Asia-Europe Meeting in Hungary.

In a speech after the opening ceremony of the meeting, Matsumoto also expressed Japan's resolve to share data regarding the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, triggered by the March earthquake and tsunami disaster, with the international community in a fully transparent manner.

He said the international community needs to be united in reviewing nuclear safety standards in partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The two-day meeting, which brought together representatives from 46 Asian and European nations, is expected to also take up climate change, antipiracy measures and reform of the U.N. Security Council, in addition to safety standards for nuclear energy use.

ASEM, launched in 1996, is composed of the 27 members of the European Union, the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, plus Australia, China, India, Japan, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russia and South Korea as well as two regional organizations.

06/07/2011

Japan Starts Probe Into Fukushima Nuke Crisis Under Expert Panel

Tokyo, June 7 Kyodo -- Japan has started looking into the causes of the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant three months after it was triggered by the March 11 massive earthquake and tsunami, with an independent panel of experts holding their first gathering Tuesday in Tokyo.

The move marks the beginning of a comprehensive investigation of the world's worst nuclear crisis in 25 years since Chernobyl. The steps taken by the plant operator to deal with the disaster, often criticized as belated, as well as the government's response will be under scrutiny, but the panel does not intend to pursue the responsibilities of the people involved.

The panel, led by Yotaro Hatamura, a researcher on human error, plans to compile a midterm report of their findings by the end of this year and a final report sometime after the crisis is settled.

06/07/2011

At the outset of the meeting, Prime Minister Naoto Kan called on the members to make "firm judgments as a panel independent from the government," and said he is willing to be questioned as part of the panel's investigation process.

"I would like to ask for a report that can live up to scrutiny from around the world," Kan said.

Hatamura, a professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo, said, "I think it is a mistake to consider it safe." He also suggested the panel will inspect the crippled Fukushima plant as early as this month.

The panel is entitled to question people concerned, including officials of the plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co., related Cabinet members and government bureaucrats, but Hatamura was negative about the idea of making people speak about the facts in exchange for immunity.

"If we think about granting an exemption under the Japanese law, it may take about two or three years to decide on it...and people would forget about the issues which we want to investigate by that time," he told a press conference after the meeting. "So we will do what is best under this current framework." The country's nuclear safety regulatory system is also expected to be examined amid criticism over whether it is appropriate to have the nuclear regulatory agency under the wing of the industry ministry that promotes nuclear power.

The investigation process, however, is apparently difficult because relevant people are still working to bring the troubled plant under control.

The panel consists of a total of 10 members, including nonfiction writer Kunio Yanagida, Michio Furukawa, mayor of the town of Kawamata in Fukushima Prefecture, and Yukio Takasu, Japan's former ambassador to the United Nations.

Hit by the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami waves more than 14 meters high, the six-reactor nuclear complex lost nearly all of its power sources, leading the cooling functions of the reactors and spent nuclear fuel pools at the Nos.

1 to 4 units to fail.

The Nos. 1 to 3 reactors' cores are assumed to have suffered meltdowns, although the melted fuel is now believed to be kept cool at the bottom of each reactor pressure vessel because water is being injected into the vessel as an emergency measure.

The remaining Nos. 4 to 6 reactors were under maintenance at the time of the earthquake and the No. 4 unit has all the fuel in the spent fuel tank. The Nos.

5 and 6 reactors achieved a state of "cold shutdown," helped by one emergency diesel generator which escaped being flooded.

In Japan, a Culture That Promotes Nuclear Dependency

NYT, 2011-05-30

KASHIMA, Japan — When the Shimane nuclear plant was first proposed here more than 40 years ago, this rural port town put up such fierce resistance that the plant's would-be operator, Chugoku Electric, almost scrapped the project. Angry fishermen vowed to defend areas where they had fished and harvested seaweed for generations.

Two decades later, when Chugoku Electric was considering whether to expand the plant with a third reactor, Kashima once again swung into action: this time, to rally in favor. Prodded by the local fishing cooperative, the town assembly voted 15 to 2 to make a public appeal for construction of the \$4 billion reactor.

Kashima's reversal is a common story in Japan, and one that helps explain what is, so far, this nation's unwavering pursuit of nuclear power: a lack of widespread grass-roots opposition in the communities around its 54 nuclear reactors. This has held true even after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami generated a nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi station that has raised serious questions about whether this quake-prone nation has adequately ensured the safety of its plants. So far, it has spurred only muted public questioning in towns like this.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan has, at least temporarily, shelved plans to expand Japan's use of nuclear power — plans promoted by the country's powerful nuclear establishment. Communities appear willing to fight fiercely for nuclear power, despite concerns about safety that many residents refrain from voicing publicly. To understand Kashima's about-face, one need look no further than the Fukada Sports Park, which serves the 7,500 mostly older residents here with a baseball diamond, lighted tennis courts, a soccer field and a \$35 million gymnasium with indoor pool and Olympic-size volleyball arena. The gym is just one of several

06/01/2011

big public works projects paid for with the hundreds of millions of dollars this community is receiving for accepting the No. 3 reactor, which is still under construction.

As Kashima's story suggests, Tokyo has been able to essentially buy the support, or at least the silent acquiescence, of communities by showering them with generous subsidies, payouts and jobs. In 2009 alone, Tokyo gave \$1.15 billion for public works projects to communities that have electric plants, according to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Experts say the majority of that money goes to communities near nuclear plants.

And that is just the tip of the iceberg, experts say, as the communities also receive a host of subsidies, property and income tax revenues, compensation to individuals and even "anonymous" donations to local treasuries that are widely believed to come from plant operators.

Unquestionably, the aid has enriched rural communities that were rapidly losing jobs and people to the cities. With no substantial reserves of oil or coal, Japan relies on nuclear power for the energy needed to drive its economic machine. But critics contend that the largess has also made communities dependent on central government spending — and thus unwilling to rock the boat by pushing for robust safety measures. In a process that critics have likened to drug addiction, the flow of easy money and higher-paying jobs quickly replaces the communities' original economic basis, usually farming or fishing.

Nor did planners offer alternatives to public works projects like nuclear plants. Keeping the spending spigots open became the only way to maintain newly elevated living standards.

Experts and some residents say this dependency helps explain why, despite the legacy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the accidents at the Three Mile Island and Chernobyl nuclear plants, Japan never faced the levels of popular opposition to nuclear power seen in the United States and Europe — and is less likely than the United States to stop building new plants. Towns become enmeshed in the same circle — which includes politicians, bureaucrats, judges and nuclear industry executives — that has relentlessly promoted the expansion of nuclear power over safety concerns.

"This structure of dependency makes it impossible for communities to speak out against the plants or nuclear power," said Shuji Shimizu, a professor of public finance at Fukushima University.

#### Code of Silence

Indeed, a code of silence seems to prevail even now in towns like Kashima, which merged with the neighboring city of Matsue a half decade ago.

Tsuneyoshi Adachi, a 63-year-old fisherman, joined the huge protests in the 1970s and 1980s against the plant's No. 2 reactor. He said many fishermen were angry then because chlorine from the pumps of the plant's No. 1 reactor, which began operating in 1974, was killing seaweed and fish in local fishing grounds. However, Mr. Adachi said, once compensation payments from the No. 2 reactor began to flow in, neighbors

began to give him cold looks and then ignore him. By the time the No. 3 reactor was proposed in the early 1990s, no one, including Mr. Adachi, was willing to speak out against the plant. He said that there was the same peer pressure even after the accident at Fukushima, which scared many here because they live within a few miles of the Shimane plant.

"Sure, we are all worried in our hearts about whether the same disaster could happen at the Shimane nuclear plant," Mr. Adachi said. However, "the town knows it can no longer survive economically without the nuclear plant."

While few will say so in public, many residents also quietly express concern about how their town gave up its once-busy fishing industry. They also say that flashy projects like the sports park have brought little lasting economic benefit. The No. 3 reactor alone brought the town some \$90 million in public works money, and the promise of another \$690 million in property tax revenues spread over more than 15 years once the reactor becomes operational next year.

In the 1990s, property taxes from the No. 2 reactor supplied as much as three-quarters of town tax revenues. The fact that the revenues were going to decline eventually was one factor that drove the town to seek the No. 3 reactor, said the mayor at the time, Zentaro Aoyama.

Mr. Aoyama admitted that the Fukushima accident had frightened many people here. Even so, he said, the community had no regrets about accepting the Shimane plant, which he said had raised living standards and prevented the depopulation that has hollowed out much of rural Japan.

"What would have happened here without the plant?" said Mr. Aoyama, 73, who said the town used its very first compensation payment from the No. 1 reactor back in the late 1960s to install indoor plumbing. While the plants provide power mostly to distant urban areas, they were built in isolated, impoverished rural areas.

Kazuyoshi Nakamura, 84, recalls how difficult life was as a child in Katakū, a tiny fishing hamlet within Kashima that faces the rough Sea of Japan. His father used a tiny wooden skiff to catch squid and bream, which his mother carried on her back to market, walking narrow mountain paths in straw sandals.

Still, at first local fishermen adamantly refused to give up rights to the seaweed and fishing grounds near the plant, said Mr. Nakamura, who was a leader of Katakū's fishing cooperative at the time. They eventually accepted compensation payments that have totaled up to \$600,000 for each fisherman.

"In the end, we gave in for money," Mr. Nakamura said.

Today, the dirt-floor huts of Mr. Nakamura's childhood have been replaced by oversize homes with driveways, and a tunnel has made central Kashima a five-minute drive away. But the new wealth has changed this hamlet of almost 300 in unforeseen ways. Only about 30 aging residents still make a living from fishing. Many of the rest now commute to the plant, where they work as security guards or cleaners.

"There was no need to work anymore because the money just flowed so easily," said a former town assemblyman who twice ran unsuccessfully for mayor on an antinuclear platform.

#### A Flow of Cash

Much of this flow of cash was the product of the Three Power Source Development Laws, a sophisticated system of government subsidies created in 1974 by Kakuei Tanaka, the powerful prime minister who shaped Japan's nuclear power landscape and used big public works projects to build postwar Japan's most formidable political machine.

The law required all Japanese power consumers to pay, as part of their utility bills, a tax that was funneled to communities with nuclear plants. Officials at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which regulates the nuclear industry, and oversees the subsidies, refused to specify how much communities have come to rely on those subsidies.

"This is money to promote the locality's acceptance of a nuclear plant," said Tatsumi Nakano of the ministry's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy. A spokesman for Tohoku Electric Power Company, which operates a plant in Higashidori, said that the company is not involved in the subsidies, and that since Fukushima, it has focused on reassuring the public of the safety of nuclear plants.

Political experts say the subsidies encourage not only acceptance of a plant but also, over time, its expansion. That is because subsidies are designed to peak soon after a plant or reactor becomes operational, and then decline.

"In many cases, what you'll see is that a town that was depopulating and had very little tax base gets a tremendous surge of money," said Daniel P. Aldrich, a political scientist at Purdue University who has studied the laws.

As the subsidies continue to decline over the lifetime of a reactor, communities come under pressure to accept the construction of new ones, Mr. Aldrich said. "The local community gets used to the spending they got for the first reactor — and the second, third, fourth, and fifth reactors help them keep up," he added. Critics point to the case of Futaba, the town that includes Fukushima Daiichi's No. 5 and No. 6 reactors, which began operating in 1978 and 1979, respectively.

According to Professor Shimizu of Fukushima University, Fukushima Daiichi and the nearby Fukushima Daini plants directly or indirectly employed some 11,000 people in communities that include Futaba — or about one person in every two households. Since 1974, communities in Fukushima Prefecture have received about \$3.3 billion in subsidies for its electrical plants, most of it for the two nuclear power facilities, Mr. Shimizu said.

Despite these huge subsidies, most given in the 1970s, Futaba recently began to experience budget problems. As they did in Kashima, the subsidies dwindled along with other revenues related to the nuclear

plant, including property taxes. By 2007, Futaba was one of the most fiscally troubled towns in Japan and nearly went bankrupt. Town officials blamed the upkeep costs of the public facilities built in the early days of flush subsidies and poor management stemming from the belief that the subsidies would remain generous.

Eisaku Sato, who served as the governor of Fukushima Prefecture from 1988 to 2006 and became a critic of the nuclear industry, said that 30 years after its first reactor started operating, the town of Futaba could no longer pay its mayor's salary.

"With a nuclear reactor, in one generation, or about 30 years, it's possible that you'll become a community that won't be able to survive," Mr. Sato said.

Futaba's solution to its fiscal crisis was to ask the government and Tokyo Electric, Fukushima Daiichi's operator, to build two new reactors, which would have eventually increased the number of reactors at Fukushima Daiichi to eight. The request immediately earned Futaba new subsidies.

"Putting aside whether 'drugs' is the right expression," Mr. Sato said, "if you take them one time, you'll definitely want to take them again."

Eiji Nakamura, the failed candidate for mayor of Kashima, said the town came to rely on the constant flow of subsidies for political as well as economic reasons. He said the prefectural and town leaders used the jobs and money from public works to secure the support of key voting blocs like the construction industry and the fishing cooperative, to which about a third of the town's working population belongs.

"They call it a nuclear power plant, but it should actually be called a political power plant," Mr. Nakamura joked.

#### The Most to Lose

This dependence explains why Prime Minister Kan's talk of slowing Japan's push for nuclear power worries few places as much as the Shimokita Peninsula, an isolated region in northern Honshu.

The peninsula's first reactor went online in 2005, two are under construction, and two more are still being planned. Japan is also building massive nuclear waste disposal and reprocessing facilities there. As newcomers to nuclear power, Shimokita's host communities now have the most to lose.

Consider Higashidori, a town with one working reactor and three more scheduled to start operating over the next decade. With the subsidies and other revenues from four planned reactors, town officials began building an entirely new town center two decades ago.

Serving a rapidly declining population of 7,300, the town center is now dominated by three gigantic, and barely used, buildings in the shape of a triangle, a circle and a square, which, according to the Tokyo-based designer, symbolize man, woman and child. Nearby, a sprawling campus with two running tracks, two large gymnasiums, eight tennis courts and an indoor baseball field serves fewer than 600 elementary and junior

high school children. In 2010, nearly 46 percent of the town's \$94 million budget came from nuclear-related subsidies and property taxes.

Shigenori Sasatake, a town official overseeing nuclear power, said Higashidori hoped that the Japanese government and plant operators would not waver from their commitment to build three more reactors there, despite the risks exposed at Fukushima.

"Because there are risks, there is no way reactors would be built in Tokyo, but only here in this kind of rural area," Mr. Sasatake said, adding that town officials harbored no regrets about having undertaken such grandiose building projects.

But Higashidori's building spree raised eyebrows in Oma, another peninsula town, with 6,300 residents, where construction on its first reactor, scheduled to start operating in 2014, was halted after the Fukushima disaster.

Tsuneoyoshi Asami, a former mayor who played a critical role in bringing the plant to Oma, said that the town did not want to be stuck with fancy but useless buildings that would create fiscal problems in the future. So far, Oma has resisted building a new town hall, using nuclear subsidies instead to construct educational and fisheries facilities, as well as a home for the elderly.

"Regular people and town council members kept saying that no other community where a plant was located has stopped at only one reactor — that there was always a second or third one — so we should be spending more," Mr. Asami said. "But I said no."

Still, even in Oma, there were worries that the Fukushima disaster would indefinitely delay the construction of its plant. It is just the latest example of how the system of subsidies and dependency Japan created to expand nuclear power makes it difficult for the country to reverse course.

"We absolutely need it," Yoshifumi Matsuyama, the chairman of Oma's Chamber of Commerce, said of the plant. "Nothing other than a nuclear plant will bring money here. That's for sure. What else can an isolated town like this do except host a nuclear plant?"

Japan slammed as new leak found at plant

The Gazette (Montreal), May 27, 2011 Friday

06/01/2011

The operator of Japan's crippled Fukushima nuclear plant detailed on Thursday a new leak of radioactive water as Greenpeace slammed the country's "inadequate response" to a growing threat to sea water and health.

And in an embarrassing reversal, Tokyo Electric Power Co., officials changed a key element of an account of the early response to the crisis it had given Saturday as part of a government investigation into the

accident.

Tokyo Electric said up to 57 tonnes of highly contaminated water had leaked from a storage facility into a trench. It vowed to step up monitoring of groundwater.

The disclosure raises the stakes in a race to complete by next month a system to decontaminate a huge pool of radioactive water at the site that critics see as a growing risk to both the Pacific and groundwater.

In early April, the utility dumped about 10,000 tonnes of radioactive water into the ocean, prompting criticism from neighbours China and South Korea.

Environmental group Greenpeace said seaweed had been found with radiation levels 60 times higher than official limits, raising concerns about risks from contaminated sea water more than two months after the Fukushima-Daiichi plant was hit by an earthquake and tsunami.

"Our data show that significant amounts of contamination continue to spread over great distances from the Fukushima nuclear plant," a statement quoted Greenpeace radiation expert Jan Vande Putte as saying.

One seaweed sample showed readings more than 60 times above the limits set by the government.

"The concentration of radioactive iodine we found in seaweed is particularly concerning, as it tells us how far contamination is spreading along the coast, and because several species of seaweed are widely eaten in Japan," Vande Putte said.

The magnitude 9.0 earthquake on March 11 and the giant tsunami that followed killed about 24,000 people and knocked out power to the Fukushima plant, triggering the world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

The crisis has displaced about 80,000 residents from around the plant and prompted a review of Japan's energy policy, with the government "starting from scratch" on nuclear policy.

The effort to regain control of the Fukushima plant relies on pumping large quantities of water to cool the three reactors that suffered meltdowns.

A poll by the Asahi newspaper published Thursday showed 42 per cent of Japanese people opposed nuclear power, up from 18 per cent before the disaster.

The survey underscored deepening concerns about nuclear safety and criticism of the halting response to the crisis and incomplete disclosure by government officials and the utility.

Tokyo Electric officials said Thursday that the Fukushima plant's chief officer had ignored an order to stop injecting sea water into the No. 1 reactor. Experts said his decision was the correct one.

Officials said earlier that an adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan had raised concern about the injection a day after the quake prompting Tokyo Electric to halt pumping in sea water.

The revised account was triggered in part by the visit of a UN nuclear safety team to prepare a report on Fukushima, Tokyo Electric vicepresident Sakae Muto said.

Even before Greenpeace's outburst, Kan's government has been under fire for its response to the disaster and a leading opposition figure said Thursday's revelation would not help.

"I don't see how Japan can recover international trust," said Sadakazu Tanigaki, head of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party, who now plans a no-confidence motion against Kan's cabinet.

People forced to evacuate from the town of Namie near the Fukushima plant were allowed back to their homes for a short visit on Thursday.

As residents in protective white suits laid flowers for the dead on a long table at a roadside in the abandoned town, a Buddhist monk wearing a stole over his suit recited a sutra.

"It was like being at a different place," one man told TV Tokyo.

"Perhaps I could have grieved more if something was left standing. But it was like being in a strange place."

Two Million People To Undergo Health Checks In Japan

Business Recorder, May 30, 2011 Monday

06/01/2011

Local authorities in Japan said on May 27 that they would check the health of 2 million people living near a damaged nuclear power station to examine the effects of radiation. Since the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant was damaged by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, it has been leaking radioactive substances. The Fukushima prefecture's government established a committee to oversee the check-ups and plans to begin them in late June due to residents' concerns over harmful effects of radiation and long-time exposure to low-level radiation.

It would also conduct follow-up radiation checks over the next 30 years on some 150,000 residents near the nuclear plant; Japanese media reported citing public officials.

Education Minister Yoshiaki Takaki said that the central government would aim to keep cumulative radiation levels at school grounds in the prefecture below 1 millisievert per year.

Takaki said if the levels remain above 1 microsievert per hour, Tokyo will pay to remove radioactive top soil. The ministry prompted angry protests by local parents when it set an annual radiation exposure limit for children of 20 millisieverts, the same level the International Commission for Radiological Protection allows for nuclear plant workers. Fukushima Governor Yuhei Sato welcomed the move, saying since atomic power generation has been a national policy, the central government should shoulder the cost.

IAEA International Fact Finding Expert Mission Of The Nuclear Accident Following The Great East Japan Earthquake And Tsunami

Tokyo, Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP, Fukushima Dai-ni NPP and Tokai NPP, Japan

06/01/2011

24 May- 1 June 2011

Preliminary Summary

1 JUNE 2011

The Great East Japan Earthquake on 11 March 2011, a magnitude 9 earthquake, generated a series of large tsunami waves that struck the east coast of Japan, the highest being 38.9 meters at Aneyoshi, Miyako.

The earthquake and tsunami waves caused widespread devastation across a large part

of Japan, with more than 14,000 lives lost. In addition to this, at least 10,000 people remain missing, with many more being displaced from their homes as towns and villages were destroyed or swept away. Many aspects of Japan's infrastructure have been impaired by this devastation and loss.

As well as other industries, several nuclear power facilities were affected by the severe ground motions and large multiple tsunami waves: Tokai, Higashi Dori, Onagawa, and TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi and Dai-ni.

The operational units at

these facilities were successfully shutdown by the automatic systems installed as part of the design of the nuclear power plants to detect earthquakes. However, the large tsunami waves affected all these facilities to varying degrees, with the most serious consequences occurring at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi.

Although all off-site power was lost when the earthquake occurred, the automatic systems at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi successfully inserted all the control rods into its three operational reactors upon detection of the earthquake, and all available emergency diesel generator power systems were in operation, as designed. The first of a series of large tsunami waves reached the TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi site about 46 minutes after the earthquake.

These tsunami waves overwhelmed the defences of TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi facility, which were only designed to withstand tsunami waves of a maximum of 5.7 meters high. The larger waves that impacted this facility on that day were estimated to be larger than 14 meters high. The tsunami waves reached areas deep within the units causing the loss of all power sources except for one emergency diesel generator (6B), with no other significant power source available on or off the site, and little hope of outside assistance.

The station blackout at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi and impact of the tsunami rendered the loss of all instrumentation and control systems at reactors 1-4, with emergency diesel 6B providing emergency power to be shared between Units 5 and 6.

The tsunami and associated large debris caused widespread destruction of many buildings, doors, roads, tanks and other site infrastructure at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi, including loss of heat sinks. The operators were faced with a catastrophic, unprecedented emergency scenario with no power, reactor control or instrumentation,

and in addition to this, severely affected communications systems both within and external to the site. They had to work in darkness with almost no instrumentation and control systems to secure the safety of six reactors, six associated fuel pools, a common fuel pool, and dry cask storage facilities.

With no means to control or cool the reactor units, the three reactor units at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi that were operational up to the time of the earthquake quickly heated up due to usual reactor decay heating. Despite the brave and sometimes novel attempts of the operational staff to restore control and cool the reactors and spent fuel, severe damage of the fuel and a series of explosions occurred. These explosions caused further destruction at the site, making the scene faced by the operators even more demanding and dangerous. Moreover, radiological contamination spread into the environment. These events are provisionally determined to be of the highest rating on the International Nuclear Event Scale.

To date no health effects have been reported in any person as a result of radiation exposure from the nuclear accident.

By agreement with the Government of Japan, the International Atomic Energy Agency conducted a preliminary mission to find facts and identify initial lessons to be learned from the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ichi and promulgate this information across the world nuclear community. To this end, a team of experts undertook this fact finding mission from 24 May to 1 June 2011. The results of this mission will be reported to the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety at IAEA headquarters in Vienna from 20-24 June 2011. This is a preliminary summary report to provide immediate feedback to the Government of Japan.

During the IAEA mission, the team of nuclear experts received excellent co-operation from all parties, receiving information from many relevant Japanese ministries, nuclear regulators and operators. The mission also visited three affected nuclear power facilities – Tokai, TEPCO's Fukushima Dai-ni and Dai-ichi to gain an appreciation of the status of the plant and the scale of the damage. The facility visits allowed the experts to talk to the operator staff as well as to view the on-going restoration and remediation work.

The mission gathered evidence, undertook a preliminary assessment and has developed preliminary conclusions as well as lessons to be learned. These preliminary conclusions and lessons have been shared and discussed with Japanese experts and officials. They fall broadly under the three specialist areas of external hazards, severe accident management and emergency preparedness. They are of relevance to the Japanese nuclear community, the IAEA and for the worldwide nuclear community to learn lessons to improve nuclear safety.

The main preliminary findings and lessons learned are:

- The Japanese Government, nuclear regulators and operators have been extremely open in sharing information and answering the many questions of the mission to assist the world in learning lessons to improve nuclear safety.
- The response on the site by dedicated, determined and expert staff, under extremely arduous conditions has been exemplary and resulted in the best approach to securing safety given the exceptional circumstances. This has been greatly assisted by highly professional back-up support, especially the arrangements at J-Village to secure the protection of workers going on sites.
- The Japanese Government's longer term response to protect the public, including evacuation, has been impressive and extremely well organized. A suitable and timely follow-up programme on public and worker exposures and health monitoring would be beneficial.
- The planned road-map for recovery of the stricken reactors is important and acknowledged. It will need modification as new circumstances are uncovered and may be assisted by international co-operation. It should be seen as part of a wider plan that could result in remediation of the areas off site affected by radioactive releases to allow people evacuated to resume their normal lives. Thus demonstrating to the world what can be achieved in responding to such extreme nuclear events.
- The tsunami hazard for several sites was underestimated. Nuclear designers and operators should appropriately evaluate and provide protection against the risks of all natural hazards, and should periodically update these assessments

and assessment methodologies in light of new information, experience and understanding.

- Defence in depth, physical separation, diversity and redundancy requirements should be applied for extreme external events, particularly those with common mode implications such as extreme floods.
- Nuclear regulatory systems should address extreme external events adequately, including their periodic review, and should ensure that regulatory independence and clarity of roles are preserved in all circumstances in line with IAEA Safety Standards.
- Severe long term combinations of external events should be adequately covered in design, operations, resourcing and emergency arrangements.
- The Japanese accident demonstrates the value of hardened on-site Emergency Response Centres with adequate provisions for communications, essential plant parameters, control and resources. They should be provided for all major nuclear facilities with severe accident potential. Additionally, simple effective robust equipment should be available to restore essential safety functions in a timely way for severe accident conditions.
- Hydrogen risks should be subject to detailed evaluation and necessary mitigation systems provided.
- Emergency arrangements, especially for the early phases, should be designed to be robust in responding to severe accidents. The IAEA mission urges the international nuclear community to take advantage of the unique opportunity created by the Fukushima accident to seek to learn and improve worldwide nuclear safety.

Japan: Rods in 3 reactors  
at Japan plant mostly  
melted

Associated Press Online, May 24, 2011

The operator of Japan's damaged nuclear power plant said Tuesday that it is highly likely that fuel rods at two more reactors at the facility had mostly melted in the hours and days immediately after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The clearer picture of the extent of the damage comes as U.N. nuclear experts planned to meet with Japan's trade minister later Tuesday at the start of their fact-finding trip.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. had said last week that repaired water gauges showed that fuel rods in Unit 1 at

05/24/2011

the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant had mostly melted and fallen into a lump at the bottom of the pressure vessel in a state that TEPCO officials have described as a "meltdown" after the complex's cooling system was knocked out by the tsunami.

Fresh data from Units 2 and 3 indicate that fuel rods in those reactors were in a similar state, said spokeswoman Aya Omura.

In all three reactors, the melted fuel is mostly covered with water and remain at temperatures that are far below dangerous levels, officials say.

"It is unlikely that the meltdowns could worsen the crisis because melted fuels are covered in water," said Takeo Iwamoto, a company spokesman.

The delegation from the International Atomic Energy Agency will focus on safety issues and include a visit to the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant, about 140 miles (230 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo. They will report its findings to a conference of IAEA member nation government ministers starting June 20.

The disaster at Fukushima plant, the world's worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl, has raised questions about the lax oversight of Japan's nuclear industry.

TEPCO continues to face obstacles in bringing the radiation-leaking plant under control.

On Monday, officials said temporary containers holding radioactive water pumped from the reactors are almost full, raising concerns it could overflow and leak into the sea again. They said the water could fill the tanks in three days and a system to reprocess the water now measuring more than 80,000 tons for reuse in the reactors is not yet finished.

Fully ridding the plant of the contaminated water which is pooling in reactor and turbine buildings, trenches and pits could take through the end of December, TEPCO spokesman Junichi Matsumoto has said. The amount of the contaminated water could eventually swell to about 200,000 tons, as TEPCO continues to pump water into the reactors and their spent fuel storage pools to help control temperatures and radiation. Matsumoto had initially said the storage area could last until the system is ready in mid-June. If the storage containers reach full capacity, the water would have to stay inside the turbine basement areas, where it is pooling.

TEPCO has been working with French nuclear engineering giant Areva on a system to reprocess the water, reducing radioactivity and removing salt, so it can then be pumped back into the reactors for cooling.

The operator has also been scrambling to get hold of additional containers for water that is less radioactive. A mega-float giant storage tank that can hold about 10,000 tons of water arrived at the shores of the plant over the weekend.

<p>Japan - Fukushima Emergency Evacuations: The Ordeal of the aged</p>	<p>Frontline (India), Volume 28 - Issue 11 :: May. 21-Jun. 03, 2011</p> <p>IN a country where almost one-fourth of the population is above the age of 65, the recent disaster brought out the vulnerability of the elderly during an unfolding catastrophe, and later at the stage of rescue and planning for rehabilitation. The elderly accounted for a very high rate among the dead. About 65 per cent of the over 80 per cent of the dead whose identity was confirmed were 60 years or older, according to figures put out by the National Police Agency. In Iwate prefecture, 54 per cent of those who died were 65 and above; in Miyake the figure was 54.8 per cent; and in Fukushima it was 57.7 per cent.</p> <p>The helplessness of the elderly during the tsunami was brought out sharply in the media. There were media stories of Japan's Self Defence Force personnel finding 128 severely dehydrated elderly people abandoned by the medical staff in a hospital. Of them, 14 did not survive the ordeal. Many old people could not run quickly to higher ground when the tsunami struck, and there are stories of people carrying their elders on their backs to safety.</p> <p>Aged couples who lived on their own were not always as lucky in making a safe escape. In the Tokyo Budokan evacuee camp, of the 151 inmates, 24 were above 60. According to Sayako Matsumoto, media officer from the Red Cross Society, the elderly were among those who did not wish to move to evacuation camps as they were accustomed to their routine and environment and were resistant to change. The disaster has brought into focus the inadequate physical capabilities of the aged to negotiate a natural calamity and escape to safety, issues that will require disaster preparedness manuals to be rewritten.</p>	<p>05/24/2011</p>
<p>Japan: TEPCO utility head resigns over nuclear crisis</p>	<p>The Associated Press, May 20, 2011 Friday</p> <p>The president of the Japanese utility that runs a tsunami-devastated nuclear plant resigned in disgrace Friday after reporting the biggest financial losses in company history, saying he was stepping down to take responsibility for the ongoing crisis.</p> <p>Tokyo Electric Power Co. President Masataka Shimizu, criticized for his low profile during the disaster's early days, vowed that the utility would continue doing its "utmost" to bring the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant under control.</p> <p>Fuel rods appear to have largely melted at three of the plant's reactors after a March 11 earthquake triggered a tsunami that knocked out cooling systems the world's worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl. Leaking radiation has prompted the evacuation of thousands of residents, and the perilous struggle to contain the reactors is expected to continue into next year.</p> <p>The crisis raised serious questions about the lax oversight of Japan's nuclear industry and prompted the country to scrap plans to rely on nuclear power for one half its electricity needs up from its current one</p>	<p>05/23/2011</p>

third.

"I am resigning for having shattered public trust about nuclear power, and for having caused so many problems and fears for the people," Shimizu told reporters, bowing in a traditional Japanese apology during a news conference.

"I wanted to take managerial responsibility and bring a symbolic close," he said.

Shimizu's resignation was widely anticipated because heads of major Japanese companies are expected to step down to take responsibility for even lesser scandals and problems. He had responded to earlier calls for his resignation by saying he needed to stay on to put efforts to contain the crisis on the right track.

Shimizu had come under fire for disappearing from the public eye when the problems at plant initially surfaced, and then later checking into a hospital. TEPCO never disclosed details of his ailments.

The company has been criticized for being unprepared for the tsunami despite some scientific evidence that earthquake-prone Japan could be hit with a wave of that size. It has also been knocked for being slow and not readily disclosing information about the plant's problems.

Renewed safety fears have caused the government to shutter the Hamaokoa nuclear plant in central Japan, a region where a major earthquake is expected with nearly 90 percent probability in the next few decades.

TEPCO reported that its losses for the fiscal year ended March 2011 totaled 1.25 trillion yen (\$15 billion) one of the biggest annual financial losses ever for Japan's corporate world. TEPCO had a profit of nearly 134 billion yen the previous fiscal year.

Overall losses from the disaster are expected to be far bigger, including compensation for the thousands of people forced to evacuate from their homes around Fukushima Dai-ichi, and businesses such as farms that say products were damaged by radiation.

The company plans to sell its assets to secure more than 600 billion yen (\$7.4 billion) in funding but acknowledged it still could not assess the amount of damage payments.

"We will face a huge influx of compensation claims, but we don't know their scale," Shimizu said.

The quake and tsunami, which left 24,000 people dead or missing, damaged farms, ports and hundreds of suppliers. Those two disasters plus the nuclear crisis have pushed Japan's economy back into recession, government data show, as factory production and exports stagnate.

The TEPCO board of directors promised to take no pay, and other executives will return 40 to 60 percent of their paychecks, the company said.

But TEPCO must also shoulder the costs of resolving the problems at the reactors, as well as restarting other kinds of power plants, which aren't nuclear, to make up for the electricity shortfall.

TEPCO also scrapped an earlier plan to add two more reactors at Fukushima Dai-ichi.

The government has been studying possible bailouts, including using contributions from other utilities and

taxpayer money to help TEPCO deal with the towering costs.

Replacing Shimizu, 66, as president is Toshio Nishizawa, 60, another company executive.

"Our company faces an unprecedented crisis. I feel I am shouldering an extremely heavy responsibility," Nishizawa said.

Chairman Tsunehisa Katsumata, 71, a former president, who took on a leadership role since the crisis, especially while Shimizu was absent, is staying on, in an apparent effort for continuity.

Shimizu said he will stay on as adviser indefinitely, without pay. The appointments become official after a shareholders' meeting in June, according to TEPCO.

Moody's Japan has warned it could further downgrade its debt rating for TEPCO to junk bond status if commercial banks refuse to extend the utility more credit. Earlier this month, Moody's lowered its rating by two notches to a level just above junk status.

Analysts say that all the bowing and resignations in the world can't fix the nuclear plant.

"This is a very difficult task," said Mamoru Katou, an energy analyst at Tokai Tokyo Research, adding that doubts are growing about the utility's promise to bring the plant under control in nine months. "No one really knows."

Japan: Erratic information  
fuels mistrust of TEPCO

Agence France Presse, May 22, 2011 Sunday  
DATELINE: TOKYO, May 22 2011

05/23/2011

Tokyo Electric Power's belated admission that damage to crippled reactors at its nuclear plant is worse than it first thought has fuelled suspicion it withheld bad news in the first days of Japan's crisis.

A series of revisions to earlier assessments about damage to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant have emerged since the utility began sending workers into reactor buildings for the first time.

More than two months after the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl was triggered, TEPCO last week admitted fuel rods inside reactor cores melted down in the first few hours after the March 11 tsunami disabled cooling systems.

It was a sharp reversal of earlier assessments from both TEPCO and the government that meltdown was unlikely, reactors were relatively stable and dangerous radiation leaks had been largely contained.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan conceded that the government failed to see flaws in TEPCO's earlier assumptions and has called for a regulatory overhaul.

"What I told the public was fundamentally wrong," Kan told a parliament session Friday. "We failed to respond to TEPCO's mistaken assumptions. I am deeply sorry," he said.

TEPCO said it had revised earlier information only after it could send workers close enough to the reactors to read gauges but critics argue that independent experts reached similar conclusions much earlier.

"The way TEPCO releases information utterly lacks any sense of crisis," the Nikkei business daily said in a recent front-page analysis.

"Two months after the accident happened, it admitted a meltdown at reactor one. But many experts pointed out that possibility immediately after the accident happened," the newspaper said.

"They do not mention bad news until it is confirmed. Such an attitude has led to mistrust," the Nikkei said.

The biggest utility in Asia, TEPCO is a regional monopoly supplying power to Tokyo and its surrounding Kanto region in central Japan.

With a track record of safety cover-ups, TEPCO has been criticised for inadequately preparing for disaster, helped by soft regulation by a government organisation also tasked with promoting nuclear power.

The liberal Asahi Shimbun said in an editorial that TEPCO and official regulators avoided direct reference to the term "meltdown" to "lead the public into underestimating what was really happening."

Public anger and confusion have intensified, and critics say the latest revisions underline the slowness of moves to ensure the safety of nearby residents.

Shortly after the emergency began, the government asked those living within a three-kilometre (two-mile) radius from the plant to evacuate as a precaution.

The government and TEPCO gradually expanded the evacuation area to 20 kilometres as the plant continued to release radioactive materials, and recommended those between 20-30 kilometres stay indoors.

Last week it started moving people from towns beyond the zone, with tens of thousands of people having had to flee their homes.

Even after hydrogen explosions blew away concrete buildings that housed reactors, officials maintained that the reactors themselves had remained intact, posing a relatively low "immediate" risk to health.

It was later learned that massive radiation leaks peaked around the time of the explosions in the first few days, while many nearby residents still remained at home.

Fukushima Daiichi is believed to have released a 10th of the material emitted by the Chernobyl plant in 1986, but the situation has not yet been resolved.

The Atomic Energy Society of Japan, a nationwide conference of nuclear scientists, said in a report that TEPCO and authorities failed to adequately explain the situation.

"Radiation safety is complex and difficult to understand," the society said.

"The logic behind radiation's effects on human health... was not accurately communicated, inviting unnecessary confusions," it said.

"(The authorities) are seen holding back information and have lost credibility," it said.  
In the wake of the disaster, TEPCO posted the biggest loss in Japanese corporate history for a non-financial firm and its president Masataki Shimizu stepped down.  
"More can be done to think about our customers," he said of his company's inward looking corporate culture on Friday. Compensation is expected to hit as much as 10 trillion yen (\$123 billion).  
No one has yet died as a result of radiation exposure, but Fukushima residents have voiced worries about long-term health effects amid scepticism that TEPCO can honour its pledge to end the crisis by January.

IAEA experts arrive in Japan to investigate nuclear crisis

Agence France Presse, May 23, 2011 Monday 12:08 PM GMT

05/23/2011

A team of specialists from the UN atomic watchdog arrived in Japan on Monday to join other international experts investigating Japan's nuclear crisis.  
A six-strong delegation from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) flew to Tokyo's Narita airport from Vienna in preparation for a fact-finding mission from May 24 to June 2.  
In all, a 20-member mission will compile a report on the emergency to be presented to IAEA member states next month at a ministerial-level conference in Vienna.  
Tokyo has said the IAEA team is likely to visit the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, which was crippled by an earthquake and tsunami on March 11 and has leaked high levels of radiation into the environment.  
But Jim Lyons, director of the IAEA's division of nuclear installation safety, said the itinerary was not finalised.  
"We are going to be mostly in Tokyo but I think we're going to try to visit the site," Lyons told reporters ahead of their departure from Vienna. "That's the plan."  
Asked which other sites the experts would visit, he replied: "I don't know. There are a lot of negotiations going on to determine where we can go."  
The IAEA announced last week the mission, headed by Mike Weightman, chief inspector of nuclear installations in Britain, would comprise 20 experts from 12 different countries.  
Tokyo Electric Power (TEPCO), which runs the power plant, forecast later in the day that the planned construction of a system to treat radioactive water from the reactors was unlikely to be completed until mid-June.  
TEPCO has asked French nuclear group Areva to set up the system, which is designed to remove radioactive particles from the water and is a key step to repairing cooling systems and preventing further leakage of

radioactive water.

Contaminated water has spilled into the Pacific while engineers have been battling to bring the plant into stable "cold shutdown", which is expected to happen some time between October and January.

Japan: Tohoku Electric To  
Set up 800-meter-long  
Levee Near Onagawa  
Plant

Sendai, May 18 Kyodo -- Tohoku Electric Power Co. said Wednesday it will construct a coastal levee about 800 meters long near its Onagawa nuclear power plant in Miyagi Prefecture, which shut down in the immediate aftermath of the March 11 massive earthquake and tsunami.

05/18/2011

As part of its emergency safety measures submitted to the government, Tohoku Electric will also make a tide barrier around rooms housing seawater pumps there by the end of next April.

Tohoku Electric will also strengthen doors at the buildings housing nuclear reactors so they could resist hydraulic pressure to prevent seawater from entering important facilities.

The firm will also set up a high-capacity power system that could provide electricity to the plant even if a tsunami knocks out the station's external power supply and diesel emergency electric generator, it said.

Japan: Reactors Under  
Inspection Can Resume  
Operation When Safety  
Confirmed

Tokyo, May 18 Kyodo -- Prime Minister Naoto Kan said Wednesday that Japanese nuclear reactors currently under inspection will be allowed to resume operations once their safety is confirmed, but at the same time the government will "fundamentally review" the way in which the country's nuclear power has been administrated over the years.

05/18/2011

Kan indicated that Japan needs to spin off the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which was actively promoting the use of atomic energy until the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant, triggered by the March 11 earthquake and resulting tsunami.

Speaking at a news conference, Kan also expressed his gratitude to Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and South Korean President Lee Myung Bak for their planned visits this weekend to the disaster-stricken northeastern region.

He said Japan's ties with China and South Korea have been deepening since the natural calamities.

IAEA team to visit Japan from May 24 to probe nuclear crisis

TOKYO (Kyodo) -- Japan has decided to accept an International Atomic Energy Agency investigation into the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant from May 24 to June 2, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said Tuesday.

05/18/2011

An international team of nearly 20 nuclear experts will make "a tentative assessment" of the crisis, the top government spokesman said at a news conference, adding that their findings will be delivered at a ministerial meeting on nuclear safety to be hosted by the agency from June 20-24 in Vienna.

"With regard to the accident, our country has committed to ensuring the utmost transparency for the international community," Edano said. "The acceptance of the team is part of this (commitment) and it will be fruitful for sharing our country's experience with other countries."

In addition to holding talks with those involved in containing the accident, Edano said the IAEA team is likely to visit the radiation-spewing nuclear plant, which was crippled by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Edano said the government will also set up a team to deal with the IAEA investigation within its task force on the nuclear accident. He said the government team, headed by Goshi Hosono, a special adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan, will draw up a report based on the agency's probe and it will be released by early June.

The IAEA team will be headed by Britain's chief nuclear inspector Mike Weightman, according to Edano.

Japan: Fresh Tales of Chaos Emerge From Early in Nuclear Crisis

WSJ, 2011-05-18

05/18/2011

FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE, Japan—The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant deteriorated in the crucial first 24 hours far more rapidly than previously understood, a Wall Street Journal reconstruction of the disaster shows.

So helpless were the plant's engineers that, as dusk fell after Japan's devastating March 11 quake and tsunami, they were forced to scavenge flashlights from nearby homes. They pulled batteries from cars not washed away by the tsunami in a desperate effort to revive reactor gauges that weren't working properly.

The plant's complete power loss contributed to a failure of relief vents on a dangerously overheating reactor, forcing workers to open valves by hand.

And in a significant miscalculation: At first, engineers weren't aware that the plant's emergency batteries were barely working, the investigation found—giving them a false impression that they had more time to make repairs. As a result, nuclear fuel began melting down hours earlier than previously assumed. This week Tokyo Electric Power Co., or Tepco, confirmed that one of the plant's six reactors suffered a substantial meltdown early in Day 1.

Late Monday in Japan, Tepco released more than 2,000 pages of documents, dubbed reactor "diaries," which also provide new glimpses of the early hours. Soon after the quake, but before the tsunami struck, workers at one reactor actually shut down valves in a backup cooling system—one that, critically, didn't rely on electrical power to keep functioning—thinking it wasn't essential. That decision likely contributed to the rapid meltdown of nuclear fuel, experts say.

The Journal's reconstruction is based on examination of Tepco and government documents, along with dozens of interviews with administration officials, corporate executives, lawmakers and regulators. It uncovered new details on how Tepco executives delayed for seven hours before formally deciding to vent a dangerous pressure buildup in one reactor, despite an unusual face-to-face clash between Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Tepco top brass.

Tepco executives have acknowledged they weren't aware for hours of the severity of the crisis. By the time Tepco decided to vent its reactor, radiation levels were so high that the man who volunteered to hand-crank the relief valve open was exposed, in a few minutes, to 100 times the radiation an average person gets in a year.

The government itself, despite Mr. Kan's hands-on involvement, failed to come up with a unified early response of its own. Not only were officials tripped up by overly optimistic assessments of the situation, but their own emergency-response building was without electricity and phones.

"There was a lack of unity," said Goshi Hosono, the cabinet official overseeing the Fukushima disaster. When a magnitude-9 quake struck at 2:46 p.m. on March 11, many of Fukushima Daiichi's managers were in a conference room at the plant for a meeting with regulators. They were just wrapping up when the ground shook, says Kazuma Yokota of the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, or NISA, Japan's nuclear regulator. Files toppled over. Walls and the ceiling cracked, sprinkling a fine, white dust.

The electricity died. Mr. Yokota, a thin man with a quick, nervous laugh, recalls someone saying: "Wow, that was bad."

But the emergency appeared under control. Fukushima Daiichi's three active reactors went into automatic shutdown, called a "scram." And the backup diesel generators kicked in, powering emergency lights and a cacophony of alarms.

Then, almost exactly one hour later, a tsunami roughly 50 feet high struck, killing the emergency

generators.

At 3:37 p.m., Teruaki Kobayashi, a Tepco nuclear-facilities chief in the company's Tokyo war room, remembers Fukushima Daiichi calling in a "station blackout." One of Japan's largest nuclear plants had just gone dark.

"Why would this be happening?" Mr. Kobayashi recalls thinking. A full blackout is something only the worst-case disaster protocols envision.

His next thought was that the plant still had an eight-hour window to restore power before things really turned bad. That's how long the plant's backup batteries, its final line of defense, were supposed to last, cooling the reactor fuel rods and powering key instruments.

Tepco engineers now believe the tsunami knocked out most, if not all, of the batteries, according to documents from Tepco on Monday. But they didn't know that then. They thought the batteries were still working, giving them the eight-hour cushion.

Word of the station blackout reached Mr. Kan quickly, at 3:42 p.m. in the prime minister's Tokyo "war room" working on quake emergency response. According to two people present, when Mr. Kan heard about Fukushima Daiichi, he said, "The real trouble is at the nuclear plant."

Officials started dispatching military and medical personnel, as well as emergency generators.

As dusk approached at Fukushima Daiichi, engineers used the scavenged car batteries to power makeshift gear to try to understand what was going on inside the reactors. At 9:21 p.m., they took an alarming reading: The water level in Reactor 1 had dropped so sharply that its fuel rods were about to be exposed. Without a cooling system, the water boils off, building up dangerous pressure inside the reactor. If enough water boils off, nuclear rods can melt and react with the air, releasing radioactive elements and producing explosive hydrogen gas.

Around 11:00 p.m., the first power-supply trucks arrived, prompting cheers in Mr. Kan's Tokyo office.

The celebration was premature. Tepco workers couldn't hook the generators to the plant's damaged main switches. Some cables were too short to reach other parts of the facility. Tsunami warnings forced workers to retreat to higher ground. During the first 24 hours, only one generator was successfully hooked up, Tepco documents show.

Around midnight, pressure within the vessel containing Reactor No. 1 had already exceeded its design maximum by 50%. Radiation levels were so high that Tepco president Masataka Shimizu ordered workers to stay away from the building.

It was becoming clear both to Tepco and the government that a dramatic step had to be taken: Vent the gas in the reactor before the containment vessel cracked under pressure, according to administration officials.

Venting has risks. The gases are likely to be radioactive and could endanger nearby communities. But without venting, the risk of catastrophic destruction of the vessel seemed too great. Mr. Kan and Banri Kaieda, the minister in charge of the power industry, gave their official blessing to vent around 1:30 a.m. What followed were hours of miscommunication and confusion. By 2:45 a.m. March 12, Tepco had told NISA that pressure in the vessel containing Reactor 1 was already likely double the design maximum. Still, its vent remained closed. From the prime minister's office, Mr. Kaieda called Tepco executives hourly to check on progress. At 6:50 a.m., he formally ordered Tepco to vent, still without result.

Tepco disclosed this week that it now believes that, by this time on the morning of March 12, the nuclear fuel in Reactor 1 had already melted into a heap at the bottom of the reactor vessel.

Government officials now say it took Tepco so long to decide to vent because the radiation release would sharply elevate the accident's severity. They say Tepco still hoped the accident could be contained without venting, given that release of radioactivity in the atmosphere would instantly rank Fukushima among the world's worst accidents, along with Chernobyl.

In subsequent press conferences and parliamentary testimony, Mr. Shimizu, Tepco's president, attributed delays to concern about evacuating residents and technical problems. Tepco declined to make Mr. Shimizu available for comment.

As daybreak approached on March 12, Mr. Kan flew to Daiichi to prod Tepco officials in person. Around 7 a.m., a 10-seat Super Puma military helicopter carrying Mr. Kan and several aides landed at the plant. Once the group entered the emergency bunker there, a Tepco staffer tested their radiation levels with a Geiger counter. A plant worker entering at the same time registered a reading so steep it prompted the tester to exclaim, "Wow! It's really high where you were," an aide recalls.

In a small room with two rows of gray conference tables, Mr. Kan sat across from Sakae Muto, Tepco's nuclear chief, and Masao Yoshida, the plant manager.

Mr. Kan clashed with Mr. Muto, a tall nuclear engineer with a mane of white hair, according to people present. Mr. Muto said the plant's power problems meant venting couldn't start for at least another four hours. Tepco was considering sending in workers to open vent valves by hand, Mr. Muto said, but radiation levels near the reactor were already so high that executives weren't sure they wanted to do that. They would decide in an hour, Mr. Muto said.

"It's tough to line up enough people to do the job" of venting, Mr. Muto said, according to a Kan aide.

"This is no time to dilly-dally. Do it fast, whatever way you can!" Mr. Kan yelled at Mr. Muto, according to people present.

A Tepco spokesman declined to make Mr. Yoshida or Mr. Muto available for comment, and said he wasn't able to confirm Mr. Muto's remarks. He said the company has always been eager to use help from the

government and others to contain the accident.

Mr. Kan left Daiichi shortly after the meeting. At 8:18 a.m.—seven hours after the plant's engineers had first told Mr. Kan and other officials that they wanted to vent Reactor 1—Tepco informed the prime minister's office it would start opening the valves in just under another hour's time.

Despite the extreme delay, the relief valves could still be opened. The problem: Normally they would be operated the safety of the control room, either by electric motors, or by compressed air. But those systems weren't working.

As a result, they would have to be opened by workers braving high radiation levels inside the reactor building itself. The staff battled four hours to open the pneumatic valve, succeeding only after carrying in a portable air compressor in shifts.

For the motor-driven valve, there was only one option: Crank it open by hand. Fukushima Daiichi's shift manager decided it was his responsibility to take the first crack at that, Fukushima prefectural officials recall. "Let me be the one," he said, according to the officials.

He went in wearing full protective gear, including a mask and an oxygen tank. Even so, by the time he returned, he'd gotten a 106.3 millisievert dose of radiation, these people say. That's more than twice what Japan normally permits for workers in radioactive environments in one year, and more than one hundred times normal annual exposure.

Japan: Fukushima Reactor 1 in worse shape than thought

Japan Times, 3011-05-13

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Thursday that the water level in the No. 1 reactor's pressure vessel at the Fukushima No. 1 power plant is much lower than thought and that some of the fuel rods have melted and sunk to its bottom.

But Tepco also said the temperature in the pressure vessel has been kept at around 100 to 120 degrees, which is cool enough to keep thereactor safe, for now.

The low water level, however, indicates that the pressure vessel could have holes or cracks through whichradioactive water is leaking.

Tepco's latest discoveries were found after workers entered the main building, where they were finally able to check and fix water-level indicators damaged when the March 11 monster earthquake and tsunami crippled thenuclear power plant.

05/13/2011

The workers also learned that the water in the containment vessel, which Tepco has kept spraying to cool down the pressure vessel from the outside, is also much lower than earlier believed. There might be some holes or cracks in the vessel or components connected to it, Tepco said.

Any holes or cracks in the pressure and containment vessels are sure to make repair work more difficult.

The utility plans to keep cooling the reactor's core by attaching air-cooling machines that will recirculate the water inside the containment vessel.

Tepco has poured about 10,000 cu. meters of water into the containment vessel so far. But only about 7,500 cu. meters should be necessary to cool the fuel rods if a way can be found to reuse the water instead of letting it flow away.

"We're not sure how much of the fuel rods fell down to the bottom and in what form, but the temperature shows that they are being cooled," Tepco spokesman Junichi Matsumoto said at a news conference.

On March 12, reactor No. 1 suffered a hydrogen explosion after the fuel rods were fully exposed for hours and generated hydrogen, which reacted violently with oxygen.

But Matsumoto said Tepco believes such an explosion at this time is unlikely because nitrogen has already been poured inside the containment vessel to purge explosive gases.

Matsumoto also said that, considering the situation with the No. 1 reactor, the water level data from reactors 2 and 3 may not be credible.

Tadashi Narabayashi, a professor of reactor engineering at Hokkaido University, also said it is likely that the melted fuel rods are being cooled with coolant water at the bottom of the pressure vessel.

According to Narabayashi, the zirconium encasing the fuel rods becomes weak and brittle when it is fully exposed to oxygen and then covered with cold water again.

According to Tepco, the water-level indicators of the pressure vessel had indicated the water surface was

about 1.65 meters below the top of the fuel rods. But as of Thursday morning the reading was more than 5 meters below the top. The fuel rods, if undamaged, are only 4.5 meters in height.

Although the water is leaking from somewhere in the pressure vessel, Tepco officials don't believe the melted fuel has penetrated the bottom of the pressure vessel and dropped into the containment vessel below, given that the thermometer placed at the bottom of the pressure vessel is still working. If a big chunk was missing, it would malfunction, Tepco said.

There are actually no tools specially designed to check the water level in the containment vessel, but Tepco said it made estimates based on other factors, including the pressure in the containment vessel.

Japan: More Time  
Needed Before Restarting  
Shimane Plant Reactor

Matsue, Japan, May 13 Kyodo -- Shimane Gov. Zembe Mizoguchi said Friday it will take some time before approving the restart of the suspended No. 1 reactor at the Shimanenuclear power plant.

05/13/2011

"We will carefully follow procedures by hearing what experts, the prefectural assembly and residents have to say. This will take some time," he told a press conference at a time when nuclear issues are in focus in the wake of an emergency at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

The No. 1 reactor has been suspended since it was found in March last year that Chugoku Electric Power Co. failed to properly inspect it.

While the local government was ready to approve the resumption in accordance with the state decision on it in February, it has become certain that it will be delayed alongside the planned loading in June of nuclear fuel rods to the No. 3 reactor, now under construction.

"Although the national government concluded that Chugoku Electric has taken certain countermeasures against tsunami, there remain some factors other than the (anti-tsunami) measures to be examined," Mizoguchi said.

On the suspension of all reactors at the Hamaokanuclear plant in Shizuoka Prefecture, he said, "If Japan halts the operations of all nuclear power plants, it would affect the economy. We need to think about the

issue that it would be more costly if we bring risks closer to zero." Meanwhile, Democratic Party of Japan Secretary General Katsuya Okada has said the ongoing construction of a nuclear power plant in Oma, Aomori Prefecture, should be maintained amid growing concerns over nuclear energy.

"A considerable part of the plant has been completed so it will be booted up in two years or so," Okada told a news conference in reference to Electric Power Development Co.'s plant. "It is not appropriate to abruptly stop the project which has almost completed." He made the remarks before he starts a two-day inspection Saturday of the Oma plant and nuclear fuel recycling facilities in the village of Rokkasho, also in Aomori.

"We have to build safer nuclear power plants by learning lessons from the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant," he said.

Death Toll From Japan  
Quake, Tsunami Tops  
15,000

Tokyo, May 13 (Jiji Press) -- The death toll from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami has topped 15,000, the National Police Agency said Friday.

05/13/2011

The number of deaths stood at 15,019 in 12 prefectures, including the three hardest-hit Tohoku northeastern prefectures of Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima, according to the agency. The figure includes three people killed in a strong aftershock that hit the Tohoku region on April 11.

The death toll stood at 8,975 in Miyagi, 4,421 in Iwate and 1,559 in Fukushima.

The number of people who remain unaccounted for came to 9,506, the agency said.

A total of some 115,500 evacuees are still being forced to stay in some 2,400 shelters in 18 prefectures due to damage from the natural disasters and radiation leaks from Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s tsunami-crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, the agency said.

Japan's METI Panel Faces  
Tall Order In Securing

Asia Pulse, May 13, 2011

A panel of experts charged with reviewing Japan's energy policy in response to the accident at the

05/13/2011

## Energy Stability

Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant met for the first time Thursday, delving into a debate that will focus on balancing various sources to ensure a stable power supply.

Energy issues "will determine the shape of the nation," Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda said at the outset, stressing the importance of the work ahead.

The panel, which will work under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, will aim to wrap up discussions in July.

Nuclear power is supposed to provide half the nation's electricity in 2030, up from 30 per cent in fiscal 2009, according to a policy target the government set last June. To attain the goal, the plan calls for building 14 more nuclear reactors and raising the utilization rate from 66 per cent to 90 per cent. Japan now has 54 reactors.

But the disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi facility has raised public anxiety about nuclear power nationwide. Prime Minister Naoto Kan said Tuesday that the energy blueprint needs to go "back to the drawing board."

One question the experts must address will be how far Japan can expand its use of renewable energy sources. The current blueprint aims to raise their contribution to the overall supply from 10 per cent to 20 per cent.

High costs and susceptibility to weather have held back the spread of solar and wind power. The government plans to start an incentive program in fiscal 2012 in which utilities buy all the electricity generated by residential renewable energy systems, but there are doubts as to the plan's effectiveness. At Thursday's meeting, geothermal energy was highlighted as a topic that deserves more consideration.

A second issue for the panel will be action on climate change. Utilities are ramping up their use of liquefied natural gas in their thermal power plants. Besides raising their costs, burning the fuel will create more greenhouse gases.

If no new nuclear reactors are built by 2020, the 14 currently offline remain so and the resulting shortage is met by thermal power production, then Japan's carbon dioxide output will be 10 per cent higher than in

1990, according to Environment Ministry projections.

There was a proposal at the meeting that Japan should use its high-efficiency coal-fired generator technology to contribute to global efforts on climate change.

The continued use of nuclear power with improved safety measures will be another matter for debate. Among the views aired at the meeting was that, with industrialized and developing nations alike promoting this source of energy, Japan will be in a difficult position to renounce its nuclear technology.

Japan: Fukushima Melted Nuclear Fuel Casts Doubt on Credibility of Tepco Data

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online in English 1139 GMT 13 May 11 Melted nuclear fuel inside the No. 1 reactor of the crippled Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant has been found at the bottom of the reactor's pressure vessel, indicating there is a likelihood of a hole up to several centimeters in it, plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) announced.

05/13/2011

Many fuel rods at the reactor are under water and in a stable condition. But TEPCO's failure to detect a massive leak of water and to accurately measure water levels is likely to force the utility to review a road map that calls for bringing the plant's damaged reactors to a stable condition, known as a "cold shutdown," in about six to nine months.

TEPCO concluded that a large portion of fuel had melted inside the pressure vessel after workers double-checked the amount of water and found the water level inside the No. 1 reactor to be very low. TEPCO measures the water level by checking the differential between about 5 meters above the top of the 4-meter-long fuel rods and about 1.5 meters from the bottom of the fuel rods.

TEPCO had initially announced that the water level was about 1.6 to 1.7 meters from the top of the fuel rods. But new data revealed that the water level was at a point more than 5 meters below the top of the fuel rods.

The temperature at the lower section of the pressure vessel stood at a reasonable 100 to 120 degrees, leading the utility to speculate that a large portion of the fuel rods had previously melted, sank to the bottom of the vessel and were cooled.

Hidehiko Nishiyama, a spokesman for the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA), said the latest data has more credibility than previous data.

But Tadashi Narabayashi, a professor of reactor engineering at Hokkaido University, said, "It is problematic that TEPCO kept releasing data as if the water gauges were functioning properly. I wonder what a road map based on such data really means."

He said that most fuel was probably at the bottom of the pressure vessel and is being cooled. He cited a possibility that equipment which drives the control rods and other devices is penetrating and probably damaging the bottom of the vessel.

TEPCO officials said at a news conference on the night of May 12 that the pressure vessel's bottom appeared to have a hole measuring a total of several centimeters from which water and the fuel were likely leaking.

The question remains when the fuel melted and sank to the bottom. Nuclear fuel starts melting at an extremely high 2,800 degrees Celsius.

Hisashi Ninokata, a professor of nuclear engineering at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, speculated that the nuclear fuel probably melted when the fuel rods emerged from water immediately after an explosion of high calorific value. He said the current volume of calorific value is low and the fuel above water can be cooled with steam.

In the 1979 Three Mile Island nuclear accident in which a core meltdown occurred in its Unit 2 reactor, it took the plant operator and U.S. authorities 14 years to clean up radiation due to the difficulty in removing the melted fuel rods.

Ninokata said, "This time, workers cooled the reactors with sea water and there is a fear that salt has accelerated the pressure vessel's corrosion and damaged the unit. There is also a possibility of the melted fuel and metal from the cover pipes being mixed and solidified, making efforts to remove them (to shut down the reactor) a challenging task."

NISA defines a fall of melted fuel rods to the bottom of a pressure vessel as a meltdown. TEPCO acknowledged that it is a meltdown if the rods are not in their original form.

Haruki Madarame, chairman of the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan, said at a news conference on May 12, "It was not surprising because we predicted a melting of the fuel rods at an early stage. We don't think all of the fuel rods are under water judging from temperatures inside the pressure vessel. We want to do more analysis."

Japan: Tepco Asks Gov't  
To Help Pay Nuclear  
Disaster Damages

Tokyo, May 10 Kyodo -- The head of Tokyo Electric Power Co. asked the government Tuesday to help it pay the enormous costs expected in compensating victims of the nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant while promising to streamline the company's operations as urged by the government.

05/10/2011

After making the formal request to industry minister Banri Kaieda, Tokyo Electric President Masataka Shimizu unveiled a new cost-cutting plan that includes returning his remuneration as well as that of Chairman Tsunehisa Katsumata and six executive vice presidents.

The request came as the government is in the final stage of discussions to decide on a compensation scheme following the country's worst nuclear accident triggered by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. Kaieda said the framework may be decided Friday.

Responding to the request, Kaieda asked the company, known as TEPCO, to agree not to set an upper limit for the total amount of compensation to be paid, and implement compensation payments "swiftly and appropriately." In a written communication addressed to Shimizu, Kaieda also asked the utility to make "maximum efforts" to streamline management operations and accept an investigation by a third-party panel to be set up by the government to check the company's finances in a bid to ensure thorough cost-cutting and strict asset evaluation.

Kaieda told reporters he expects TEPCO to reach a conclusion Wednesday on whether it would accept the six conditions the government presented for offering support, which also call on the utility to work hard to bring an end to the nuclear crisis and to secure funds to maintain stable supply of electricity.

TEPCO said in its written request handed to Kaieda that the company needs nearly 1 trillion yen additionally for fiscal 2011 for fuel costs to produce electricity through thermal power generation, and that it expects

750 billion yen for the year's corporate bond redemption and debt payment.

Without state support, TEPCO would "not be able to make ends meet sooner or later," which could negatively affect compensation payments to the disaster victims and the stable supply of electricity, the request said.

"As our company will work to streamline its management as much as possible, we would like to ask for state support to ensure the fair and swift implementation of compensation to the victims," it said.

TEPCO had initially planned to halve the remuneration of its management team from managing directors and above, but in addition to returning the full remuneration of the chairman, president and executive vice presidents, Shimizu said the company will raise the percentage of remuneration to be returned by managing directors to 60 percent.

TEPCO would also compile a plan to sell its assets, such as real estate, by the time it releases its earnings results for fiscal 2010, likely to take place next week.

The utility has apparently decided to accept the government's requirement for further restructuring in the face of concerns about criticism if it raises electricity charges to cover the prospective massive compensation costs.

Kaieda told reporters that he evaluates positively the company's plan to return the top executives' remuneration, while announcing later in the day that, as the person responsible of the country's nuclear power policy, he will forgo his salaries paid for serving as a minister until the nuclear crisis is brought under control.

The industry minister also said the government will urge TEPCO to ensure that the state's financial burden for supporting it is "kept to the minimum" and that the costs should not lead to an immediate increase in electricity bills.

The government is considering the establishment of a new institution for dealing with the damages payments in the event they exceed TEPCO's capacity to pay.

The envisioned new body will also function as an insurance entity to prepare for possible future nuclear accidents, and the government plans to seek financial contributions from all utilities that operate atomic power stations.

TEPCO is still working to bring the radiation-leaking Fukushima plant under control, after many of the reactors lost their cooling functions following the quake and tsunami that hit northeastern Japan.

Japan To Revamp Basic Energy Plan

Tokyo, May 10 (Jiji Press) -- Japan needs to scrap its existing basic plan on energy and design a new one from scratch, in light of the worst nuclear crisis in the country, Prime Minister Naoto Kan said Tuesday.

05/10/2011

At a news conference, Kan called for a total revamp of the plan in the wake of the nuclear crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No. 1 power plant.

The basic plan calls for the establishment of at least 14 nuclear power reactors to help Japan double the proportion of non-carbon-dioxide-emitting electric power sources to 70 pct by 2030.

Indicating a willingness to shift the focus away from atomic energy, Kan said emphasis should be placed on energy conservation and alternative energy sources such as wind and solar power.

The government will set up an independent committee to investigate the nuclear crisis, which was triggered by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, he added.

In its investigations, the committee will attach great importance to independence from the existing nuclear administration, information disclosure to the Japanese public and the international community, and a comprehensive approach that will encompass various fields from technologies to problems inherent in organizations and systems, he said.

Kan said Chubu Electric Power Co.'s <9502> halt of the Hamaoka nuclear power plant is unlikely to cause serious power supply shortages.

He said the government will try to meet the company's request for support to cope with a rise in costs that

will be caused by the suspension.

He said he will give up his pay, including bonuses, as prime minister from June to take responsibility for the government's failure to prevent the nuclear crisis.

Monthly pay for a prime minister is 1.64 million yen, with a summer bonus set at 2.17 million yen. The prime minister also receives allowances as a lawmaker.

Japan: Hamaoka Nuclear  
Plant's Shutdown May  
Impact Nationwide Power  
Supply

Tokyo, May 9 Kyodo -- Chubu Electric Power Co.'s decision Monday to shut down its Hamaoka Nuclear Power Station may have implications not just on the regional utility's service area in central Japan but on the entire nation because the company will have to seek help from other utilities in securing power supply especially in summer when it was supposed to be helping beleaguered utilities hit by the March 11 disaster.

05/09/2011

Chubu Electric's move also will make it difficult for other utilities in gaining local approval for restarting nuclear reactors that have been idled after the March 11 quake or for servicing, further raising concern for power supply shortages.

While businesses and individual consumers in the eastern and northeastern Japan have been urged to take steps to curb electricity consumptions after regional utilities' power generation facilities were damaged by the March 11 quake and tsunami, those in other parts on the archipelago may also be asked to do the same toward summer when power demand peaks.

At a news conference Monday, Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda stressed that the government's request for the Hamaoka shutdown is attributed to circumstances peculiar to it, namely the high probability of a major earthquake striking the region. But residents living near other nuclear power stations have grown anxious and may well become reluctant to allow utilities to restart suspended reactors.

Japan has a total of 54 nuclear reactors. Of them, 11 were suspended because of the March 11 disaster as of Monday, while 22 others are suspended for servicing, leaving 21 -- less than half the total -- in operation.

Kyushu Electric Power Co. faces the risk of power shortages in summer within its own service area alone if

the resumption of reactors at Genkai plant is delayed.

Hokuriku, Kansai and Shikoku electric power companies may also lose leeway capacity to supply other utilities in need if they cannot reboot idled nuclear reactors.

Tohoku Electric Power Co., which received severe damage to its power generation facilities in northeastern Japan, is in talks with Tokyo Electric Power Co. in the hope of getting some power in summer. As Chubu Electric is likely to experience a tight supply condition and lose leeway capacity for Tokyo Electric, Tohoku Electric may also suffer and fail to provide enough power to fire up reconstruction efforts.

"We're gathering power from every possible source we can think of but we have to admit it's not easy to find extra supply sources," said a Tohoku Electric official, admitting the company does not yet have enough confidence to say it can avoid rolling blackouts.

Tokyo Electric has been getting help in power supply from Chubu and Kansai electric power companies but the maximum it can get is 1 million kilowatts because of frequency differences between eastern and western Japan. Yet even that amount will be "an essential power source during the peak summer period," said a Tokyo Electric official.

Given that it can no longer rely on Chubu Electric, the TEPCO official said, "We have rework the supply outlook for summer." Makoto Yagi, head of the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan, held talks with Kaieda on Monday and asked the government to take the lead in gaining support for resuming reactor operations. "Restarting nuclear reactors that have been suspended is necessary for stable power supply," Yagi, president of Kansai Electric, told Kaieda.

Japan: In search of a nuclear disposal site

The Japan Times, May 7, 2011

05/09/2011

Roughly 300 km northwest of Finland's capital, Helsinki, is the island of Olkiluoto, home to two nuclear power plants and the potential site for one of the world's first permanent underground high-level nuclear waste repositories.

Onkalo (Finnish for hiding place) is hundreds of meters deep. Research is still under way, but burial of canisters of spent fuel is scheduled to begin around 2020.

A documentary that Danish filmmaker Michael Madsen made about the repository, "Into Eternity," has gained a strong following in Japanese theaters since the atomic crisis began at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture.

The repository is designed to store high-level nuclear waste for at least 100,000 years, an inconceivably long period of time, but a reminder of just how long-lived some radioactive materials are, and how the only feasible solution for mankind to dispose of the hazardous nuclear waste it produces is to literally hide it deep in the Earth.

"It's every nation's responsibility to construct permanent nuclear waste repositories on its own territory, and a consensus will have to be reached in Japan to do the same," said Kenzo Miya, professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo.

As Tokyo Electric Power Co. struggles to execute a cold shutdown of the damaged reactors, one of the main issues will be whether the utility will then be able to successfully remove the thousands of highly radioactive spent-fuel rods resting in the reactors' storage pools.

"The situation is quite different from that of Chernobyl, where a concrete confinement sarcophagus was built to seal the hundreds of tons of radioactive fuel still in the facility," Miya, an expert on nuclear plants, said.

"In the case of Fukushima, all spent fuel will eventually be removed and transferred to be stored at the Rokkasho nuclear reprocessing plant" in Aomori Prefecture, before ideally being buried in a permanent repository, he said.

While the Rokkasho reprocessing plant is still undergoing tests and not in full operation, the site has a landfill for low-level radioactive waste and a temporary storage space for high-level nuclear waste, where spent nuclear fuel from Japanese power plants, after being reprocessed by similar facilities in France and the United Kingdom, is sent back to be stored and cooled for 30 to 50 years.

The radioactivity of spent nuclear fuel is believed to drop by 99.9 percent after about 40 years, although it still takes another 1,000 years before its radioactivity drops to that of natural uranium.

But the radioactivity of some elements, including plutonium-239 which has a half-life of 24,200 years, remains high for more than 100,000 years and requires secure and permanent disposal to avert nuclear proliferation and radiation hazards.

Thus, the need to bury them permanently.

In Japan, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan, or NUMO, is the primary organization responsible for undertaking the task of investigating and selecting a potential burial site, and for overseeing

the repository's construction, operation and eventual closure. The whole process combined is expected to take 100 years and an estimated R trillion to complete.

To fund the operation, all electric utilities using nuclear power plants are paying NUMO a "storage" fee based on how much nuclear waste each produces in a year. This year, the fees totaled nearly W0 billion.

Takeshi Yamada, a NUMO representative, said that while organization has been soliciting communities nationwide to host the repository, its efforts have been fruitless despite the allure of the billions of yen in subsidies that will be awarded to any community hosting a site that matches NUMO's criteria.

Once, in 2007, the mayor of Toyochō, Kochi Prefecture, submitted an application to NUMO without the consent of the city council, only to lose his job in the next election amid heated calls to withdraw the application.

"At present there are no potential locations for the repository," Yamada said.

Ideally, once a location has been identified, NUMO will take 20 years to research the site's geological characteristics. If the site receives the go-sign, NUMO will then spend the next 10 years digging through the bedrock to create storage space as deep as 500 meters.

Yamada said that according to the blueprint, the underground repository will be filled with thousands of stainless steel canisters of solidified high-level radioactive waste that will set there for the next 50 years.

The 40,000 canisters will represent all the spent fuel produced by Japan's power plants from the 1960s to around 2030.

The repository will then be backfilled and, if needed, monitored by security personnel for decades, or possibly centuries, to come.

All this, however, depends on whether NUMO can find the right location and gain the consensus of the local community, which, in light of the heightened alarm toward nuclear energy in general, seems unlikely in the near future.

Ai Fujiwara of the Radioactive Waste Management Funding and Research Center, an organization that works in tandem with NUMO, said the only operating underground permanent repository for nuclear waste in the world is the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

But the site, which uses massive salt beds to store nuclear waste, primarily accepts transuranic waste, or TRU, generated by U.S. Department of Defense activities, not spent fuel. Much time and money were spent planning a permanent repository for spent nuclear fuel and other high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain in Nevada, but the project was scrapped by the Obama administration amid local opposition. "At present, there are no operating permanent repositories for spent fuel and other high-level nuclear waste in the world," Fujiwara said.

In the director's English-language notes for "Into Eternity," Madsen wrote: "The Onkalo project of creating

the world's first final nuclear waste facility capable of lasting at least 100,000 years, transgresses both in construction and on a philosophical level all previous human endeavors."

As the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant casts a spotlight on the pros and cons of nuclear energy, general interest also appears to be increasing about the unanswered questions of where and how the massive amounts of nuclear waste produced each year will finally be laid to rest.

"The recent nuclear disaster has presented the Japanese with the crucial question of what to do with nuclear energy, and I believe people will seriously begin thinking about it," said Tokyo University's Miya.

"It's difficult to say at this point, but I myself believe that we will eventually be able to construct our own, final repository for our nuclear waste."

After the earthquake: A more open Japan?

MAY 2011 • Ian Bremmer, McKinsey Quarterly

Restructuring and less fractious politics could speed the building of a more balanced and open economy.

In 1995, when an earthquake ravaged the city of Kobe, an important industrial hub in Japan, the country's government and economy surprised and impressed the world. Within 15 months, economic activity in the area returned to about 98 percent of pre-quake levels, and the cleanup was largely completed within two years. Now Japan's massive earthquake and tsunami, plus its emergency involving damaged nuclear reactors, have generated headlines around the world and persuaded some that natural disasters have compounded the country's long-term economic woes, rendering it a spent force on the international stage. Yet there is little reason to fear that recovery from the recent Tohoku earthquake and tsunami and their aftermath need prove much more difficult or take much longer than the recovery from the disaster in Kobe. As before, the reconstruction effort will stimulate both immediate industrial activity and long-term investment in housing and in commercial and industrial infrastructure. Excess manufacturing capacity will help Japan cope with temporary capacity losses. Moreover, the country's industrial core lies outside the region most badly damaged by the disasters, so long-term damage will probably be limited. Even credible worst-case scenarios for the Fukushima Daiichi meltdown indicate that it would have little impact on long-term economic recovery. Net government debt hovers above 100 percent of GDP, but other countries have managed with even heavier burdens. The Bank of Japan will ensure that adequate funding is available to financial institutions to finance recovery efforts, both public and private.

On the political front, Prime Minister Naoto Kan's government actually has gained from this natural disaster. Kan faced an opposition push for early elections and potential challenges from within his Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) before the earthquake and tsunami, and he continues to do so now. But

05/05/2011

the need for relief and recovery efforts is leaving the Japanese public with little appetite for contentious national elections and restraining both opposition party intransigence and rebellion in the DPJ. This improves Kan's chances for survival and the resumption of his drive for a more open Japanese economy. Kan's consumer-oriented growth strategy and social-welfare program will remain faithful to the DPJ's broader agenda, but Japan's demographics, as well as challenges from emerging economies, will push his plans toward greater economic openness. This trend will eventually provoke battles with the opposition and within the DPJ—fights that will determine the speed and ease with which Japan sheds its export-oriented past and moves toward a more balanced and open political economy. Over the longer term, generating economic growth in Japan will require a substantial restructuring of its economy, including deregulatory efforts to promote competition. It is unclear how much progress Kan will make in the next couple of years, given political inertia and the immediate needs of the disaster response. But the trajectory of Japanese politics remains on track for an embrace of greater openness over the next decade.

Kan's government will focus on two tactics. First, it will prod the Bank of Japan to commit itself to expansionary monetary policies. There had been some success on this front even before the earthquake as the bank gradually expanded the range of its asset purchases to reduce longer-term interest rates. Second, the government will move to promote trade. Kan wants to embrace the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the multilateral free-trade agreement (whose expansion is backed by Washington) that's designed to integrate the Asia-Pacific region's largest economies. That won't be an easy political sell in Japan, where some farmers demand, and historically have received, extensive protection from import competition. Efforts to placate farmers will continue, but if the DPJ remains in power for the next several years, we can expect the TPP to remain an important part of the government's longer-term plans. Whether Japan can make this leap while Kan remains in charge is uncertain. Rivals within the DPJ and opponents across the political aisle will continue trying to drive him from office. But the demographics and economic competition that are driving Japan to alter its export-oriented economic strategy will eventually prevail, even if that takes a decade or more.

Japan's attractiveness as an investment destination will remain in flux for some time. The triple disaster is likely to quicken the pace of efforts to shift production overseas. But that trend has been well established for nearly two decades. By contrast, as Japan's economy becomes less export oriented, the sorts of opportunities the country offers the outside world will change. A more open Japan will intensify local competition and improve opportunities for more efficient corporations, both Japanese and foreign. Improving aggregate Japanese productivity should eventually pay off for domestic and foreign investors in equities, as well.

Despite the natural disasters and a declining population, Japan's economy need not continue to slump. As

efficient as the country's export industries have been, there is still much room for improving productivity—low-hanging fruit that a more open Japan will eventually enjoy.

#### About the Author

Ian Bremmer is president of the political-risk consulting firm Eurasia Group and author of *The End of the Free Market: Who Wins the War Between States and Corporations?* (Portfolio, May 2010).

Japan safety rules may prevent restart of Hamaoka reactors

2011-05-05: TOKYO (Reuters) - Strict safety measures may prevent Chubu Electric Power Co from restarting two reactors at its Hamaoka nuclear plant after they are shut for regular maintenance, the local governor said on Thursday.

05/05/2011

The comment was a sign of the political obstacles that face the plant in central Japan, where the No. 4 and 5 reactors are due for future maintenance.

Japan has called for stricter safety measures following the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that damaged Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichinuclear power plant. Utilities now have to keep their reactors shut for longer periods under regular maintenance to make extra checks.

Some experts have warned about safety risks at Hamaoka, which is about 200 kilometers (120 miles) southwest of Tokyo and sits near an active earthquake zone that the government has forecast carries an 87 percent chance of producing a magnitude 8 or stronger earthquake in the next 30 years.

Chubu Electric has said it is not committed to a July restart of the 1,100megawatt No.3 reactor, which has been shut since November for planned maintenance.

The 1,137 MW No.4 reactor and the 1,380 MW No. 5 reactor are currently operating.

"Chubu Electric is facing a very tough situation regarding nuclear power. If things continue on like this, I think that reactors No.3 to 5 will face a natural death," Heita Kawakatsu, the governor of Shizuoka prefecture, said in a meeting with government officials including Banri Kaieda, the minister of economy, trade and industry who oversees energy policy.

"Reactors No.4 and 5 will also go through their planned maintenance. Reactor No.3 cannot be restarted despite having received approval," Kawakatsu told reporters later.

"So even if No.4 and 5 are said to be fine, if the maintenance standards are the same as No.3, then it would also be difficult to operate No.4 and 5," he added.

Kawakatsu said Chubu Electric had acted quickly but repeated his stance that Japan's third-biggest power company had not done enough to meet the central government's recently imposed safety regulations.

"There are expert opinions that geologically a tsunami would hit our prefecture even faster than it hit the

Fukushima plant. Even with that being so, the fact that tsunami defense measures are being done in an off-the-cuff manner is enough to cause unease, including in myself," he said.

While the minister of economy, trade and industry decides whether reactors can be restarted, local authorities have a say on safety issues.

Kaieda, who ordered nuclear plant operators in March to take immediate steps to improve emergency preparedness following the Fukushima crisis, has been visiting plants to check on the safety measures.

Earlier this week, Kaieda also visited Kansai Electric's Mihama nuclear plant in Fukui prefecture.

Japan: Safety of workers  
at the Fukushima Daiichi  
nuclear power plant

The Lancet, April 30, 2011 - May 6, 2011

BYLINE: Tetsuya Tanimoto a, tetanimot@yahoo.co.jp; Naoyuki Uchida b; Yuko Kodama c; Takanori Teshima d; Shuichi Taniguchi b

05/05/2011

SECTION:

Pg. 1489

Vol. 377

No. 9776

ISSN: 0140-6736

LENGTH: 1134 words

The 9.0 magnitude earthquake and following tsunami on March 11, 2011, destroyed many coastal cities in the northeastern part of Japan.<sup>1</sup> It swamped emergency generators at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant operated by the Tokyo Electric Power Company in Fukushima prefecture, disabling the cooling systems.<sup>2</sup> Since these catastrophic events, hundreds of nuclear workers have been trying to remove the radioactive water from the tsunami-ravaged nuclear compound and restart the regular cooling systems for the overheated nuclear fuel.<sup>3</sup>

On March 15, the Japanese Government announced that the permissible cumulative radiation exposure for nuclear workers was increased to 250 mSv per year from 100 mSv per year. The purpose of this increase seems to be merely to extend the time nuclear workers could legally spend in a radioactive area. On April 12,

the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency of Japan decided to raise the severity level of the crisis to 7-the highest level and equal to the 1986 disaster at Chernobyl in the former Soviet Union. We emphasise the need to predict potential scenarios in Fukushima and to prepare medical care providers for how to respond in cases of accidental high radiation exposure, since this operation is estimated to take months to years.

Generally, rapidly dividing cells, such as intestinal-tract and haemopoietic cells, are most vulnerable to radiation.<sup>4</sup> Radiation accidents can result in localised or whole-body exposure and in internal or external deposition of radioactive materials. On March 24, three workers at the Fukushima nuclear power plant were exposed accidentally to high localised radiation while standing in contaminated water.<sup>5</sup> Fortunately, this accident did not cause major injuries, but the danger of a future accidental radiation exposure is not passed, since there has been a series of serious aftershocks even this April.

A clinically significant haemopoietic syndrome can occur after whole-body doses of 2 Gy or higher as a result of bone-marrow depression. If the haemopoietic cells are not completely damaged, a recovery phase can be enhanced through use of haemopoietic growth factors. In cases of radiation exposure of more than 5 Gy, haemopoietic stem-cell rescue is essential. Indeed, in the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, nine patients who were exposed to high levels of radiation underwent intraosseous injections of allogeneic bone-marrow cells.<sup>6</sup> In the radiation accident at a nuclear fuel processing plant in Tokaimura, Japan, in 1999, two victims received allogeneic stem-cell transplantation.<sup>7,8</sup> However, allogeneic stem-cell transplantation has major limitations, such as time-consuming donor searching, graft failure, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), or profound immune suppression after transplantation, despite the reduced mortality associated with recent techniques.<sup>9</sup>

On March 25, we proposed the collection and storage of autologous peripheral-blood stem cells (PBSCs) for the nuclear workers in Fukushima in case of accidental major radiation exposure.<sup>10</sup> This scheme has several advantages. First, autologous PBSC transplantation does not cause GVHD, which further exacerbates gut injury mediated by radiation exposure. Second, it does not require immunosuppressants, which make radiation victims more susceptible to severe infections. Third, PBSCs can induce more rapid haemopoietic recovery than can haemopoietic growth-factor support alone or bone-marrow cells. Fourth, they are easy to store by cryopreservation. Fifth, the short-term and long-term safety of this PBSC-collecting procedure has been confirmed in a large number of healthy donors for patients with haematological cancers.<sup>11</sup> Finally, long-term autologous PBSC banking might also have a therapeutic role

for possible leukaemia in future, because radiation is a well known carcinogen in the long term.

Several important limitations of this scheme should also be noted. Autologous PBSC transplantation is not a perfect strategy to treat radiation victims; it can rescue injury of bone marrow only, but not other tissues, such as gastrointestinal tract, skin, or lung. Additionally, there are adverse events for healthy individuals by administration of mobilising agents and apheresis procedures.<sup>12</sup> Another concern must be medical costs, but several pharmaceutical companies offer donations for this scheme and the financial burden is alleviated.

On March 29, the Japan Society for Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation released a statement that "107 transplant teams are standing by to collect and store haemopoietic stem cells from the peripheral blood for workers who are striving to restrain their radiation."<sup>13</sup> The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation also announced that this plan makes sense and more than 50 hospitals in Europe have agreed to help the workers if required. On the other hand, several experts have stated their objections to this scheme.<sup>14,15</sup> The Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan, an advisory panel made up of non-government experts, reportedly stated that there is no need to collect and store autologous PBSCs. The reasons given are the physical and psychological burden for nuclear workers, no consensus among international authoritative bodies, and no sufficient agreement among the Japanese public.<sup>16</sup>

The nuclear power industry of Japan is facing its worst-ever crisis. Not only the Japanese people but also people all over the world have a sense of distrust towards the industry, which is seen as insufficiently transparent in terms of information disclosure. Furthermore, the officials and authorities related to the industry seem to be reluctant to admit the seriousness of the problem to protect the industry's reputation as much as possible. However, the most important mission is to save the nuclear workers' lives and to protect the local communities. Such an approach would be the industry's best defence: if a fatal accident happened to the nuclear workers, the nuclear power industry of Japan would collapse. It would also cause serious damage to the industry and nuclear power policy all over the world. Therefore, we should prioritise support for the nuclear workers' health.

The process to completely shut down the reactors in Fukushima is expected to take years. The risk of accidental radiation exposure will thus accumulate for the nuclear workers and banking of their autologous PBSCs will become increasingly important. A judgment of right or wrong on this scheme must be determined from the standpoint of the nuclear workers and their families, not from a point of view of

cost-benefit balance in ordinary times. Toranomon Hospital in Tokyo is ready to harvest and bank autologous PBSCs for the nuclear workers upon request.

Japan: Combined  
Government And Tepco  
News Conferences Don't  
Appear To Be  
Improvement

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online 1041 GMT 05 May 11

05/05/2011

Joint news conferences by government bodies and the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) over the crisis at the tsunami-hit nuclear power plant appear to have been far from effective at promoting the "transparent and accurate information releases" the government said it was aiming for.

The government's joint task force on nuclear accident countermeasures began the joint news conferences last month. The conferences, initially held on a daily basis, are attended by representatives from TEPCO, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA), the Nuclear Safety Commission (NSC) and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Each conference lasts for three to five hours.

However, despite the length of the conferences, they are not addressing everything reporters want to know. Goshi Hosono, secretary-general of the government joint task force, has declared that education-related issues will not be covered by the conferences, but reporters' questions for several days nonetheless centered on government set limits on radiation exposure for outdoor activities of elementary and junior high school students. Currently those activities are restricted when the annual dose of radiation exceeds 20 millisieverts, but this has become a controversial issue.

It was pointed out by reporters that an NSC member who was said to have suggested the upper limit had actually been opposed to it. They sought a disclosure of the details of that matter and asked that the NSC member attend at a later conference.

However, the task force secretariat declined to comply, repeating that the government had gone through the proper procedures in setting the standards and stirring protest from the journalists.

In the end, at a May 2 news conference the secretariat to the task force released a document detailing what led up to the decision on the dose limit.

At a May 4 conference, an irritated-seeming Hosono said, "From now on, we'd like you to ask questions about that issue at the MEXT."

More than 100 pages of documents, such as data on radiation levels in areas near the crippled Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant, are distributed to around 200 reporters at each news conference.

Officials who are supposed to answer questions have occasionally been seen dozing off, showing their fatigue.

After the April 28 conference, Hosono notified news organizations that the task force would hold the joint news conferences only every other day during the Golden Week holiday period -- lasting from April 29 to May 5 -- in order to "achieve a balance between (the task force's) primary duties and the news conferences." He also said that some of the organizations represented at the conferences are requesting that the meets be limited to two hours.

As to the reason for holding the joint news conferences, Hosono cited requests from legislators from both ruling and opposition parties and overseas news organizations and said, "Previously, (government organizations and TEPCO) had held separate news conferences, causing information overlaps and confusion."

However, TEPCO and NISA have still been holding their own news conferences on days when the joint conferences have not been held.

Yasuhiko Tajima, professor of news media at Sophia University, criticized the task force for limiting the scope of questions and limiting the length of the news conferences.

"News conferences being long isn't a bad thing if freelance journalists are allowed to attend and it leads to further information disclosure," he said. "Rather, if the task force imposes time limits on the length of the conferences, it will be neglecting its responsibility to explain the situation and infringing on people's right to know."

"The government said it was combining the news conferences to keep consistency in the released information, but that was nothing more than serving its own goals. Excluding important issues like the 20

millisievert per year dose limit for children from the conferences seems to me to be an evasion of responsibility,"he said.

Japan: Constitutional review needed to deal with national emergencies

The Daily Yomiuri(Tokyo),May 5, 2011 Thursday

05/05/2011

A massive earthquake, a colossal tsunami and a nuclear power plant accident. In the face of an unprecedented national crisis, we are compelled to give profound thought to the nature of the Constitution, which is the foundation of this nation.

On the 65th anniversary of its enforcement, we have analyzed the nation's top law in terms of its ability to handle the response to the March 11 disaster.

One problem with the current Constitution is that it lacks an article stipulating actions to be taken by the state in emergencies. National emergencies would include not only a large-scale natural disaster or a nuclear crisis like the latest ones, but also an incursion by foreign forces and a terrorist attack.

Contingency article necessary

The government needs to quickly and appropriately deal with such crises. It is for this purpose that constitutions in many developed countries have special articles that stipulate the principles of actions to be taken in emergencies.

These articles are designed to prevent ad hoc, supralegal measures from violating fundamental human rights such as the freedoms of where to live and movement, and property rights.

After the March 11 disaster, the government established an emergency headquarters headed by Prime Minister Naoto Kan based on the Disaster Countermeasures Basic Law to rescue victims and support survivors.

The government's initial response to the earthquake and tsunami was basically appropriate because current disaster countermeasures have been constantly improved based on lessons learned from the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake.

However, some observers have pointed out that the disaster law does not give the government a free hand to take binding measures, and is not designed to deal appropriately with a huge and terrible disaster on the scale of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

The most serious problem lies in the government's handling of the nuclear plant crisis.

Based on the Nuclear Disaster Special Measures Law, the government has declared a state of nuclear emergency and is dealing with the accident. However, it was initially slow to take action.

The situation at the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant might not have become this serious if the government had not been bound by existing laws and instead taken emergency measures to transport personnel and material needed to cool the nuclear reactors.

*Preparation for next quake*

Of course, it is most important in a national emergency that the prime minister exercises strong leadership and coordinates the responses of all government organizations.

However, developing a legal framework that enables the government to respond more smoothly during a crisis remains a basic issue that must be addressed.

Given the likelihood that constitutional revision will not be easy in the near future, we suggest the establishment of a basic contingency law.

The law would make the state responsible for taking sufficient measures to deal with a national emergency, and empower it to temporarily restrict some basic rights of the people to maintain the economic order and secure public welfare.

The Liberal Democratic Party, New Komeito and the Democratic Party of Japan agreed in 2004 to work toward establishing such a law.

With these legal arrangements in place, the government could respond more swiftly and appropriately than

it did after the Great East Japan Earthquake should other devastating temblors strike, including an earthquake predicted to hit directly under the Tokyo metropolitan area, and quakes centered in the Tokai, Tonankai and Nankai sea areas.

The government, and the ruling and opposition parties, must comb through legal problems that have emerged while implementing the response to the March 11 disaster, and move in earnest toward establishing the basic contingency law.

Another problem lies in the bicameral parliamentary system that functions under constitutional provisions.

Before the latest disaster, the Diet was not functioning efficiently because the House of Councillors is controlled by the opposition parties. Even now when a political truce is in place, it would be a stretch to say the Diet is fulfilling its role when we see the tardy establishment of special legislation needed to promote reconstruction and recovery from the disaster.

Upper house too strong?

Another issue just below the surface is the fact that the upper house is too strong.

A censure motion that the opposition camp threatens to use as a means to attack the government has no legal grounds. But under the divided Diet, parliamentary proceedings can become deadlocked if opposition parties decide to boycott sessions attended by a prime minister or cabinet ministers against whom a censure motion has been approved.

Under the divided Diet, a censure motion in the upper house can, for all intents and purposes, have the same effect as a no-confidence motion in the House of Representatives. This runs counter to the constitutional spirit that gives the lower house precedence over the upper chamber.

The ruling and opposition parties need to formulate new rules on Diet management. Ultimately, it will be necessary to define the lower chamber's precedence more clearly by revising the Constitution.

One idea is to relax requirements for enactment of a bill when passed a second time by the lower chamber after the upper chamber makes a different decision--namely lowering the threshold from the current

majority of two-thirds or more to a simple majority.

It is also necessary to more clearly divide the roles of the two houses by, for example, limiting the right to designate a prime minister to the lower chamber.

Courts have handed down a series of rulings that found the disparity of vote values in lower and upper house elections was "unconstitutional" or "quasi-unconstitutional." Thus, the national election system urgently needs to be reexamined.

For that purpose, too, the Diet must drastically review the functions of the two chambers by starting with discussions on the matter from a constitutional perspective.

Row over who foots  
Japanese nuke bill

The Australian, May 5, 2011 Thursday

05/05/2011

JAPAN is embroiled in a contentious new debate over who should pay Tokyo Electric Power Company's growing liabilities from its nuclear accident -- a bill estimated to be tens of billions of dollars.

The argument pits numerous stakeholders against each other, including executives at the utility hoping to reduce the company's liability, bankers and investors wanting to protect their balance sheets, and politicians worried about voter reaction to potential higher tax and electricity rates.

Some policymakers want the country's 11 power companies to shoulder a big part of the burden as the cost of maintaining a nuclear power industry. That proposal, when floated, pushed utility stocks down.

"TEPCO right now is very unpopular among the Japanese people," said Akihisa Nagashima, a member of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan. "The big problem is it is too big to fail."

He said letting the company go under was not a viable option, given its role as a regional monopoly supplying power to a huge swath of the Japanese economic centre, including all of the Tokyo metropolitan area.

As a first step, the government will unveil as soon as next week the initial draft outlining a plan for disbursing compensation for people displaced from homes and farmers affected by radiation-related sales cuts. Many such victims want immediate cash payments.

The plan, according to the Japanese media, will feature the establishment of a new organisation to prop up the finances of TEPCO with loans and issuance of preferred shares, to be covered with public funds, bank loans and insurance premiums contributed from other power companies.

TEPCO will reportedly raise money by selling down its huge portfolio of assets, mostly real estate and stock holdings.

The cost of the continuing disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi plant is growing daily, with the final price tag far from clear. The electric utility company is likely to face demands for trillions of yen in compensation to victims.

Beyond that, the cost of decommissioning the reactors could hit \$US6 billion (\$5.5bn), analysts say.

TEPCO has huge assets. The company supplies one-third of Japan's electricity demand, and earned about \$US1.6bn in net income on revenue of \$US60bn in the period ended March 31 last year. Its total assets were valued at about \$US162bn at the end of that year.

But analysts believe its liabilities will far exceed its assets after accounting for the compensation and other costs of dealing with the crisis.

As TEPCO chairman Tsunehisa Katsumata told a news conference in March: "No matter how much money we have, it will not be enough."

Policymakers and analysts say taxpayers will inevitably be asked to chip in.

But that move is seen as limited because of the public anger against TEPCO and the government over the worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl.

Fukushima reactor building

Workers entered a reactor building at Japan's stricken nuclear plant Thursday for the first time since an explosion hit the facility a day after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, officials said.

Wearing gas masks and protective suits with oxygen tanks on their backs, two workers stepped into the building housing reactor number one -- one of four reactors badly damaged at the Fukushima Daiichi plant -- to gauge radiation levels.

"It was the first entry into the reactor building by our plant workers since the explosion," said Satoshi Watanabe, a spokesman for operator Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO).

"We are sending workers as a small group for a maximum of 10 minutes so that radiation they will be exposed to can be limited," Watanabe added.

The company later sent in more workers to set up a ventilation system to filter radioactive material out of the air within the reactor building, the officials said.

"We have completed work to place eight ducts inside the facility for the air-cleaning system," said Taisuke Tomikawa, another TEPCO spokesman.

"The operation went smoothly with no major troubles today, and the radiation the workers were exposed to was so far lower than originally expected," Tomikawa said.

"We plan to operate the system for a few days so that we can reduce radiation to around one twentieth of the current level inside the facility," he added.

TEPCO will then begin building a new cooling system outside the reactor -- with water pipes connecting it to heat exchange equipment inside -- in a bid to regulate temperatures in the reactor since it began overheating following the twin natural disasters.

Workers have been dousing the reactors and fuel rod pools with water to cool them and prevent a meltdown.

TEPCO plans to complete construction of the new cooling system in late May or early June, local media said. Engineers aim to achieve stable "cold shutdowns" towards the end of the year.

The reactor had been too dangerous for humans to enter. TEPCO had sent in remote-controlled robots to gauge radiation and temperature levels in the reactor building, which was damaged by a hydrogen explosion.

Separately, TEPCO said it planned to raise water levels inside the containment vessel of the number one reactor by adding another two tonnes of water to step up efforts to cool the entire atomic furnace.

The Fukushima plant, northeast of Tokyo, was engulfed by the monster tsunami triggered by the nation's biggest earthquake, and rocked by a series of explosions and fires.

It has been releasing radioactive materials into the environment in the world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl in 1986.

No one has died so far from radiation, but 85,000 people have left their homes near the plant due to radiation fears and Japan has enforced a 20-kilometre (12-mile) no-go zone around the facility.

On Wednesday, TEPCO said levels of radioactive substances had jumped in the Pacific seabed near the plant. Environmental group Greenpeace has begun testing water samples from the ocean.

Japan To Review Growth Strategy, Eyeing Energy Policy Change

Tokyo, May 4 Kyodo -- Japan is set to review its growth strategy set up last June considering a drastic shift in energy policy to better deal with the consequences of the March 11 massive earthquake and tsunami as well as a nuclear crisis, government sources said Wednesday.

05/04/2011

Projects for exporting nuclear power plant technologies will inevitably be revised, the sources said, adding the government is also mulling putting off a deadline to decide on whether to participate in negotiations for a Pacific free trade agreement.

Basic guidelines of a revised version of the growth strategy will likely be released as early as next week, they said.

National policy minister Koichiro Gemba has said, "The growth strategy, mainly its energy environment policy, must be transformed in quality." Given the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichinuclear power plant crippled by the quake-tsunami disaster, the government is considering front-loading the 2020 target by when Japan hopes to expand the size of its renewable energy market to 10 trillion yen.

Under the revised growth strategy, Japan will put more emphasis on the development of renewable energy such as solar-, wind- and geothermal heat-generated power, as well as the enhancement of electric accumulators, the sources said. Japan will seek to secure electricity without depending on nuclear power too much.

The government has been promoting Japan's nuclear power plant technology overseas under a joint project with the private sector, but a perception is prevailing among government officials that it now would be difficult for a country which let a nuclear crisis happen to sell such plants overseas.

Japan reached an agreement last October with Vietnam to construct two nuclear power plants, and it has been in negotiations with Turkey for similar exports.

The government is considering halting such projects at least until Japan completes its investigation of the radiation leakages at the Fukushima plant.

Japan had aimed to decide by around June whether to join in negotiations over the so-called Trans-Pacific Partnership. But Prime Minister Naoto Kan has repeatedly suggested since the disasters that the deadline may need to be put off.

Last June, the government set up the new growth strategy, which aims to have the nation's economy expand a real 2 percent or more on average by fiscal 2020, by focusing budgetary allocations and accelerating deregulation on seven designated areas such as the environment and energy.

Japan: METI Releases  
Outline of Economic  
Impact of Quake, Status

METI released summary report entitled "Economic Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Current Status of Recovery" on 27 April 2011.

05/03/2011

of Recovery

Link:

<http://portal.nrc.gov/OCM/ip/countries/japan/tsunami2011/Shared%20Documents/Japan%20METI%20Economic%20Impact.pdf>

Japan: Tight-lipped Tepco  
lays bare exclusivity of  
press clubs

The Japan Times, May 3, 2011, Tuesday

05/03/2011

Kanako Takahara, Staff writer

It was a shocking revelation for a majority of the people in Japan, but maybe not so for major media organizations.

Tsunehisa Katsumata, chairman of Tokyo Electric Power Co., admitted in a news conference on March 30 that on the 11th, the day the twin disasters hit the Tohoku region and crippled Tepco's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant, he was traveling to Beijing with retired Japanese journalists, expenses for which were partially paid by the utility.

"We probably paid more than our share" of the travel fee, Katsumata said.

Internet reporter Ryusaku Tanaka was shouted down by other journalists as he tried to question the Tepco executive.

The incident laid bare the oft-assumed cozy relationship between Tepco and major Japanese media organizations - members of the exclusive "kisha" (press) club that critics claim are preventing reporters from asking the utility tough questions about the nuclear accident. Similar complicity has long been assumed at other press clubs attached to the nation's various bureaucratic bodies.

Freelance journalist Takashi Uesugi, a former reporter for The New York Times in Tokyo, said he was astonished that no one had asked Tepco about whether a plutonium leak from the stricken plant was detected until he raised the question on March 27.

Experts have warned that plutonium may have been released from the No. 3 reactor, where MOX fuel is stored, due to a hydrogen explosion on March 14 in addition to radioactive iodine and cesium. MOX fuel is a mix of uranium and plutonium oxide.

"For two weeks, not one reporter asked about plutonium in the press conference," said Uesugi. "When I raised the question, Tepco said it didn't have a detector to check it."

A day after the unthinkable revelation, Tepco announced it detected a small amount of plutonium from the soil on the plant's premises after it sent soil samples to an outside organization for analysis a week earlier.

"Press club members don't want to damage the cozy relationship with Tepco," Uesugi said. "This kind of

mind-set makes them become soft on Tepco unwittingly."

A strong advocate of abolishing kisha clubs nationwide, Uesugi is one of the 22 members who founded the nonprofit organization Free Press Association of Japan in January aimed at pushing the clubs to allow nonmembers to attend news conferences.

Kisha clubs are mainly attached to government ministries and industries, and their members generally belong to major newspapers, broadcasters and wire services.

In many cases, however, their membership is limited to major domestic news organizations, triggering criticism for screening out foreign press, magazine reporters and freelance journalists.

But since March 11, the exclusive clubs have been forced to open up to nonmembers.

Nonmembers have only been allowed to attend the press conferences held by Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano once a week even after March 11.

But feeling the need to allow as many media as possible amid the disaster, the kisha club covering Edano allowed an Internet media organization to broadcast his news conference live from March 17, albeit on a temporary basis.

Still, the exclusivity of the clubs is notorious among foreign reporters in Japan.

David McNeill, a Tokyo correspondent for the Independent, recalled how nonpress club reporters were shut out when the Tokyo Detention House opened its execution chamber for the first time to the media last August.

Despite numerous inquiries with the Justice Ministry, which oversees the detention house, ministry officials as well as its kisha club claimed the date was not set yet, and went ahead with the press tour without informing the foreign press, magazines and freelance journalists, he said.

McNeill later learned the kisha club members were told by the ministry to keep the tour date secret to nonmembers. "It's a symbiotic relationship," said McNeill.

The Justice Ministry was able to control the information to a large extent by allowing only members of the press club onto the tour, just as kisha club journalists are granted information nonmembers don't have, he said.

But it is not the nonmember journalists losing out in this game, he said.

"The losers are ordinary Japanese people because they don't hear all the information that they need to make rational political choices," McNeill said.

He indicated that the reason the support rate for the death penalty is unusually high in Japan may be because people are not well informed about what goes on in the chamber, including the fact that people in wheelchairs are executed or that prisoners on death row wait decades not knowing when the execution will take place.

"So you wonder, would it be as high if ordinary people knew everything about what goes on in the system," McNeill said.

Though often a target of criticism, the kisha club system has played a key role in forcing the government and authorities to disclose information to the public, supporters claim.

Formed in 1890, it started out with a small number of reporters who formed a group demanding the Imperial Diet to allow them to sit in on sessions.

Since then, kisha clubs have become key channels for media organizations in making collective demands against the authorities and vice versa.

Nobuaki Hanaoka, former head of the daily Sankei Shimbun's politics division and a kisha club advocate, claims magazine and freelance journalists are more focused on getting flashy quotes in news conferences that may interfere with the reporting of newspapers and other press club members.

"When you report on politics, it's not like there is a press officer in the Diet telling you what would happen. Nearly 100 reporters gather information day and night and write stories on what is likely to happen," Hanaoka said.

"But if magazine and freelance reporters start firing (hostile) questions at press conferences without that kind of background information, politicians may simply clam up," he said. "Political stories are not written only through information we get from press conferences."

The situation, however, changed drastically after the Democratic Party of Japan, which promised to open up news conferences to nonmembers of kisha clubs, ousted the long-ruling Liberal Democratic Party in September 2009.

To keep the promise they made during the campaign, newly appointed ministers of the DPJ-led government started to open up news conference to nonpress club members as well.

But video journalist Tetsuo Jimbo, one of the founding members of the FPAJ, said the organization was established to make sure the DPJ's move of opening up press conferences will not threaten the basic premise that the media should hold the news conferences.

If authorities host press conferences, there is always a risk that those in power will try to manipulate information, including ending news conferences whenever they wish.

Because press clubs were reluctant to allow nonmembers to attend news conferences, the DPJ-led government must have thought it would be quicker and easier if the government hosted the news conferences instead of press clubs, he said.

"We had to create a cross-sectional organization of journalists that can host press conferences," Jimbo said. Thanks to the DPJ, some kisha clubs have opened up to nonmembers. But Jimbo claims his fight is not over until nonmembers have equal rights, including the number of people allowed in venues, and have a say in

how press conferences proceed.

Still, critics agree the DPJ's push to pressure the press clubs to open up the news conference was a big first step.

McNeill of the Independent vividly remembers when then Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada held the first news conference open to all members of the media, including nonpress club members, in September 2009.

"That was one of the most interesting press conferences I've ever been to in Japan," he said.

Japan: TEPCO Says  
Workers Plan To Enter  
Fukushima Reactor 1  
Building as Early as 5 May

Tokyo, May 2 Kyodo -- (EDS: UPDATING WITH MORE INFO) The operator of the crisis-hit Fukushima Daiichinuclear plant on Monday commenced work to install an air filter in the building housing the No. 1 reactor to reduce the highradiation level and enable workers to enter and set up a system to cool the troubledreactor.

05/03/2011

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said that workers are expected to enter the building as early as Thursday to start the ventilation device. It would be the first time for workers to step into the plant'sreactor building since March 12, when a hydrogen explosion occurred at the No. 1 unit and led to the external release ofradioactive substances.

Meanwhile, it was revealed the same day that Japan's system to predict the volume of emittedradioactive materials in the event of anuclear accident failed to work when the March 11 quake and ensuing tsunami hit Fukushima because equipment to measure necessary data lost power, according to sources close to the matter.

The revelation shows that the so-called Emergency Response Support System and another key system for predicting the dispersal ofradioactive materials have been of little use during the ongoing crisis, raising concern about how the quake-prone country would respond in the event of another nuclear disaster.

It remains unclear when the crisis will come to an end, with the utility known as TEPCO saying that it will take at least six months before the utility can stabilize the plant's troubled reactors that have lost their cooling functions since the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami.

TEPCO is currently trying to restore stable cooling functions to the reactors and spent nuclear fuel pools of

the Nos. 1 to 4 units, and reducing the radiation level inside the No. 1 reactor building is seen as a key step toward that end as it would pave the way for workers to install equipment that would help create a cooling system.

"If we can find out how we can do things in the No. 1 reactor, I think we'll be able to apply a large part of the methods to the No. 3 reactor," Goshi Hosono, special adviser to Prime Minister Naoto Kan on the ongoing crisis at the plant, told a press conference jointly held with TEPCO and other government officials.

A TEPCO official said that running the ventilation system in the No. 1 reactor building for even one day is expected to "reduce quite a large" amount of radiation inside the building.

"We are expecting the radiation dose to become a twentieth," the official said.

While trying to improve the working environment inside the No. 1 reactor building, TEPCO is planning to fill the reactor's primary containment vessel with water to a level above the reactor fuel and possibly install an air-cooling device to take heat from the water that is expected to circulate around the reactor.

Reactor fuel is placed inside a pressure vessel, which is contained in a round-bottomed, flask-shaped primary containment vessel. Each reactor building houses these vessels.

So far, water has been injected into the pressure vessel from outside to keep the reactor cool, but TEPCO has decided that taking the unprecedented step of flooding the containment vessel with enough water to immerse the pressure vessel would cool the fuel more efficiently.

As for the No. 2 unit, TEPCO is planning to install a device to reduce the high humidity that has been detected at its reactor building before starting air ventilation.

TEPCO is aiming to restore stable cooling to the reactors and spent fuel pools of the Nos. 1 to 4 units in about three months, based on the restoration road map for the plant unveiled by the company on April 17.

Hosono said that the government and TEPCO have decided to hold a press conference on May 17 to assess the progress made in line with the road map and update its content.

Japan: 68 Ex-Bureaucrats Given Exec Posts at Power Firms Tokyo, May 3 (Jiji Press) -- A total of 68 top energy affairs bureaucrats have become executives and advisers at 12 Japanese power companies after their retirement over the past 50 years, according to recent government data.

05/03/2011

The figure was provided by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, at a time when the "amakudari (descent from heaven)" practice of METI elite bureaucrats taking lucrative postretirement positions at Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501>, now at the center of Japan's worst nuclear crisis, and other electricity suppliers is drawing renewed public attention.

METI's amakudari probe covered current and past power firm executives who were ranking officials of the ministry and its predecessors, such as the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, as well as the ministry's Natural Resources and Energy Agency and Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

The 12 firms are Tokyo Electric, Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Tohoku Electric Power Co., Hokuriku Electric Power Co., Chubu Electric Power Co., Kansai Electric Power Co., Chugoku Electric Power Co., Shikoku Electric Power Co., Kyushu Electric Power Co., Okinawa Electric Power Co., Japan Atomic Power Co., and Electric Power Development Co., better known as J-Power.

The probe also found that former bureaucrats had served as president at Hokkaido Electric, Okinawa Electric and J-Power and that 13 of the total still remain in office.

The government has instructed METI bureaucrats not to assume posts at power companies after retirement, in view of growing criticisms that the amakudari practice, a symbol of cozy ties between authorities and companies, led to the ministry's lax supervision of the industry's nuclear safety management.

Following the instruction, Toru Ishida, former chief of Japan's Natural Resources and Energy Agency, resigned as Tokyo Electric adviser at the end of April.

Japan: French Areva Will Decontaminate, Recycle Paris lefigaro.fr 20 Apr 11 The French nuclear group will isolate radioactive elements.

04/21/2011

Fukushima's Radioactive Water	<p>Areva is flying to the rescue of Japanese nuclear power industry. The French group will provide a "high-capacity purification plant" to clean up the 70,000 metric tons of radioactive water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant, Areva CEO Anne Lauvergeon announced in Tokyo yesterday. Already used at Marcoule [nuclear fuel production facility in southeast France] and La Hague [Areva fuel reprocessing facility in northwest France], this coprecipitation method allows for isolating and recovering radioactive elements by injecting specific chemicals. Enough "to reduce the level of radioactivity in the treated water 1,000 to 10,000 times," which can then be "reused in the plant's cooling circuits," according to Anne Lauvergeon. "We have not negotiated the price," she added, saying that she "trusts" her Japanese counterparts to work with Areva later on the financial aspects.</p>
-------------------------------	---

<p>Japan: System for Predicting Environmental Emergency Dose Information Useless in Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Accident</p>	<p>Tokyo Kyodo Clue III Online in Japanese 1128 GMT 18 Apr 11</p> <p>"Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Accident". SPEEDI Network System (Network System for Predicting Environmental Emergency Dose Information) scrutinized for failure to forecast spread of radioactive materials.</p> <p>Trump Card Useless in Emergency Disparity with Calculations by Foreign Authorities Also Providing Clarity</p> <p>The "Network System for Predicting Environmental Emergency Dose Information (SPEEDI Network System)" was regarded to be the trump card for predicting the spread of radioactive materials following the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. However, it was revealed on 18 April that the SPEEDI Network System has not been effective. The government invested huge amounts of public funds to build the system, and criticism is now mounting against the government for its inability to use the system in emergency situations and in the development of evacuation plans. The "disparity" with foreign authorities that have publicly released independent calculations is also casting strong doubts on the capability of the government to utilize information.</p> <p>Unable To Provide Forecasts</p> <p>SPEEDI is a tool that pertains to the "disaster prevention guidelines" stipulated by the Nuclear Safety Commission [NSC] for the disaster prevention activities of nuclear power facilities. It is supposed to "swiftly calculate the status of the spread of radioactive materials that have been released into the atmosphere and the predicted amount of radiation and also contribute to the disaster prevention countermeasures of the</p>
--	--

04/21/2011

nation and of local public groups."

However, with the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power accident, calculation results on the spread of radioactive materials have only been disclosed twice, once on 23 March and once on 11 April. The amount of radioactive materials already released and the distribution of those materials were calculated based on actual measurements after radioactive materials had spread. However, future forecasts were not possible because information pertaining to the nuclear reactors and the radioactive materials could not be procured. This type of information is necessary in making forecasts.

NSC Chairman Haruki Madarame claims that the system was constructed premised on information such as the amount of radioactive materials that are released, but he acknowledged the inadequacies of the system and stated, "It can't be used when (there is an insufficient amount of information) as was the case this time." The Disaster Provision Main Office of Fukushima Prefecture pointed out, "It's really unfortunate. If we had been able to obtain a reliable forecast, we could have avoided needless confusion in the evacuation of residents."

"Caused Confusion"

While an accurate forecast was not achieved, the SPEEDI Network System did implement calculations based on assumed conditions and suggested a propensity for dispersion with a certain degree of accuracy.

The Nuclear Safety Commission believes that a large amount of radioactive material was released with the explosion that occurred at reactor Unit 2 on 15 March. However, calculations were implemented the following day based on weather data for that day. The calculations were almost identical to actual measurements, and the results showed the spread of radioactive material primarily to the northwest of the nuclear power plant to locations such as Iitate-mura and Namie-machi of Fukushima Prefecture.

However, this information was not immediately released to the public.

When SPEEDI calculation results were first released on 23 March, NSC Chairman Madarame remarked, "I felt that announcing this information would only cause social unrest, so I was a bit hesitant." His distrust in the people of Japan who would receive that information was transparent.

The basis for raising the severity of the nuclear power plant accident to a "Level 7" in accordance with a tentative assessment based on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES) was the estimated amount of radioactive materials that had been released. The SPEEDI Network System was also used for this estimation, but the NSC was reluctant to disclose the information.

In contrast, meteorological and nuclear power authorities in Europe independently predicted the spread of radioactive materials from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant and released that information publicly on websites with added qualifications such as "The amount of radiation that has been released is unclear, and therefore this information may differ from the actual concentration of materials that have

been spread."

#### Under Pressure To Conduct a Drastic Review

However, when North Korea conducted nuclear weapons tests in 2006 and when Miyakejima erupted in 2000, forecasts by SPEEDI on the spread of radioactive materials and volcanic gases were aggressively released. The passiveness surrounding this domestic accident may very well invite accusations about considerations being made for those with ties to the "nuclear power village".

Development of the SPEEDI Network System was started over thirty years ago, and development and operation related costs have totaled roughly 12.8 billion yen with another roughly 770 million yen budget allocated for this fiscal year. The data is being shared with local governments, and local governments are providing funds to cover system maintenance costs and such. However, when relevant local governments needed the information the most, they were unable to obtain it.

Kyushu University Professor Hitoshi Yoshioka stated, "If maps showing the estimated spread of radioactive materials exist, those maps should be carefully explained and proactively released even if they lack some degree of credibility. It was decided that the people of Japan can't understand the information and the decision was made not to release that information out of concern about criticism against the nuclear power authorities." He added, "The government is now under pressure to conduct a drastic review because the system was not able to forecast the spread of radioactive materials, which is supposed to be a primary function of the system."

Japan: Tokyo Electric To  
Build New Seawalls for  
Kashiwazaki-Kariwa  
nuclear power plant

Niigata, April 21 (Jiji Press) -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501> said Thursday that it will build new tall concrete seawalls at its Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in Niigata Prefecture, central Japan.

04/21/2011

The seawalls will be designed to protect the plant's seven reactors from a tsunami of up to 15 meters high, similar to the one that followed the 9.0-magnitude earthquake and damaged the firm's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan on March 11.

Tokyo Electric Power hopes that the construction of the new seawalls for the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant will be completed in the first half of 2013.

The seawalls will be 3 to 10 meters high, and the top of the walls will be more than 15 meters above sea

level, company officials said.

At the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, the company will also prepare a reservoir that can store up to 2 tons of water used to cool reactors and spent fuel rods.

It is large enough to allow Tokyo Electric Power to supply water to all seven reactors for up to one month, the officials said.

Japan: Melted Nuclear Fuel Likely Settled at Bottom of Crippled Fukushima Reactors

Tokyo, April 15 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING INFO) Nuclear fuel inside the crippled reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant has partially melted and settled in granular form at the bottom of pressure vessels, according to an analysis by the Atomic Energy Society of Japan made public by Friday.

04/15/2011

As the nation's worst nuclear crisis drags on more than a month after it was triggered by the March 11 quake and tsunami, small amounts of plutonium have been detected for the third time in soil samples taken at the complex.

Also Friday, the plant operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., said it will pay up to 1 million yen to residents of each of the roughly 50,000 households within 30 kilometers of the plant who have been forced to evacuate their homes or remain indoors, as provisional compensation for the damage caused by the crisis.

The academic body's panel on nuclear energy safety has said the melted fuel at the Nos. 1 to 3 reactors has been kept at a relatively low temperature, discounting the possibility that a large amount of melted fuel has already built up at the bottom of the reactor vessels given the temperature readings there.

A large buildup of melted nuclear fuel could transform into a molten mass so hot that it could damage the critical containers and eventually leak huge amounts of radioactive materials.

The panel has also said that the fuel grains with a diameter of between several millimeters and 1 centimeter are believed to have settled evenly at the bottom of the vessels, leaving almost no possibility of a nuclear chain reaction called "recriticality." Takashi Sawada, deputy chairman of the group, assessed that even if the current stabilization efforts proceed smoothly, it would take at least two to three months for the

fuel to be stabilized with few if any radioactive emissions.

The panel also found that the fuel rods in the Nos. 1 to 3 reactors have been damaged after analyzing data made public by the plant operator, known as TEPCO, and the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, which comes under the wing of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The panel has assumed that the fuel has slowly melted and become granular as it was quenched when it fell into the cooling water and then settled at the bottom of the reactor pressure vessels.

Parts of the fuel rods in the Nos. 1 and 2 reactors have apparently been exposed, while those in the No. 3 reactor have been completely submerged in water, according to the panel.

Meanwhile, small amounts of plutonium believed to have been released as a result of the ongoing disaster have been detected in soil samples taken at the nuclear complex in Fukushima Prefecture, according to TEPCO.

It is the third time that traces of plutonium have been found in soil samples taken at the plant. The latest samples were taken on March 31 and April 4. The levels of plutonium in the samples were around the same levels observed in Japan following nuclear bomb tests conducted by other countries, according to the utility.

On Friday, workers continued their efforts to bring the reactors under control and stop radioactive leaks from the coastal plant, injecting more nitrogen gas into the No. 1 reactor and installing more steel plates near a seawater intake for the No. 2 reactor.

TEPCO said it will throw sandbags containing zeolite, a mineral that absorbs radioactive materials, into the sea near the plant, possibly on Friday, to reduce the levels of contamination in the Pacific Ocean.

The nitrogen injection is aimed at preventing a hydrogen explosion at the No. 1 reactor. At a news conference on Friday, spokesman Hidehiko Nishiyama said his agency is also considering injecting nitrogen into the two other troubled reactors soon.

The agency said, meanwhile, that pressure inside the No. 1 reactor has dropped somewhat, an indication that air inside the reactor has leaked outside, but that no major changes in radiation levels have been

detected.

The utility has pumped out around 660 tons of highlyradioactive water from a tunnel connected to the No. 2reactor's turbine building into a container inside the building.

The operation resulted in a lower water level in the vertical part of the tunnel, but the agency said that as of Friday morning the level had risen back to the same level as before the water transfer started on Tuesday.

The water filling the tunnel is feared to have come from thereactor, into which TEPCO has been injecting fresh water to keep fuel rods inside from overheating.

Removing the highly contaminated water that has flooded the basements of the Nos. 1 to 3reactor turbine buildings and adjacent tunnels is seen as key to restoring critical cooling systems for the damaged reactors, which were lost in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The utility plans to divert the tainted water to a plant facility fornuclear waste disposal, but plumbing work was still being conducted there to ensure there would be no leaks in pipes.

"I'm hoping that work to stop water leaks at the (facility) is finished as soon as possible to start channeling the water there," said industry minister Banri Kaieda at a news conference on Friday.

The accumulated water is believed to be an unintended side effect of TEPCO's stopgap measure of injecting water into the reactors and their spentnuclear fuel pools to prevent them from overheating.

Japan: Fukushima  
accident boosted to level  
7 of global INES scale

The Daily Yomiuri(Tokyo), April 13, 2011 Wednesday

04/15/2011

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency raised the provisional severity level of the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant on Tuesday to the worst rating of seven on an international scale, equivalent to that of the 1986 Chernobyl crisis.

The agency had previously rated the accident as a five.

The agency, under the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry, said the amount of radioactive material, calculated based on the reactors' estimated condition, reached "more than several tens of thousands of terabecquerels."

A terabecquerel equals 1 trillion becquerels.

The level is defined as a "major accident" under the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES), or the highest level on its scale from zero to seven.

According to the agency, the total amount of iodine-131 and cesium-137 emitted between March 11 and at 11 a.m. Tuesday reached 370,000 terabecquerels according to the reactors' estimated condition. Within this assessment, cesium levels were converted to their equivalent in iodine-131 levels.

Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission, meanwhile, announced Tuesday that the total amount of iodine and cesium emitted between March 11 and April 5 was 630,000 terabecquerels (again, with cesium levels converted to the iodine equivalent), calculated according to the amount of radiation observed around the facility.

"The total amount of radioactive materials emitted thus far is equal to about 10 percent of that released in the Chernobyl accident. The amount of radiation exposure is small," said Agency spokesman Hidehiko Nishiyama.

According to the commission, the current volume of radioactivity being emitted is about one-ten thousandth of that monitored at its peak.

The agency decided to raise the INES level not only because of the calculated radiative material released into the atmosphere but also because of the widespread ramifications of the accident.

Effect on health, environment

By Kyoichi Sasazawa

Yomiuri Shimbun Staff Writer

For an incident to be rated on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES), it is assessed by the nuclear supervisory authorities in the nation where it occurred and is then reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In Japan, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency is in charge of the assessment.

Last month, the nuclear safety agency provisionally rated the Fukushima crisis at level 5. However, domestic and international experts argued the provisional level should be 6 or higher based on the facts that high levels of radiation were measured around the facility and significant amounts of radioactive material had escaped.

In the Chernobyl crisis, about 5.2 million terabecquerels of radioactive material was emitted into the air in the space of 10 days.

The amount of radioactive material aerially emitted from the Fukushima No. 1 plant right after the accident was about 10 percent of that of Chernobyl. But the scale of the Fukushima accident still stands out among other nuclear power accidents that have happened around the world.

Also, a large volume of radioactive material has been dumped into the sea in the current incident. Since work to bring the situation under control has run into one complication after another, an end to the crisis could be months or even a year away, with the amount of nuclear leakage increasing.

The assessed INES level reflects negative impacts on health and the environment. It will be important to carefully monitor the incidence of leukemia and cancer as well as soil contamination. The crisis also could strongly affect the international image of Japan.

Japan, U.S. To Reaffirm  
Cooperation in  
Overcoming Nuclear Crisis

Tokyo, April 15 Kyodo -- Japan and the United States are set to reaffirm their cooperation in efforts to contain the ongoing nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi atomic power station, when U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton makes a half-day trip to Tokyo on Sunday, Japanese officials said Friday.

04/15/2011

Clinton, who will be visiting Japan for the third time as secretary of state, is expected to express continued U.S. support for Japan's efforts to rebuild following the devastating March 11 earthquake and ensuing tsunami, and to discuss with Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Foreign Minister Takeaki Matsumoto ways to deepen the Japan-U.S. security alliance, they said.

She will not tour areas devastated by the March 11 quake and tsunami as earlier planned but will attend a tea party hosted by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the officials said.

Matsumoto told a press conference Friday that he hopes to tell Clinton that the Japan-U.S. partnership in disaster relief activities has "greatly encouraged Japan." Washington mobilized more than 20,000 personnel, around 160 aircraft and 20 vessels from the U.S. military for relief activities under Operation Tomodachi, named after the Japanese word for friend.

Matsumoto, who assumed his post shortly before the disasters hit the country, also said he expects to foster a trusting relationship with Clinton.

The United States has also dispatched a rescue team to Iwate Prefecture, and nuclear experts and items to tackle the Fukushima crisis, including fire trucks, pumps, radiation protection suits, barges to carry freshwater to cool reactors at the plant and boron to prevent nuclear criticality.

The foreign minister said he believes the knowledge offered by technical experts from the U.S. nuclear industry has effectively helped Japan in dealing with the Fukushima crisis.

Japan's Other Nuclear  
Disaster: Rikkasho

Forbes, April 25, 2011

04/15/2011

In many ways the 11,000 villagers in Rikkasho, on the northeastern tip of Japan's main island, are blessed. While other towns in the remote region are run-down and financially strapped, Rikkasho boasts gleaming public buildings, immaculate recreation facilities and free picture-phones in every home. Rare in a land of massive public debt, its government has a \$100 million surplus. At \$170,000 per capita income is triple Tokyo's.

The reason for Rikkasho's good fortune is its decision three decades ago to host a nuclear waste dump, as well as uranium enrichment and plutonium reprocessing plants. When the plans were hatched in the 1980s, Japan was the economic wonder of the world, and Rikkasho was held up as a "dream project."

Spearheaded by Japan's political and power industry bosses, it was envisioned as harnessing the nation's technical and financial prowess to complete the nuclear fuel cycle—a circuit in which conventional nuke plants, fast-breeder reactors and Rikkasho's recycling facilities would create inexhaustible energy.

These days the dream project looks more like a study in how overwrought ambition and money politics created a financial nightmare. Rikkasho is operated by Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd. (JNFL), an industry consortium led by Tokyo Electric Power Co., owner of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi plant. Up to now it has remained in the testing stage and taken delivery of what is believed to be only a small amount of waste.

The power industry's plan to send many tons of spent fuel to Rikkasho from its 54 domestic nuclear plants has been scuttled by 18 safety-related delays so far in the start of uranium reprocessing. The delays, in turn, have left Japan's nuke plants sitting on 13,000 tons of waste. Unless Rikkasho begins reprocessing, they could run out of storage capacity within a matter of years. JNFL now hopes to begin reprocessing in October 2012—after spending another \$2.5 billion. Plutonium reprocessing and fast-breeder reactors, which other nations have largely abandoned, are more doubtful still.

That was true even before the Mar. 11 earthquake set off a nuclear crisis at the Fukushima plant, halfway between Rokkasho and Tokyo. Under a nuclear policy review ordered by Prime Minister Naoto Kan, Rokkasho is likely to get a close look; one type of fuel it aims to produce, mixed oxides of uranium and plutonium, or mox, was introduced into Fukushima's No. 3 reactor last year and is a top contamination concern.

One thing that's not reviewable is the money already consumed by Rokkasho. Costs have exceeded estimates by threefold and stand at \$27.5 billion. Billions more would be needed to fulfill its early ambitions.

How did Rokkasho avoid the fate of both Nevada's stalled Yucca Mountain dump and a plutonium reprocessing plan President Obama killed in 2009? Beginning in the 1980s the power industry harnessed local support for development in a place that village vice chairman Takegoro Takada says was known as "Japan's Manchuria" for its remoteness.

As Rokkasho boomed doubters were marginalized. Retired fisherman Yosaburo Takada, 86, is one of the few remaining. His antinuke lawsuits went nowhere. His son has been blackballed from jobs. A four-time mayoral candidate, Takada most recently ran in 2002 after the previous mayor committed suicide amid a construction scandal. Takada garnered 170 votes to 5,140 for current pro-nuke Mayor Kenji Furukawa.

"We couldn't win against the power of the state and money," Takada says.

Mayor Furukawa and JNFL officials referred queries to pro-nuke village councilman Fumio Takahashi.

"Because of Fukushima, antinuclear movements may grow again," he says, "but we should focus more on safety issues." That view may be tested even in Rokkasho. Talk is that potentially unstable waste from Fukushima may be sent its way.

Japan: Tokyo Electric To  
Build Tsunami Barrier at  
Kashiwazaki-Kariwa  
Nuclear Plant

Tokyo, April 7 (Jiji Press) -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Thursday it will build a wave-barrier wall at a major nuclear power plant in Niigata Prefecture, central Japan, to prevent tsunami damage to reactor buildings.

04/07/2011

The company will install the bulwark to protect the No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 reactors at its Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power station in the wake of the ongoing crisis at its Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, which was damaged by the March 11 quake and tsunami.

It has yet to be determined how high the barrier will be and when construction will start. But the design will

account for a tsunami of similar size as the one that crippled the northeastern Japan plant.

It will be the first such barrier Tokyo Electric Power builds at a nuclear power complex.

While the company has reinforced all seven reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant to prevent tsunami damage, a company official said that it intends to protect backup power sources and other facilities with the new barrier.

Tokyo Electric Power decided on the wall for the four reactors first because they are located five meters above sea level, lower than the No. 5, 6 and 7 reactors, which are 12 meters above sea level, according to the company.

Japan: Construction of Nuclear Fuel Storage Facility To Be Resumed

Aomori, Japan, April 7 Kyodo -- Recyclable-Fuel Storage Co. said Thursday it will resume peripheral construction work Monday for a facility for intermediate storage of spent nuclear fuel in Mutsu, Aomori Prefecture.

04/07/2011

The company, which is 80 percent owned by Tokyo Electric Power Co., has suspended the construction since the March 11 earthquake and tsunami triggered a crisis at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The company attributed the suspension to materials shortages after the disaster and noted that the resumption comes as materials distribution has been stabilized.

But the firm said it is uncertain when to resume construction of the facility itself as its safety against quakes and tsunami waves must be confirmed. The facility is now planned to start operations in July 2012.

The company noted the facility will store only sound spent nuclear fuel rods excluding broken ones at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

Japan Set To Integrate Two Nuclear Oversight Units Into One Powerful Regulatory Body

Tokyo Mainichi Daily News Online 1344 GMT 06 Apr 11

The Japanese government has started considering merging its two nuclear units to form a more powerful body resembling the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to regulate the nation's nuclear power plants in the wake of the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant.

04/07/2011

The envisaged new regulatory body, consisting of nuclear experts, will be completely independent from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which promotes the nation's energy policy based on nuclear power generation.

Under the plan, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, formed in 2001, will be separated from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and integrated into the Cabinet Office's Nuclear Safety Commission, which was launched in 1978.

Under the current system, the Nuclear Safety Commission examines the safety of nuclear reactors and advises the government in times of nuclear accidents, while the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency deploys nuclear inspectors to nuclear power plants and oversees the operations of nuclear facilities.

But in regards to the crisis at the nuclear power plant in Fukushima, critics say the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency "could not properly supervise the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO)'s handling of the accident" and the Nuclear Safety Commission "could not fully perform its functions to advise the government."

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency is an external bureau of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and personnel exchanges take place regularly between them, and therefore it has been under fire for "not being able to properly supervise because the promoting side and the regulating side are not clearly separated."

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency has about 790 staff members including local inspectors and clerical workers, but the experience of nuclear experts at the agency is not as deep as that of power companies, which have a number of employees who have studied nuclear engineering at graduate schools.

"There are inspectors who learn expertise from power companies. That is something like students supervising teachers," said a senior official of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The status of the Nuclear Safety Commission is equal to a government council formed under Article 8 of National Government Organization Law. It has five commissioners who have a thorough knowledge of nuclear power generation and about 100 staff members.

In the United States, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was created in 1974 to regulate commercial nuclear power plants and other uses of nuclear materials. It has about 4,000 staff members and its independency from the government is guaranteed by law. Following the NRC model, the government is expected to consider forming a powerful regulatory body resembling the Fair Trade Commission under Article 3 of National Government Organization Law.

Regarding regulations on the safety of nuclear reactors, Mizuho Fukushima, head of the Social Democratic Party, urged Prime Minister Naoto Kan on March 30 to separate the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Kan replied, "It will be discussed in the future."

Japan: Ex-governor blasts Japan Times, 2011-04-07

Tepco's cozy ties

Earthquakes and tsunami are unavoidable natural events, but the ongoing disaster at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant was induced by "human errors" stemming from cozy ties between bureaucrats and Tokyo Electric Power Co., former Fukushima Gov. Eisaku Sato told The Japan Times on Wednesday.

Sato, who served five terms from 1988 to 2006, said the inappropriate relationship between government bureaus and the utility often resulted in them burying major troubles, including cracks in reactors and safety shortcomings at Tepco's two nuclear plants in the prefecture.

"Their improper bond means that no one was keeping an eye on Tepco," Sato, 71, said, adding it ultimately led to the inadequate preparations for the March 11 disaster.

The first hint Sato had of inept supervision at the nuclear plants was in January 1989. Tepco, despite being aware for weeks that one of the reactor coolant pumps at the Fukushima No. 2 nuclear plant was malfunctioning, did not report the trouble to prefectural authorities.

Sato said he quickly filed a complaint with the old Ministry of International Trade and Industry over a development he felt endangered the public. But Tepco only received a slap on the wrist and the power plant was back up and running after a temporary shutdown.

Sato was prompted to take further action in 2002, when a whistle-blower claimed Tepco was hiding malfunctions and cracks in reactors at both Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2.

"It turned out that the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency had received the same insider information —

04/06/2011

but in 2000, two years before we did," Sato said. And yet the nuclear safety watchdog, under the wing of MITI's successor, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, not only overlooked the accusation and failed to inform prefectural authorities, it even gave Tepco a heads up.

A NISA official told The Japan Times that at the time, such tips were handled by the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy. "There were some mistakes in how to handle the matter, and I've heard that the tip was actually passed on to Tepco," he acknowledged.

The incident resulted in the resignation of some Tepco executives and a temporary shutdown of all 17 of its nuclear reactors. But no one from METI took responsibility.

"That's when I learned that METI, NISA and Tepco were all part of the same gang," Sato said, adding this prompted him to set up an office in the prefectural government to handle tips from insiders regarding the nuclear plants.

From 2002 until Sato's resignation as governor, the team received 21 anonymous tips. "It was mostly a cry for help," Sato said. Some whistle-blowers complained about a wrecked turbine that went unreported.

Others warned of the lack of safety on-site measures.

"The tsunami danger was obviously an issue on the table," Sato said, stressing seismologists were pointing to past evidence of mega-earthquakes that could prove catastrophic. "But you have to ask how serious NISA was doing its job, considering the way that backup electricity was easily knocked out by the waves."

Following March 11, there is finally talk of separating NISA from METI to keep Tepco on a short leash. But Sato said an overhaul of the system and new safety measures will be required before evacuees can safely return home.

"There is a nightmare going on in the evacuation camps," Sato said. "Separating NISA and METI is just the first step — overhauling Tepco's operations and supervision is necessary."

Sato resigned in 2006 and was handed a suspended prison term in 2008 by the Tokyo District Court in connection with a bribery case involving a public works project. That verdict was upheld in 2009 and he has appealed with the Supreme Court.

Japan: TEPCO Worker on Control Failures and the Culture of Silence

Der Spiegel, 2011-04-05

04/06/2011

A Tokyo Electrical Power Company worker talks about the lack of controls on his company's nuclear power plants, its corporate culture of silence and TEPCO's reaction to the catastrophe.

A Tokyo Electrical Power Company (TEPCO) worker has spoken out over the firm's power plant control

failures and culture of silence. This text is based on a phone interview conducted in Japanese. Because he distrusts the Japanese media, the TEPCO employee had spoken to a blogger, who then passed the story on to SPIEGEL. The magazine knows which department the employee works in and has verified his identity.

"If my colleagues knew I was speaking with the press, they would despise me for it. My boss would certainly dismiss me. Therefore, I must remain anonymous.

I have worked for TEPCO for a long time, and always considered it to be a good company. But now when I go to work, I see everywhere -- on trains, on the streets -- the headlines on the illuminated adverts for magazines: "TEPCO is bad, bad, bad." That rankles because I know how much criticism it really deserves. It is time to speak out. In my opinion, TEPCO bears responsibility for the accident in Fukushima, but the state is just as guilty.

#### Regulations not Clear Enough

The media says that TEPCO had become entrenched on nuclear power. But that's not true. Initially the state was the driving force behind the introduction and expansion of nuclear power. When the power plants were built, many of the safety regulations were not clear enough. And the state, set on the development of nuclear power, laid them out in favor of the nuclear industry.

I know that new geo-scientific knowledge on earthquakes and tsunamis were ignored. In 2009, a research institute warned of the consequences of a disaster of equal magnitude to what has happened now. But the officials of the nuclear supervisory authority, NISA, didn't take it seriously.

In any case, controls in Japan don't work. NISA falls under the control of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which also seeks to promote nuclear power. Isn't it strange that the same authority both supervises and promotes nuclear plants?

Moreover, the nuclear scientists from industry and NISA know each other all too well. The circle of nuclear scientists is very small, and many have studied together. I have witnessed this in the workplace myself.

#### TEPCO's 'Atomic Village'

The nuclear department at TEPCO is already a very special group, forming a closed world. Some call it the "atomic village" -- a separate company within a company. On the practical level, there is almost no exchange between the "atomic village" and other TEPCO departments.

This closed village has until now been allowed to hide data and test reports from nuclear power plants; to falsify and invent. For that reason, the president and the vice director resigned in 2002. The new head of TEPCO tried to open up the "atomic village" through transfers and restructuring, but everything is basically

just the same.

The disaster in Fukushima must lead to TEPCO being cleaned up. Otherwise the company cannot survive.

Throughout the company, the mood is tense and the managers are very nervous. Their meetings used to take place once a month. Now they meet together every morning, even in the branch offices.

Every day my managing committee publishes a message on the company intranet which is meant to cheer us up.

Employees from across the company are now being sent to Fukushima, even if they do not belong to the nuclear division. They are assistants who are trying to reconnect power to the plant. Many are working in radioactive environments for the first time, with protective clothing and a breathing mask. Often there's something mentioned about them on the intranet.

Until recently, I didn't know anyone personally who had to go there, it was always acquaintances or friends. But this week, a friend of mine was sent there. He told me that he had not volunteered, that it was an order. He has no idea what he'll be doing there."

Japan: U.N. expert sees no serious Fukushima health impact

2011-04-06 VIENNA (Reuters) - Japan's nuclear accident is not expected to have any serious impact on people's health, based on the information available now, the head of a U.N. scientific body said on Wednesday.

04/06/2011

Wolfgang Weiss, chairman of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), also said the Fukushima disaster was less dramatic than Chernobyl in 1986 but much more serious than Three Mile Island in 1979.

"It is in between in terms of environmental effects, not in terms of health impact," Weiss told reporters.

While after Chernobyl in the then Soviet Union, people in villages continued to ingest radioactive iodine that had contaminated milk and vegetables, those living near the crippled Fukushima plant were evacuated, he said.

"From what I have seen now, from the information I have now, I would not expect anything ... serious," he said, when asked about the possible health consequences as a result of Fukushima.

"In food people are talking about levels which would give you 1 millisieverts per year, five millisieverts per year ... this is nothing where we would expect major health impacts."

Radiation is measured using the unit sievert, which quantifies the amount absorbed by human tissues.

But Weiss, saying the committee would look into the Japanese situation, stressed the emergency was not yet over.

He spoke after Japan earlier on Wednesday stopped highly radioactive water leaking into the sea from the severely damaged nuclear power plant.

Despite the breakthrough, experts in the country said the damaged reactors were far from being under control almost a month after they were hit by a massive earthquake and tsunami.

Weiss said: "We have seen traces of iodine in the air all over the world now but they are much, much, much lower than traces we have seen at similar distances after Chernobyl."

Fred Mettler, another member of UNSCEAR, said radioactive exposure to people was less after Fukushima than at Chernobyl partly because the Japanese plant was located next to the sea.

In Chernobyl, hundreds of people received very high doses of radioactivity, including about 135 who got acute radiation sickness, Mettler added.

"We haven't seen any of that at Fukushima so the early management by the Japanese here is very different from what happened at Chernobyl," Mettler said.

Weiss praised Japanese authorities for starting to implement thyroid screening for children.

"The only proven effect after Chernobyl was thyroid cancer in children," he said. But he said all measurements so far in Japan were below accepted levels in the country.

Japan: Fukushima Plant

TOKYO, April 6, 2011 (AFP) - Workers at Japan's crippled atomic power plant on Wednesday plugged a hole

04/06/2011

Workers Plug Hole  
Spewing Radioactive  
Water Into Ocean

spewing highly radioactive water into the ocean, boosting efforts to contain the world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

But in an illustration of how fragile progress is at the Fukushima plant, operator Tokyo Electric Power said it was concerned a build-up of hydrogen gas at a different reactor could cause another explosion at the site.

The water leak was thought to be a source of spiking radiation levels in the sea, which prompted Japan to announce its first seafood radiation safety standards following the discovery of fish with high levels of contamination.

TEPCO workers had injected sodium silicate, a chemical agent known as "water glass", to solidify soil near a cracked pit where water was escaping into the Pacific.

The pit, which has a 20-centimetre (8-inch) crack in its wall, is linked to the plant's reactor No. 2, one of several that had their cooling systems disabled by a catastrophic earthquake-tsunami disaster on March 11.

"Workers confirmed at 5:38 am (2038 GMT Tuesday) that the water running out of a pit had stopped," TEPCO said in a statement on Wednesday.

Several unsuccessful attempts had been made to try to stop the leak, including an effort to seal the crack with cement.

Despite the rare sign of progress at the plant, shares in TEPCO continued to tumble on Wednesday, closing down 6.9 percent at 337 yen, a new record low, amid expectations of huge compensation claims.

TEPCO, whose shares have lost around 85 percent of their pre-quake value, has said it may need state help to meet claims some analysts say could reach 10 trillion yen (\$118 billion).

On Wednesday, the government promised compensation for the fishing industry, a day after increasing unease about the contamination led it to impose a legal limit for radioactive iodine in seafood for the first time.

Levels of radioactive iodine-131 and caesium in seawater immediately outside the plant have spiked, raising

fears over marine life in a country whose diet depends heavily on seafood.

Fishing has been banned within 20 kilometres (13 miles) of the stricken plant, matching the radius of the evacuation zone on land.

TEPCO officials are also concerned that a hydrogen build-up in the housing around reactor No. 1 could react violently with oxygen, creating an explosion.

On Wednesday they announced plans to begin introducing nitrogen, an inert gas abundant in the atmosphere, which they hope will displace the oxygen.

"We are considering injecting nitrogen into the container of the reactor number 1 because hydrogen gas has possibly accumulated in the container," a TEPCO official said.

Public broadcaster NHK, citing unnamed sources, said TEPCO could start nitrogen injection at reactor number 1 on Wednesday evening and was mulling the same procedure at reactors 2 and 3.

In the days after the earthquake and tsunami crippled the plant, large explosions resulted from hydrogen accumulation near the reactors, damaging the outer buildings housing them.

A 20-kilometre exclusion zone around the plant has forced tens of thousands of people to evacuate.

The plant has emitted radioactive material into the air, contaminating drinking water and farm produce, with radioactive iodine above legal limits detected in vegetables, dairy products and mushrooms.

Nuclear concerns continue to distract from the March 11 disaster that has left more than 12,000 dead and over 15,000 missing.

TEPCO continued a separate operation to release 11,500 tonnes of lower-level radioactive water into the sea to free up urgently needed storage space for water so toxic that it is hampering crucial repair work.

Nuclear safety agency spokesman Hidehiko Nishiyama said the bulk of the water -- around 10,400 tonnes -- had now been released.

Ikuhiro Hattori, the head of Japan Fisheries Cooperatives, on Wednesday visited TEPCO headquarters to protest at the dumping, calling it "unforgivable."

Meanwhile, new government figures showed the crisis has slashed the number of foreigners travelling to Japan's two main airports by two-thirds to a daily average of just over 5,000.

The wider economic fallout from the quake, tsunami and nuclear crisis is likely to drive the country into recession in the coming months, many economists now say.

The government is planning a first emergency budget of more than three trillion yen (\$35 billion), Kyodo news agency reported, quoting ruling party politicians saying total spending could top 10 trillion yen.

Japan: Human factor  
caused Fukushima  
catastrophe -  
ex-Chernobyl deputy  
head

MOSCOW. April 6 (Interfax) - The operator company's indecision and slowness caused the disaster at the Fukushima nuclear power plant to become a catastrophe, ex-deputy head of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant Alexander Kovalenko told Interfax.

"In my opinion, the operator company's confusion and lack of action caused a nuclear accident of medium severity to deteriorate into a real catastrophe," said Kovalenko, who was in charge of the information and international relations department of the government commission for dealing with the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

"It was neither an earthquake nor a tsunami wave that caused the reactor disaster at the Fukushima nuclear power plant. It was the human factor, as at Chernobyl," he said.

"The main difference between Fukushima and Chernobyl is in that the Japanese government and nuclear energy experts disregarded the information and organizational-technical lessons of Chernobyl. They were unjustifiably slow to react and failed to make real-time decisions," Kovalenko said.

A powerful earthquake in Armenia two years after Chernobyl could have caused a scenario similar to the Japanese one, he said.

"I will open one secret. A situation similar to the one in Japan emerged in the Soviet Union when an earthquake measuring 8 points struck Armenia at 11:41 a.m. on December 7 1988, he said.

Almost all personnel left the station when the earthquake began. In the absence of operating and repair staff the danger of reactor overheating arose.

04/06/2011

"The Soviet government and Nuclear Energy Ministry immediately switched personnel from other nuclear power plants to Armenia, mostly from the Kola nuclear power plant," he said.

Water supplies, needed for cooling the active zone, were restored in a few hours, using various ways, including fire engines, Kovalenko said.

"The situation was brought back to normal quickly, which helped prevent a disaster similar to the one that has befallen the Fukushima nuclear power plant. Official reports indicate that after the nuclear disaster in Japan, the personnel left the station at an official order, not of their own accord, he said.

This decision was made in Japan because pressure was growing inside the power plant and radiation levels rose, Kovalenko said, "which suggests that the personnel were watching the imminent danger from a safe distance. As a result, the water level dropped sharply, pressure started growing inside the reactors, leading to explosions and outbursts, and the radiation levels rose catastrophically," the expert said.

The work to restore electricity supplies, using mobile power plants, began at the first and second generating units as late as March 14, when the disaster deteriorated into a catastrophe, he said.

Japan: Hitachi To Review Nuclear Power Business Plan Through FY 2030

Tokyo, April 6 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING DETAILS) Hitachi Ltd. President Hiroaki Nakanishi said Wednesday the company plans to review its goal of winning orders by fiscal 2030 for 38 nuclear power generation projects in the wake of the nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima Prefecture.

04/06/2011

But Nakanishi stressed the company will continue promoting the nuclear power business, though it could face a drastic review on the business which the company has placed as a core of its growth by teaming up with U.S. conglomerate General Electric Co.

"It is natural to review the plan, as the nuclear power business will not be viable without more certain long-term prospects," Nakanishi said in an interview with Kyodo News and other media.

He also said that the company is likely to revise downward its goal of posting sales of 380 billion yen in fiscal 2020 in the nuclear power business.

But Nakanishi indicated Hitachi will continue to place importance on the nuclear power business.

"It is impossible for Japan to stop using nuclear power generation at all from the perspective of its energy policy," he said.

He added that Hitachi's products continue to draw interest from overseas even after the disaster.

Hitachi is a supplier of the crisis-hit Fukushima Daiichinuclear plant's No. 4reactor, which was undergoing regular inspection and not operating when the massive earthquake and tsunami struck the complex on March 11.

To promote thenuclear power business, Nakanishi said that finding ways to guarantee the safe operation ofnuclear plants is key.

As a manufacturer ofnuclear power generation equipment, "We have to come up with safeguards which work even when tsunami at the level (equivalent to the one which hit the Fukushima plant) or higher hits the plant," Nakanishi said.

Meanwhile, he denied the company will face any liability despite its involvement in the development of onereactor at the troublednuclear plant.

"There is no violation of rules and we are not considering (such liability) at all," he said.

Nakanishi said that negative impacts on the company's operations from the devastating quake would affect its full-year consolidated earnings ended March.

"It is far from a small amount," Nakanishi said. "It will eat away a considerable amount of profits." On ways to cope with restrictions of power consumption which could be imposed by the government this summer, Nakanishi said the company plans to take various steps including strengthening of emergency and in-house power generation.

Japan: the aftermath

Lancet, March 26, 2011 - April 1, 2011

03/31/2011

Health and aid workers in Japan face multiple challenges in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami that have devastated the country's northeast coast. Justin McCurry reports from Tokyo.

In the immediate aftermath, the aid and medical response to the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on March 11 has been complicated by the sheer scale of the devastation, widespread damage to supply routes, and concerns about radiation leaks from a stricken nuclear power plant.

As emergency supplies of fuel, water, food, blankets, and other essentials finally began to get through to the estimated 350,000 people living in 2500 evacuation centres in the northeast of the island, officials were issuing reassurances about food, milk, and tap water found to have been contaminated with radioactive iodine-133.

Just over 1 week after the magnitude 9.0 earthquake unleashed a powerful tsunami that washed away entire communities on the coasts of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures, Japan is only just beginning to comprehend the scale of the humanitarian crisis in its midst.

Japan's police agency says that the death toll has reached 8649, with 12,877 people still missing. But with authorities in Miyagi reporting more than 15,000 people missing in their jurisdiction alone, the final total is expected to be much higher.

1 million homes are still without water, and the quake and tsunami destroyed more than 14,000 buildings and damaged 100,000 more. The disaster has inflicted serious damage on the region's health infrastructure. Many hospitals collapsed or were flooded, and doctors, nurses, and other health workers are either among the victims or living in evacuation shelters.

One of the defining characteristics of the tragedy is the large number of elderly victims and survivors. More than 20% of Japan's population is 65 years or older, and is about 30% in remote areas such as those struck by the quake and tsunami. Many of those who were able to flee the tsunami are battling for survival in cramped conditions with insufficient food, water, and heating and, in the most serious cases, without life-saving drugs.

The case of Senen General Hospital in Takajo, a town in Miyagi prefecture, is typical of other medical facilities in the tsunami zone. About half the 100 patients were severely ill before the calamity, and the remaining 80 have been transferred to shelters. For the first few days after the disaster the hospital had no running water and patients survived on frozen noodles and vegetables retrieved from a damaged freezer. Employees at other hospitals have reported similarly desperate conditions, with the lack of water the most

pressing concern. In some areas, non-critical patients have been transferred to hotels or are being treated in corridors and cafeterias. Although some hospitals are still using existing drug stocks and other medical supplies, others have run out or are running low. At a hospital in Futaba, just 10 km from the power plant, troops discovered 128 elderly patients, some of them comatose, who seemed to have been left to fend for themselves by medical staff. 14 patients died, two of them on a bus while they were being taken to an evacuation centre.

Yet the humanitarian and health crises have been overshadowed by fears surrounding the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, 150 miles north of Tokyo. All six of its reactors have had failures of their cooling systems, raising fears of a meltdown that could release radioactive material over a wide area.

The team of technicians, firefighters, and soldiers working around the clock to make the plant safe are at greatest risk of being exposed to dangerous levels of radiation. But the threat of meltdown—however remote—and evidence that small amounts of radiation have leaked into the atmosphere and the food supply, sparked an additional health scare this week.

Government officials and international health experts were quick to reassure the public that tainted milk, spinach, and other vegetables produced in the Fukushima area would have to be consumed in enormous quantities to pose a health risk. But that has not stopped the government from considering the distribution of potassium iodide tablets—which can prevent radioactive iodine-131 from being absorbed by the thyroid gland, causing cancer. The tablets were the target of panic-buying sprees in the USA and elsewhere, prompting WHO to offer advice on how to avoid radiation and when to take potassium iodide pills. WHO said that the contaminated products posed no threat to health but described the radiation scare as "serious", given that it had spread well beyond the 30 km exclusion zone to farms as far as 90 miles from the atomic power plant. Abnormally high quantities of iodine-131 and caesium-137, another radioactive material, have also been identified in tap water in Tokyo, though again, in quantities too small to pose a threat to health, officials said.

Map showing regions most affected by the earthquake and tsunami as of March 16

Iodine-131 decays within a matter of weeks, but can pose a short-term risk to health, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency. "There is a short-term risk to human health if radioactive iodine food is absorbed into the human body", the agency said. "If ingested, it can accumulate in and cause damage to

the thyroid. Children and young people are particularly at risk."

A potentially greater concern is caesium-137, which caused widespread damage to the food supply in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. The substance takes much longer to break down in the environment and can increase the chances of developing cancer.

Even when homes are rebuilt, communities reformed, and the health infrastructure restored to its pre-quake levels, Japan's health system is ill prepared to address long-term mental health problems triggered by the disaster. Experts say that thousands of victims will be in need of long-term trauma counselling to cope with the loss of their relatives, friends, and homes. They include an estimated 100,000 children who were displaced by the disaster and were particularly vulnerable to post-traumatic stress and long-term behavioural and other mental health problems.

"Children we talk to say that whenever there's a tremor they are scared that something is going to happen", says Stephen McDonald of Save the Children, which has set up an operations base in Sendai. Children who have been caught up in disasters can develop behavioural and mental health problems unless they receive counselling at an early stage. Left untreated, those initial fears can impinge on their development as adults, said McDonald.

The already dire situation in the northeast has been compounded by a shortage of doctors and nurses in some hospitals. In towns and villages covered by the 30-km radius from the nuclear power plant, where 210,000 people have either been evacuated or told to stay indoors, providing even basic treatment is a daily struggle.

At one hospital only 60% of staff are on duty and, although there are enough medical supplies on site, inpatients' meals are having to be restricted. Across the stricken region, hospitals are sending non-critical patients home or to evacuation centres, and more serious cases are slowly being found beds at other facilities. The stories of misery are relentless, from the elderly patients with high blood pressure and diabetes who have been unable to take their medication, to younger people with diarrhoea from drinking river water in desperation. At the start of this week, health workers on the ground said priority should be given to ensuring safe drinking water and the disposal of sewage to prevent outbreaks of typhoid and cholera.

"For the people affected by the earthquake as well as the tsunamis, there are a number of issues: the cold, as well as a lack of food and water", said Eric Ouannes, general director of the Japan office of Midecins Sans Frontieres, which has 11 people in the region. "And the most urgent need is blankets to protect the most vulnerable sections of the population against the cold."

Ouannes said he had seen chronic diseases usually associated with the elderly: hypertension, cardiac diseases, and diabetes. "We are trying to restart the treatment. We have also seen some cases of hypothermia on top of the other diseases, as well as dehydration. But again, it's a limited number of cases with regards to the vast number of people who have been displaced or who have lost their homes." Doctors who tour evacuation shelters in Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate prefectures said they were bracing for the possible spread of gastroenteritis, diarrhoea, and other illnesses associated with dirty water.

The relief effort is being hampered by damage to road and sea routes, and the loss of power supplies and phone networks. "Everywhere is closed, there are no telecommunications, no heat, and no light", said Patrick Fuller of Red Cross International, who is based near Otsuchi, an Iwate prefecture town where more than half the 19&puncsp;000 population is thought to have died. Nothing could have prepared him or his Japanese colleagues for the size and complexity of the humanitarian crisis, he said. "It's the sheer scale of it. You could have a thousand helicopters and it still wouldn't be enough. There must still be pockets of people out there who haven't been reached."

Japan: Fukushima Plant  
Had Barebones  
Emergency Plan

WSJ, 2011-03-31

03/31/2011

TOKYO—Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s disaster plans greatly underestimated the scope of a potential accident at its Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, calling for only one stretcher, one satellite phone and 50 protective suits in case of emergencies.

Disaster-response documents for Fukushima Daiichi, examined by The Wall Street Journal, also contain few guidelines for obtaining outside help, providing insight into why Japan struggled to cope with a nuclear crisis after an earthquake and tsunami devastated the facility.

The disaster plans, approved by Japanese regulators, offer guidelines for responding to smaller emergencies and outline in detail how to back up key systems in case of failure. Yet the plans fail to envision the kind of worst-case scenario that befell Japan: damage so extensive that the plant couldn't respond on its own or call for help from nearby plants. There are no references to Tokyo firefighters, Japanese military forces or U.S. equipment, all of which the plant operators eventually relied upon to battle their overheating reactors.

On Wednesday, the president of plant operator Tepco was hospitalized for dizziness, offering the latest sign of leadership trouble. Earlier in the disaster, Tepco was faulted for a sluggish initial response; now it appears that its written emergency plans were themselves inadequate.

"The disaster plan didn't function," said a former Tepco executive. "It didn't envision something this big."

The two main documents examined by the Journal are Fukushima Daiichi's disaster-readiness plan, which discusses general preparations and communications, and its accident-management protocol, which focuses on technical operation of plant equipment in an accident.

The main disaster-readiness manual, updated annually, envisions the fax machine as a principal means of communication with the outside world and includes detailed forms for Tepco managers when faxing government officials. One form offers a multiple-choice list of disasters, including "loss of AC power," "inability to use the control room" and "probable nuclear chain reaction outside the reactor."

Tepco spokesman Hiro Hasegawa said the plans followed and sometimes exceeded legal requirements, and proved useful in the crisis. For example, he said the emergency injection of water to cool the reactors followed the accident-management protocol.

Nuclear-power experts say few operators anywhere are likely prepared for the kind of disaster that struck Fukushima Daiichi. On March 11, the plant was hit with a magnitude 9.0 quake, followed by a tsunami estimated at 45 feet. The twin catastrophes wiped out the normal power and backup generators of nearly all the plant's six reactors and also damaged roads and communication lines through which the plant could seek help.

Previous big nuclear accidents, such as those at Three Mile Island in the U.S. and Chernobyl in the former Soviet Union, resulted from poor safety standards and bad management, said Kazuo Sato, a consultant at the Nuclear Safety Research Association, who headed Japan's watchdog Nuclear Safety Commission in the late 1990s. "This one was a natural disaster—it's qualitatively different," he said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, a United Nations agency, has hundreds of pages of safety recommendations for nuclear-facility operators, but its recommendations aren't binding on individual countries. An IAEA spokesman declined to comment on whether Japanese emergency plans fulfill IAEA guidelines.

The Journal compared the Fukushima Daiichi accident-management protocol against the IAEA's general principles, and it appears the plant document generally hews to them. However, the IAEA calls for operators to cover "appropriately selected external events, such as fires, floods, seismic events and extreme weather conditions...that could damage large parts of the plant." The Fukushima Daiichi protocol doesn't specifically discuss how such events could damage the plant.

In the U.S., operators are expected to continuously update emergency plans and to conduct large-scale

drills, typically lasting from eight hours to two days, at least every two years. The exercises are graded by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which requires correction of deficiencies. The NRC describes the capabilities it expects plants to have but often doesn't specify the equipment required.

Critics allege Japan's regulators and operators tend to avoid talking about or preparing fuller disaster scenarios, partly to avoid scaring the public. Fukushima Daiichi's own report on its accident-management protocols says: "The possibility of a severe accident occurring is so small that from an engineering standpoint, it is practically unthinkable."

Banri Kaieda, chief of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, said Wednesday that the ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency plans to tighten scrutiny of emergency plans in light of Fukushima Daiichi. "We are painfully aware" the plans were inadequate, an agency spokesman said.

Following Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, Japan's industry ministry in 1992 asked nuclear operators to come up with voluntary protocols for each of their plants in the case of accidents that exceeded their safety specifications. Those "accident-management plans" don't have to be periodically revised. Tepco submitted the report on its plan for Fukushima Daiichi in 2002.

A serious accident at a Japanese uranium-processing facility in 1999 led Parliament to pass a law on nuclear emergencies. The law requires operators to have "disaster-readiness operation plans," reviewed annually. It also sets base protocols that operators must follow, such as minimum numbers of masks.

In some cases, Fukushima Daiichi's crisis planners exceeded minimums. The plan calls for 49 radiation-detecting meters, versus six required by law, and 100 cellphones on two systems, versus the seven required.

Still, many of the numbers suggest the six-reactor plant anticipated at most a modest emergency. It calls for a four-man medical team to attend to people exposed to radiation and other victims. Four protective suits with oxygen tanks were to be stocked, as well as a single ambulance and radiation-measuring vehicle.

Much hinged on the fax machine. One section directs managers to notify the industry minister, the local governor and mayors of nearby towns of any problems "all at once, within 15 minutes, by facsimile." In certain cases, the managers were advised to follow up by phone to make sure the fax had arrived.

The disaster-response plans at other operators in Japan follow the same structure as Fukushima Daiichi's, although some are more thorough.

Accident-management plans are generally written to deal with internal plant problems and don't take into account external shocks such as a quake or terrorist attack, said Hokkaido University Prof. Kenichiro Sugiyama, who served on a government panel on nuclear accident readiness.

Tepco's Mr. Hasegawa said the company is doing its utmost to put in place "emergency-response measures based on the operational plan for disaster prevention." He pointed to successful steps such as the

establishment of a disaster headquarters as soon as the quake struck.

After this crisis is settled, Japan will have to rethink everything, industry veterans said. This catastrophe shows "there is no such thing as overdoing it" in preparing a disaster manual, said Tsuneo Futami, who was superintendant at Fukushima Daiichi from 1997 to 2000. The attitude must be that "anything can happen tomorrow."

Japan: Truck Runs Into  
Daini Nuclear Plant

WSJ, 2011-03-31

03/31/2011

TOKYO (Dow Jones)--Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency said Thursday that a truck had run through the gate of a nuclear power plant in Fukushima prefecture earlier today.

The driver has been detained by the police, a spokesman at the agency said at a press conference. The truck, which appeared to belong to right-wing groups, had loudspeakers that would normally be used for political slogans and songs.

The agency, known as NISA, said the truck showed up at 0321 GMT in front of the main gate of the quake-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, demanding entrance to the site. It was turned away.

The truck then moved to the Fukushima Daini plant located about 10 kilometer south of the Daiichi plant. It ran through the west gate of the Daini plant at 0408 GMT.

Fukushima Plant Disaster  
Reveals Shortcomings  
With Japan's Nuclear  
Energy

Mainichi Daily News Online 1107 GMT 31 Mar 11

03/31/2011

The disaster at the nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan has exposed problems with the road the country has followed in developing nuclear power, including overconcentration of reactors in limited areas, dangerous stockpiles of spent nuclear fuel near reactors, and the inability to easily share electricity across eastern and western Japan.

The crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant, caused by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, caused large-scale power shortages across a wide region including Tokyo and prompted the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) to launch a power rationing program for the outer parts of the Japanese capital and its vicinities. The power shortages also disrupted rail, road and air traffic, stranding hundreds of thousands of commuters and travelers.

There are a total of 10 nuclear reactors at the Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 nuclear power plants, demonstrating a high concentration of nuclear reactors in limited areas. Those reactors are expected to be scrapped or stay shut down for an indefinite period of time, meaning the power shortage will continue. A senior official of a power company in western Japan commented, "This is a side effect of concentrating nuclear reactors in a particular region."

The construction site conditions for nuclear reactors are hard to meet, said a senior TEPCO official. For example, he said, reactors should be built on solid bedrock with the consent of local residents, but that consent is difficult to secure. A result of this is that power companies tend to build reactors by adding new ones to areas which have already agreed to and are hosting nuclear power plants.

There are 55 nuclear reactors, including experimental ones, across Japan, but many are concentrated within a few prefectures. TEPCO runs 17 reactors in Fukushima and Niigata prefectures, while the Kansai Electric Power Co (KEPCO) has 11 just in Fukui Prefecture. Of 14 reactors being built or planned for construction, eight of them are going on the premises of existing plants.

When the crisis hit the nuclear power plant in Fukushima, radioactive substances apparently leaked from spent nuclear fuel storage pools, raising the question of whether spent nuclear fuel should be kept in the same places as nuclear reactors. Japanese power companies ship their spent nuclear fuel to reprocessing facilities in Europe and the village of Rokkasho in Aomori Prefecture, but the amount of spent nuclear fuel that can be reprocessed is limited, so much of the spent nuclear fuel is stored on power plant premises.

According to the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan, there was a total of 13,530 tons of spent nuclear fuel in Japan as of the end of September 2010, an increase of 690 tons from the previous year's tally. That number accounts for about 70 percent of the nation's total storage capacity. The Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant stores about 470 tons of spent nuclear fuel in the pools at its No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 reactors. Even after it is spent, nuclear fuel continues to heat up, and it could be damaged if it is not sufficiently cooled down. Calls are likely to emerge from regions hosting nuclear power plants for measures to be taken to deal with spent nuclear fuel.

Meanwhile, a large power shortage is expected in the summer, when electricity demand is expected to jump. Power can be, and is being, sent from undamaged facilities in the west to the ailing grid in the east, but eastern and western Japan operate on different power frequencies: Eastern Japan, including Tokyo,

runs on 50-hertz power, while western Japan, including Osaka, is on 60-hertz. In order for one region to receive electricity from the other region, the frequency must be changed. There are frequency conversion facilities at three locations on the border between TEPCO and Chubu Electric Power Co., but their capacity is only 1 million kilowatts. That alone will in no way make up for the shortage of 10 million kilowatts expected in the summer.

France's Areva to expand  
Japan nuclear help

Agence France Presse, March 31, 2011

03/31/2011

French nuclear group Areva said Thursday it plans to step up its technical assistance to the operator of a Japanese atomic plant crippled by the massive quake and tsunami earlier this month.

Tokyo Electric Power Company, which runs the Fukushima Daiichi plant, has asked for more help, and Areva is likely to provide it, according to Remy Autebert, president of Areva Japan.

"We'll need a bit of time, but our actions will probably increase in response to their requests," he told AFP.

Areva chief executive Anne Lauvergeon arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday with a team of experts for meetings with Japanese officials on how to manage the unprecedented crisis.

Autebert said the most pressing current task at the Fukushima plant was to remove contaminated water that has been accumulating after workers pumped in large amounts to keep the reactors from overheating.

Four crippled reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi plant have been leaking dangerous radiation since shortly after a March 11 earthquake and tsunami knocked out their cooling systems.

Japan says Fukushima  
plant to be scrapped

Agence France Presse, March 31, 2011 Thursday

03/31/2011

Japan said Thursday its stricken Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant will have to be scrapped, while pressure also grew for the evacuation zone around the crippled facility to be expanded.

With no end in sight to the world's worst nuclear crisis in 25 years, the US ordered a Marine emergency

response unit to Japan, and French nuclear group Areva said it was likely to step up assistance to the plant's operator.

Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan said the facility at the centre of the worst atomic accident since Chernobyl in 1986 must be decommissioned, Kyodo news reported.

Officials have previously hinted the plant would be retired once the situation there is stabilised, given the severe damage it has sustained including likely partial meltdowns and a series of hydrogen blasts.

However, there were no plans to widen a 20-kilometre (12-mile) exclusion zone around the Fukushima plant despite the UN atomic watchdog saying radiation in one village 40 kilometres away had reached evacuation levels.

Japan's top government spokesman Yukio Edano, asked whether further evacuations should be ordered, told a press conference: "I don't think that this is something of a nature which immediately requires such action.

"But... we will continue monitoring the level of radiation with heightened vigilance and we intend to take action if necessary."

His comments came after the International Atomic Energy Agency added its voice to that of Greenpeace, which has warned for several days that residents, especially children and pregnant women, should leave the village.

The IAEA's head of nuclear safety and security, Denis Flory, told reporters in Vienna that radiation levels there had exceeded the criteria for triggering evacuations.

He said the IAEA -- which has no mandate to order nations to act -- had advised Japan to "carefully assess the situation, and they have indicated that it is already under assessment."

The reading in the village was two megabecquerels per square metre -- a "ratio about two times higher than levels" at which the IAEA recommends evacuations, said the head of its Incident and Emergency Centre,

Elena Buglova.

Iodine-131 in the Pacific Ocean waters near the plant has risen to a new high of 4,385 times the legal level, the power station operator TEPCO said.

Elevated radiation levels have also been detected in the air near the nuclear plant, and in regional farm produce as well as in Tokyo drinking water.

Some 155 Marines of the US Chemical Biological Incident Response Force were due to arrive Friday, although there were no plans for them to take part in the emergency work to stabilise Fukushima, US defence officials told AFP.

They will not penetrate a 50-mile (80-kilometer) radius around the stricken plant, a zone which the US has advised its citizens to avoid, officials said.

French nuclear group Areva is assisting Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), which runs the Fukushima Daiichi plant, and the Japanese utility has asked it to provide more help, said Areva Japan president Remy Autebert.

"We'll need a bit of time, but our actions will probably increase in response to their requests," he told AFP.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy arrived in Tokyo on Thursday in a show of solidarity with the disaster-hit nation, and called on nuclear authorities in the Group of Twenty to establish an international safety standard.

"We ask the independent authorities of G20 members to meet, if possible in Paris, to fix the international nuclear safety standard," he said in a speech at the French embassy in Tokyo.

At the plant itself, workers pushed on with the high-stakes battle to stabilise reactors, into which water has been poured to submerge and cool fuel rods that are assumed to have partially melted down.

They are also struggling to safely dispose of thousands of tons of highly contaminated run-off water.

Japan has considered a range of high-tech options -- including covering explosion-charred reactor buildings with fabric, and bringing in robots to clear the irradiated rubble.

A US military barge carrying more fresh water to be pumped into the reactors was expected to arrive near the plant Thursday, the Yomiuri daily said.

Workers also plan to spray an industrial resin at the plant to trap settled radioactive particles, although plans to start Thursday were delayed because of weather conditions.

Japan: 'Hot' water  
removal going slowly;  
Flooded steam  
condensers in reactors  
hamper workers' efforts

The Daily Yomiuri (Tokyo), March 29, 2011 Tuesday

03/28/2011

Steam condensers at the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors of the crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant are flooded, making it difficult for workers to remove highly radioactive water from inside the turbine buildings, Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Monday.

The turbine buildings house equipment indispensable to carrying out full-scale cooling of the troubled reactors.

Radioactive water has accumulated at the bottom of the buildings.

In the case of the No. 1 reactor, TEPCO could not ascertain when it would be able to completely pump out the water because of a huge quantity of water in the basement of the turbine building.

Referring to radiation of more than 1,000 millisieverts per hour that was detected on the surface of the radioactive water at the No. 2 reactor, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said Monday the high level of radiation was caused by water overflowing after coming in contact with nuclear fuel rods that had temporarily melted.

Earlier in the day, TEPCO said the concentration of radioactive substances in the water at the No. 2 reactor's turbine building was about 100,000 times higher than normal in water inside a reactor.

The utility said Sunday morning that the concentration of radioactive iodine-134 detected in water taken the previous day from the basement of the turbine building of the No. 2 reactor was 2.9 billion becquerels per milliliter, or 10 million times the normal concentration.

Later that day, TEPCO corrected that analysis, saying it was highly possible that cobalt-56 was mistaken for iodine-134 when compiling the earlier data. Early Monday, the company again made a correction, saying it should have referred to cesium-134, not cobalt-56.

The concentration of radioactive substances detected at the same place in the No. 2 reactor was 20 million becquerels per milliliter or 100,000 times that of the water inside a reactor, TEPCO said.

There was some good news. TEPCO reported that the spent nuclear fuel rod temporary storage pools at the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors were confirmed to be filled to their capacity Monday.

Despite this, restoration work at the plant is expected to take a long time, observers said.

Referring to the radiation-contaminated water at the basement of Reactor No. 2's turbine building, Edano said the contamination was regrettable but restoration work would continue at the plant while ensuring there was no health risk.

With regard to the Nos. 1 and 3 reactors, where concentrations of radioactive substances are lower than at Reactor No. 2, he said radioactive water that became steam in the reactor containment vessel was condensed or diluted as a result of water spraying.

Reactor No. 1's condenser has a capacity of 1,600 tons while those of the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors are almost twice that at 3,000 tons.

Work to remove radioactive water from the basement of Reactor No. 1's turbine building has started.

Additional pumps have been installed to remove the radioactive water, but it remains to be seen when the work can be finished because of the large volume of water.

The condensers at the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors cannot take additional radioactive water because they are already full. TEPCO is looking into the possibility of transferring contaminated water to tanks located at other places. But new pipes will be needed to connect them, TEPCO said.

The amount of radiation in the air in the basements of the turbine buildings amounted to 25 millisieverts per hour at the No. 1 reactor, more than 1,000 millisieverts at the No. 2 reactor and 400 millisieverts at the No. 3 reactor.

The high radiation records at the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors made it difficult to make progress in removing radioactive water.

To help ensure safety in the dark working environment, TEPCO is considering bringing temporary lighting equipment into the basements of the turbine buildings of the Nos. 2 and 3 reactors and dividing workers into several groups so they can work for short periods.

As for pouring freshwater into Reactor No. 2, TEPCO has installed electric-driven pumps inside the turbine building to connect them with a power supply. On Sunday afternoon, water-spraying into the reactor started using water drawn directly from a freshwater tank installed about one kilometer away.

nuclear science; Despite a classic once-in-a-lifetime Black Swan event, Japan's Fukushima plant has not witnessed a meltdown

AS BATTERED Japan struggles to cool down the radioactive cores of its nuclear reactors at Fukushima Daiichi, renewed questions about the safety of nuclear power have emerged.

There are even predictions that this disaster would end what was seen as a nuclear renaissance, 25 years after the Chernobyl nuclear accident in what is now Ukraine.

In the midst of this media glare and concern, the compelling question is: Does the Fukushima Daiichi emergency prove that nuclear power reactors are inherently unsafe? If not, then this question needs to be answered: Does the incident show just how robust designs are with multiple fail-safe systems built in?

Consider what we know about the disaster.

The Fukushima complex was built in the early 1970s. The six LWRs (light water reactors) at the plant complex are based on a 40-year-old design from General Electric. These reactors - there are quite a few of them around the world - are what is called Gen I (first generation) nuclear reactors.

If one were to purchase a reactor from GE today, it would be what the industry calls Gen III, which means they are more efficient and have many more safety features built in.

To put it another way, the difference between a Gen I reactor and a Gen III reactor could be compared to the difference between a 1970s Mercedes car and a 2011 model of the same car.

Despite being 40 years old, the Fukushima reactors withstood an earthquake that was seven to eight times greater than their design tolerance limits.

Once the earthquake struck, the reactors automatically inserted their control rods (which are neutron absorbers) into the core and ceased the fission of the nuclear fuel. At this point, full cooling of the reactors was in effect. The plant was in automatic shutdown mode. It just required a bit of time to totally shut down.

Power loss

However, time was something the technicians at Fukushima did not get. Following the earthquake, the tsunami struck and washed away powerlines and fuel for the generators that were powering the coolant pumps.

Deprived of power, the coolant pumps switched to battery power. The problems started only after the batteries ran out and the officials could not restore power or get alternative power lines to the plant due to the general devastation caused by the earthquake and tsunami.

The Gen I reactors at Fukushima use what is known as an active cooling system where there is a need for external power to keep the cooling system running.

However, latest generation nuclear reactor designs have an added safety layer, a passive coolant system, over and above the active coolant, which does not require external power and hence buys more time for

emergency back-ups in case of total loss of power.

It's likely that a passive cooling system could have prevented things from getting out of hand in Fukushima as it would have provided a window of opportunity to get alternative power sources to the plant.

So, despite a classic once-in-a-lifetime Black Swan event which hit Japan - a combination of the biggest-ever recorded (for Japan) earthquake and a killer tsunami - the 40-year-old plant has not witnessed a nuclear meltdown or explosion, even though it has spewed a bit of radiation.

Ironically the real cause of the present crisis was not faulty reactors or the unsafe nature of nuclear power but the fact that the tsunami protection wall protecting the plant was 5-metres high while the tsunami generated 12-metre high waves.

As workers struggled to get things under control at Fukushima, reports surfaced over the past week of radioactive contaminated vegetables and milk being found in the surrounding countryside.

Japan has gone on high alert following this disclosure and has urged residents around the plant not to drink tap water.

Here again things need to be viewed with a sensible perspective. Last Saturday, Yukio Edano, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, made a telling comment. He said the level of radioactivity found in spinach, if consumed continuously for a year, would equal the radiation received in a single CAT scan, while that detected in milk would amount to just a fraction of a CAT scan.

Japan, by banning the sale and consumption of green vegetables and milk from the surrounding countryside was being understandably cautious. But that is essentially all there is to it.

It's rather sad that the global spotlight on Fukushima has diverted attention from the actual devastation wrought by the earthquake and tsunami.

The reason for this could be an irrational fear of the unknown that the word 'nuclear' somehow conjures up. A giant mushroom cloud always seems to be the mental backdrop in any discussion on nuclear power.

Yet, despite the 30-50 odd people who died in Chernobyl due to an experiment gone horribly wrong followed by utter mismanagement, nuclear power is one of the safest forms of high volume power generation. It has the least number of deaths per GWe (gigawatt of electricity) of power produced worldwide.

Radiation fallout

However, one needs to add that in Chernobyl, subsequent studies have shown that a number of people have, over the long-term, been affected by the radiation fallout from the disaster.

But the point to understand is Chernobyl was a unique case. The plant was typical of the Soviet era with bad design, no fail-safe mechanisms or warning systems.

Western designs as well as subsequent Russian ones have moved so far away from that design that one

commentator remarked that if Chernobyl is a flimsy dinghy floating in mid-ocean, then current (Western) designs are big ocean-going ships.

Over the past few years in Asia, there has been great interest in nuclear power. With all major economies in this region growing rapidly, the demand for power has been accelerating.

As a result, in contrast to North America and Western Europe where growth in electricity generation capacity, particularly nuclear, has been stagnant, a number of countries in Asia are planning to build generation capacity, including through nuclear plants.

According to the World Nuclear Association, there are around 112 nuclear power plants operating in six countries in Asia. As at last year, there were 37 units under construction, firm plans for 84 more and proposals for another 180. In addition to this, there are 56 research reactors in 14 countries of the region. In contrast to this hectic building activity in Asia, there's only one new reactor being planned in the US and a few in Europe and two in Latin America.

The first nuclear power plants started operations in the 1950s. There are more than 440 commercial nuclear power reactors operating in 30 countries. These plants together generate 14 per cent of the world's electricity as a continuous and reliable base-load power source.

Yet, despite all of this, to a layman, radiation is the biggest fear whenever nuclear power is mentioned in a discussion.

But, interestingly, even in terms of radiation dosages, living next to a nuclear power plant is actually a lot more safer than living next to a coal-fired power plant!

An article by Mara Hvistendahl in Scientific American in December 2007 noted that, in a series of tests conducted over the past few decades, it had been found that coal plant waste is actually more radioactive than that generated by nuclear power plants. Fly ash, which is a by-product in coal fuel electricity plants releases into the environment 100 times more radiation than a nuclear power plant producing the same amount of energy.

A widely cited radiation chart on the Internet shows that living within 50 miles of a coal power plant exposes people to 0.3 micro sievert of radiation. A sievert is a unit of measure for the amount of radiation absorbed by a person.

Interestingly, the same chart shows that living within a 50 mile radius of a nuclear plant can expose a person to 0.09 micro sievert of radiation. As a comparison, sleeping next to someone can cause 0.05 micro sievert of radiation.

Of course, if there's a major accident at a nuclear power plant, things can change dramatically. However, the latest reactor designs are packed with safety features.

Natural risk

An extreme act of nature can still cause an accident but then the same could be said for any other form of power generation. For example, a mega dam burst due to an earthquake, in say India or China, could cause thousands of deaths.

Newer types of reactors, particularly those based on the less radioactive thorium - on which the Indians have done pioneering research - hold out the promise of being much safer than even the latest generation of reactors.

The hunger for energy is almost insatiable in the fast developing nations of Asia. At the same time, looming environmental concern about 'dirty fuels' is a cause for worry.

China, for example, already has a massive environmental and health problem on its hands due to its hundreds of coal-based power plants, and India is not far behind.

Renewable forms of energy such as wind and solar are still not capable of the high base load generation that is required to sustain high demand over an electricity grid.

In such a situation, the nuclear option cannot be ignored, especially in Asia. It would indeed be a pity if irrational fear were to triumph over science and engineering in this debate.

Japan: Fukushima  
shutdown could take one  
month: TEPCO

Agence France Presse, March 25, 2011 Friday 5:41 AM GMT

03/25/2011

Fukushima nuclear plant operator TEPCO on Friday said it may take a month to achieve cold shutdown, as Japan mulled hiking the crisis to a notch under Chernobyl on an atomic accident scale.

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) currently rates Fukushima at 5 out of 7, making it the worst ever in Japan, putting it on the same level as the 1979 accident at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania.

Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) admitted Friday it may take at least another month to achieve a cold shutdown of all reactors -- when temperatures inside fall below boiling point and its cooling systems are back at atmospheric pressure.

"We are still in the process of assessing the damage at the plant, so we can't put a deadline on when the cooling operations will work again. It may take more than a month, who knows," a TEPCO spokesman told AFP.

Temperatures at one reactor spiked at one point to 400 degrees Celsius (752 degrees Fahrenheit) this week before stabilising. Temperatures inside reactors one to four remain around boiling point, a nuclear safety agency official said.

Progress has been slow in efforts to restore the plant's cooling systems that were knocked out after Japan's biggest recorded earthquake and a subsequent tsunami that devastated swathes of the northeast. Firefighters have been dousing stricken reactors with seawater in an effort to cool damaged reactors and fuel rods, with radioactive particles emitted into the air, contaminating tap water, the sea and food products.

Japan's nuclear power regulator indicated Friday it may raise its assessment of the crisis at the quake-hit Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant to level six, or "serious accident," after gathering data on radiation levels in surrounding regions.

An NISA official said: "We can't rule out the possibility of raising the disaster level to six. Depending on how the situation unfolds, it's still possible for the level to be raised."

Among the six reactors at the power plant, reactors one, two and three were operating at the time of the magnitude 9.0 quake and halted automatically.

But the cores are believed to have partially melted after the cooling systems failed, sparking a series of explosions and fires.

Authorities have since struggled to keep fuel rods inside reactors and fuel storage containment pools under water. If they are exposed to air, they could degrade further and emit large amounts of dangerous radioactive material.

France's Nuclear Safety Authority already rates the Fukushima crisis at six on the scale. The 1986 Chernobyl disaster is put at seven, the highest.

Such ratings are issued based on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale, or INES.

Japan Fukushima reactor vessel may be damaged: operator

Agence France Presse, March 25, 2011 Friday 7:46 AM GMT

03/25/2011

One of the reactor vessels at a stricken Fukushima nuclear power station in Japan may be damaged, the plant's operator said Friday, after high levels of radiation were detected.

Two workers at the plant were hospitalised Thursday with radiation burns after stepping in highly radioactive water in the basement of the number three reactor's turbine building.

"It is possible that the pressure vessel containing the fuel rods in the reactor is damaged," a spokesman from Tokyo Electric Power Co. told AFP.

The new safety scare is a setback to urgent efforts to restore power to the all-important cooling systems at the Fukushima No. 1 plant, located 250 kilometres (155 miles) north of Tokyo.

"Radioactive substances have leaked to places far from the (number three) reactor," said a spokesman for the nuclear safety agency, Hideyuki Nishiyama.

"As far as the data show, we believe there is a certain level of containment ability but it's highly possible that the reactor is damaged," he added.

The reactor is a particular concern because it is the only one of six at the ageing facility to use a potentially volatile mix of uranium and plutonium.

A hydrogen explosion badly damaged the unit's outer building on March 14, and a partial meltdown is also suspected.

The control room of the number three reactor has partial power again and engineers have been trying to reconnect a water pump, but work has been hampered by the radioactive water and intermittent black smoke.

The plant was battered by a huge tsunami unleashed by a 9.0-magnitude quake on March 11 and has been leaking radiation that has been detected in food and tap water in some areas.

Japan's TEPCO under pressure over injured workers

Agence France Presse, March 25, 2011 Friday 8:35 AM GMT

03/25/2011

Japan ordered the operator of a stricken nuclear plant to step up safety Friday after three workers in ill-fitting shoes suffered burns when they slogged through highly radioactive water.

The trio, aged in their 20s and 30s, were placing electric cables in a basement as part of efforts to rebuild cooling systems at the quake and tsunami damaged reactor three to prevent high-level radiation from spewing out.

Two of the men, who were employed by a subcontractor, were hospitalised after suffering radiation burns from beta rays, which are powerful enough to transform a person's DNA makeup and cause potential cancer and death.

The workers stepped into a pool of water containing iodine, caesium and cobalt 10,000 times the normal level, said the operator, the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), which runs the stricken Fukushima plant.

All were exposed to radiation of up to 180 millisieverts -- more than triple the usual limit for plant workers and close to the recently hiked government-imposed 250 millisievert limit for emergency duty.

The news of the injured men raised pressure on the beleaguered TEPCO.

Japan's nuclear safety agency has "ordered TEPCO to implement corrective measures," said agency spokesman Hideyuki Nishiyama.

"If a survey of the work area had been properly carried out before, the workers could have been provided with adequate outfits. The fact that water entered raises questions about the adequacy of their outfits."

Another nuclear safety agency official said that, although the men's boots were covered, "they weren't the

usual long rubber boots".

The top government spokesman, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano, ordered TEPCO to "thoroughly enforce workforce management" to prevent similar mishaps.

TEPCO admitted it had not thoroughly inspected the site on Thursday as it gave the go-ahead for the workers to go in, where aerial exposure was 200 millisieverts per hour, up from low levels the previous day. The radioactive water they stepped into is thought to have leaked from the damaged number three reactor -- which contains a volatile uranium-plutonium mix -- into the adjacent turbine building, the nuclear safety agency said.

A TEPCO official admitted to oversight, pledging to better survey the work areas in future, share information and "work to accurately point out the things workers should be aware of."

The company also said the workers had ignored the warning bell on their radiation monitors, mistakenly thinking they were broken and continuing to work 40 to 50 minutes in the toxic environment.

"If the alarm goes off on workers' dosimeters, they should immediately evacuate, and if they get wet they need to immediately stop working and remove themselves from the radiation," he added.

The trio brings to 17 the total number of workers who have been exposed to more than 100 millisieverts of radiation at the plant.

An exposure of that amount per year is considered the lowest level at which any increase in cancer risk is evident.

Some 500 workers with TEPCO, its subsidiaries as well as an army of fire-fighters and soldiers are working at the plant.

The three men's injuries delayed the much-anticipated work to restore the cooling system at the number three reactor, where power had been partially restored earlier this week to the control room.

It was unclear when work would resume, a TEPCO official said.

Japan: Kyushu Electric  
Defers Restart of Two  
Nuclear Reactors

Fukuoka, March 24 Kyodo -- (EDS: CORRECTING DATE IN 4TH GRAF, ADDING CRITIC'S COMMENT IN LAST GRAF) Kyushu Electric Power Co. said Thursday it has decided to delay rebooting two nuclear reactors at its Genkai nuclear power plant in Saga Prefecture that it had suspended for servicing in view of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

03/24/2011

Toshio Manabe, the regional utility's president, told a news conference his company has decided to postpone rebooting the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors from their originally scheduled times of late March and early April.

"At this stage, we have not yet decided" when to restart the reactors at the Genkai plant in the southwestern Japanese prefecture, he said.

Manabe said the situation at the Fukushima plant is not heading toward stability and that a string of accidents there since the massive March 11 earthquake that hit the region have prompted the government to start reviewing steps to ensure safety at nuclear power plants.

In late 2009, the No. 3 reactor at the Genkai plant started generating power by burning plutonium-uranium mixed oxide fuel, becoming the first reactor in Japan to generate power using such fuel. One of the reactors at the troubled Fukushima plant also uses the plutonium-uranium mixed fuel.

Manabe said, "We have not yet set a clear schedule (for rebooting the reactors), so we would like to decide what measures to take after the government announces its own policies" on this matter.

Hatsumi Ishimaru, who heads a civic group opposed to nuclear power generation in Saga city, said, "It is simply wrong to operate nuclear power plants after major accidents in Fukushima. A delay is logical."

Japan: Three Workers  
Exposed to High  
Radiation; 2 Sustain  
Possible Burns

Tokyo, March 24 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING INFO) Three workers were exposed to high-level radiation Thursday while laying cable at the troubled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, and two of them were taken to hospital due to possible radiation burns to their feet, then nuclear safety agency and the plant operator said.

03/24/2011

The three men in their 20s and 30s were exposed to radiation amounting to 173 to 180 millisieverts at around 12:10 p.m. while laying cable underground at the No. 3 reactor's turbine building.

The two hospitalized are workers of plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s affiliated firm and had their feet under water while carrying out the work from 10 a.m., according to the utility known as TEPCO and the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

The two, who were diagnosed with possible beta ray burns at a Fukushima hospital, will later be sent to the National Institute of Radiological Sciences in Chiba Prefecture, the agency said.

TEPCO said radioactive water may have seeped through the workers' radiation protective gear, causing radioactive materials in the water to stick to their skin. The burns are caused by direct exposure to beta rays, the utility added.

Following the incident, workers at the first and the basement floors of the No.

3 reactor's turbine building were told to evacuate the area.

The radiation levels the three were exposed to are this time lower than the maximum limit of 250 millisieverts set by the health ministry for workers tackling the ongoing emergency at the Fukushima plant. The accumulative amounts of radiation to which they have been exposed are also below this criteria, TEPCO said.

Usually in Japan, the upper radiation exposure limit for nuclear plant workers is set at 50 millisieverts per year, or 100 millisieverts within five years, but the level comes to a cumulative 100 millisieverts in the event of a crisis.

The health ministry has further relaxed these standards to deal with the crisis in Fukushima, the worst in Japan.

With the latest exposure cases, the number of workers who have been exposed to radiation exceeding 100 millisieverts at the plant comes to 17, the operator said.

Japan: Fukushima Cooling

Bloomberg, 2011-03-23

03/23/2011

Circuits May Be Damaged: Getting pumps and cooling circuits working at the crippled Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant in Japan may take days even after power is restored, according to the French nuclear watchdog.

France's ASN Says

"There will be a risk of creating short-circuits in material that was underwater," Marie-Pierre Comets, a commissioner at the Paris-based Autorite de Surete Nucleaire, said at a press conference today. "There are a lot of tests on the cooling systems that have to be carried out."

Seawater used to cool the reactors and spent-fuel pools may have caused corrosion in cooling equipment

and salt could have crystallized in some places, hindering the ability of water to cool fuel rods, Comets said. Workers were evacuated today from the No. 3 and No. 4 reactors after grayish smoke was seen rising from one of the buildings, said Hidehiko Nishiyama, a spokesman for the Japan Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency. Tokyo Electric Power Co., the operator, is attempting to restore electricity to the reactors, which need a constant flow of coolant to prevent nuclear fuel from overheating and emitting radiation. "Stocks of fresh water need to be increased at the reactor site," the Institut de Radioprotection et de Surete Nucleaire, another French atomic regulator, said in a statement. Reactors No. 1, 2 and 3 remain in a "critical state" because a lasting cooling system hasn't been put in place, the agency said. "The effects of salt in the water that has been injected could modify cooling of the fuel over the short term."

Japan: U.S. Department of  
Energy Releases Radiation  
Monitoring Data from  
Fukushima Area

energy.gov, 2011-03-22

03/23/2011

Today the U.S. Department of Energy released data recorded from its Aerial Monitoring System as well as ground detectors deployed along with its Consequence Management Response Teams. The information has also been shared with the government of Japan as part of the United States' ongoing efforts to support Japan with the recovery and response effort.

On March 15, 33 experts from the Department's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) arrived in Japan along with more than 17,200 pounds of equipment. After initial deployments at U.S. consulates and military installations in Japan, these teams have utilized their unique skills, expertise and equipment to help assess, survey, monitor and sample areas for radiation. The 33 team members joined another six DOE personnel already in Japan.

Since arriving in Japan, NNSA teams have collected and analyzed data gathered from more than 40 hours of flights aboard Department of Defense aircraft and thousands of ground monitoring points.

That data has been collected, analyzed and posted on the Department's website at [www.energy.gov/japan2011](http://www.energy.gov/japan2011). Consistent with the President's commitment to share important information related to health and safety with the public, the Department will seek to update the data posted on its website daily.

For more information about NNSA's emergency response capabilities, visit [www.nnsa.doe.gov](http://www.nnsa.doe.gov).

Download the Data

Media contact(s):

(202) 586-4940

Japan: All 6 Fukushima Reactors Reconnected To External Power

Tokyo, March 22 Kyodo -- All six reactors at the quake-stricken Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant were reconnected to external power, plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co.

03/22/2011

said Tuesday, although smoke detected at the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors the day before had temporarily hampered efforts to restore power and cool down spent nuclear fuel pools.

Tokyo Electric said that it is also close to restoring lighting in the control room for the No. 3 and No. 4 reactors, a move that is expected to allow for more intensive work to bring the nuclear crisis under control and to restore the reactors' key cooling functions.

Earlier in the day, industry minister Banri Kaieda acknowledged that the progress in electricity restoration is good news but added that the situation involving the reactors remains "extremely tough." The spokesman of the government's nuclear safety agency, Hidehiko Nishiyama, told a separate press conference in the afternoon that if electricity starts to work, the actual condition of the plant would become "visible" and authorities would be able to check whether the current measures are sufficient to contain the crisis.

He also gave reassurance that it is unlikely that the situation would worsen and develop into a critical "meltdown," with spent nuclear fuel rods reaching criticality again.

While the prospects for an end to the crisis remain uncertain, executives of the utility known as TEPCO apologized in person for the first time since the March 11 quake crippled the nuclear plant to people who had been living near the plant and have now been evacuated.

Although white smoke, possibly steam, was found to be billowing from the buildings of the No. 2 and No. 3 reactors from Monday, TEPCO resumed the work to restore electricity in the morning as it found radiation levels had not surged markedly at the site.

Regaining power supply is needed for the restoration of equipment such as a ventilation system to filter radioactive substances from the air and some measuring tools in the control room, as well as to eventually restore the reactors' key cooling functions that were lost in the quake and ensuing tsunami.

At present, workers cannot remain in the room for long hours due to high radiation levels and power outages.

The number of reactors to which external power has been connected increased from Sunday, with the last being the No. 3 reactor, but workers need to check the condition of each piece of equipment before transmitting power, according to the government's nuclear safety agency.

Efforts to cool down spent fuel pools, which could create the risk of radioactive substances being released if water is not replenished, also resumed in the afternoon and firefighters sprayed a massive amount of water onto the spent nuclear fuel pool at the No. 3 reactor.

The water-spraying mission for the No. 4 reactor, meanwhile, was joined by trucks with a concrete squeeze pump and a 50-meter arm confirmed to be capable of pouring water from a higher point after trial runs.

After the magnitude 9.0 quake and massive tsunami waves knocked out power at the plant, the cooling functions failed at the No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 reactors and their cores are believed to have partially melted.

The pools storing spent nuclear fuel outside the reactors at the No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 units have all lost their cooling functions, requiring water to be pumped in, while hydrogen explosions have blown off the roofs and upper walls of the buildings housing the No. 1, No. 3 and No. 4 units.

Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa told a news conference that he believes the smoke rising from the No. 2 reactor is vapor caused by water-discharging operations and that blackish smoke was briefly detected Tuesday at the No. 3 reactor as some debris caught fire following the rise in temperature.

Japanese defense authorities have also asked for support of the U.S. military to jointly tackle the ongoing nuclear crisis and coordination is under way, Kitazawa said.

SDF helicopters will begin measuring "drastically changing" temperatures at the plant every day except for rainy days to "relieve people's concerns," instead of the earlier planned twice a week, he added. On Tuesday, however, bad weather prevented the choppers from monitoring temperatures at the site.

TEPCO, meanwhile, has confirmed the spread of seawater pollution near the nuclear plant Tuesday, a day after detecting highly concentrated radioactive substances such as iodine and cesium in seawater near the plant's water discharging outlets, which the nuclear safety agency said do not pose an immediate danger to health.

At the crisis-hit Daiichi plant, the remaining No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6 units were under maintenance at the time of the earthquake, but No. 4 is different in that all the fuel was in the spent-fuel pool.

The No. 5 and No. 6 reactors have been less problematic than the others and achieved what is called "cold shutdown" on Sunday, meaning that the reactors have stopped safely with the temperature of the water inside the reactors falling below 100 C.

Japan: Status of

Fukushima Nuclear Power  
Plants Tuesday Evening

Tokyo Kyodo World Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 11 Tokyo, March 22 Kyodo -- The following is the known status as of Tuesday evening of each of the six reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant and the four reactors at the Fukushima Daini plant, both in Fukushima Prefecture, which were crippled by the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and ensuing tsunami on March 11.

03/22/2011

Fukushima Daiichi plant -- Reactor No. 1 (Operation suspended after quake) Partial melting of core, cooling failure, vapor vented, building housing containment of reactor damaged by hydrogen explosion, roof blown off, seawater being pumped in, work to restore electric power in progress.

-- Reactor No. 2 (Operation suspended after quake) Damage to reactor containment structure feared, cooling failure, seawater being pumped in, fuel rods fully exposed temporarily, vapor vented, building housing containment of reactor damaged by blast at adjacent reactor No. 3, blast heard near suppression chamber of containment vessel, seawater pumped into pool holding spent-fuel rods on Sunday, access to external power restored Sunday, steam seen rising Monday.

-- Reactor No. 3 (Operation suspended after quake) Partial melting of core feared, cooling failure, vapor vented, seawater being pumped in, building housing containment of reactor badly damaged by hydrogen explosion, seawater dumped over spent-fuel storage pool by helicopter Thursday, water sprayed at it from ground for six days through Tuesday, workers forced to evacuate on Monday due to grayish smoke seen billowing from roof.

-- Reactor No. 4 (Under maintenance when quake struck) No fuel rods in reactor core, renewed nuclear chain reaction feared at spent-fuel storage pool, fire at building housing containment of reactor, only frame remains of reactor building roof, temperature in the pool reached 84 C on March 14, water sprayed at pool for three days through Tuesday.

-- Reactor No. 5 (Under maintenance when quake struck) Some fuel rods left in reactor core, cooling in spent-fuel storage pool resumed Saturday, cold shutdown at reactor on Sunday, access to external power restored, power source switched to external power from emergency power on Monday.

-- Reactor No. 6 (Under maintenance when quake struck) Some fuel rods left in reactor core, emergency power generator and cooling functions restored Saturday, cold shutdown at reactor on Sunday.

Fukushima Daini plant -- Reactors No. 1, 2, 3, 4 (Operation suspended after quake) Cold shutdown, not under emergency status.

Where is Japan's nuclear power CEO?

(Reuters) 2011-03-21 - The head of the Japanese power company at the centre of one of the world's worst nuclear disasters has all but vanished from the public eye.

03/22/2011

And many Japanese, on a knife edge waiting to see if the nuclear power plant and radiation leaks can be brought under control, are beginning to ask where he is and questioning how much he is in control of the crisis.

Masataka Shimizu, chief executive of Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO), has not made a public appearance in a week.

And he has yet to visit the crippled nuclear power plant north of Tokyo that was badly damaged in the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck on March 11, and where 300 workers are desperately trying to find ways to cool down the reactors.

According to the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper, he did not even show up at company headquarters until a day after the disaster because he was stranded in the west of the country after trains stopped running.

At his last news conference, a week ago, the 66-year-old apologised for the situation. Since then, he has all but vanished from public view, issuing one statement on Saturday expressing regret for "causing such trouble."

Shimizu is a consummate company man, joining the company where his father worked, at the age of 23. Japanese media have quoted him as saying he wanted to work at a company "which serves public interests."

At the country's biggest power supplier, he made a name for himself as a cost-cutter in the procurement side of the business, becoming company president in June 2008.

Shimizu lives in a 43-story upscale apartment building in central Tokyo. Beyond its locked glass door, it resembles a hotel lobby, where a woman receptionist answers phone calls.

It was not clear if Shimizu is staying there these days.

Since the crisis, he has largely left it to TEPCO spokespeople in Tokyo to be the public face of the company and answer increasingly aggressive questions, and criticism, from reporters frustrated at the lack of information.

Mid-level executives often have no answers other than something along the line of "We are in the process of confirming".

"He's making the low-ranking people do all the hard work," said Satomi Aihara, a 46-year-old Tokyo resident. "I wonder where he's hiding -- it makes me mad."

Taro Kono, a prominent member of parliament with the Liberal Democratic Party and an opponent of nuclear power, was more blunt about TEPCO officials: "They don't tell the truth ... It's in their DNA."

Even Prime Minister Naoto Kan has been unable to hide his frustration. "What the hell is going on?" he was overheard telling TEPCO executives on Tuesday.

TEPCO officials say their boss is, understandably, busy.

"He's been leading the troops at headquarters," company spokesman Kaoru Yoshida said. As for another news conference, "We'll create an opportunity at an appropriate time," was all Yoshida would venture.

Japanese company chiefs may not be as closely associated with the successes of their companies as they are in the West, but they are to any failures.

They are expected to take responsibility for shortcomings, scandals or disasters that happen on their watch, apologising profusely and often resigning.

Indeed, a former president and chairman of the company both stepped down in 2002 after it was disclosed the company had deliberately falsified data and safety reports.

TEPCO's numerous brushes with scandal, including what the company acknowledged was "nonconformance" in repairs to a nuclear power plant following an earthquake in 2007, has made the press and the public suspicious of company statements during the current catastrophe.

The 2007 quake showed that another nuclear plant's infrastructure was insufficient to withstand quakes and, as Shimizu said last September, "left us with a mountain of challenges".

"We devoted our efforts to overcoming the crisis and creating a tougher business foundation by taking measures so that our nuclear power plants can withstand disasters," he said.

Whenever Shimizu does decide to reappear, he is likely to find he will need more convincing words.

**Bitter Weather Puts  
Brakes on Rescues in  
Japan**

Beijing Global Times Online 18 Mar 11

03/18/2011

Thick snow covered the wreckage littering quake-hit Japan Thursday, further hindering rescue efforts to find anyone alive in the debris.

Heavy blizzards hit Japan's northeast region overnight, covering tsunami-razed areas in deep snow and vital highways in treacherous black ice.

"The strong smell of bodies and the dirty seawater make searching extremely difficult," Yin Guanghui, a member of a Chinese rescue team working in the battered town of Ofunato, told AFP.

A 15-member Chinese rescue team joined local and international rescuers Sunday. They continued searching Thursday, going through to some of the ruined areas in Ofunato in northeastern Iwate Prefecture and conducting door-to-door searches.

More than 10 countries and regions have sent personnel to assist in the rescue work.

Visibility, however, has dropped considerably, and some rescue teams were pulling back Thursday, fearing they would be unable to get back to their bases because of the snow and ice.

The United Nations said the snow, rain and "extraordinarily cold weather" had worsened the nation's emergency and were complicating relief efforts that were already hampered by frequent aftershocks.

Also fearing the uncertain situation caused by the Fukushima nuclear power station accident, France Thursday moved a 100-firefighter rescue team farther away from the dangerous nuclear plant, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

Citing French Interior Minister Claude Gueant, the report said the rescuers were ordered to remain 300 kilometers from the nuclear center, because the level of radioactivity 80 kilometers from the plant was "alarming."

Volunteers from the International Rescue Corps were also forced to return to the UK after the British government told Britons to get out of Tokyo amid fears of a nuclear catastrophe.

The China Seismological Bureau has sent 20 sets of protective clothing to the China International Search

and Rescue Team, according to team's microblog.

"The emergency relief period is generally seven to 10 days, although there is a so-called 72-hour rescue gold time," explained Qu Guosheng, chief engineer of the National Earthquake Response Support Service, adding that the main task for rescuers now was to search around the collapsed buildings.

The UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said search and rescue teams were reporting "increasingly difficult conditions" due to the weather and a lack of vehicles and fuel supplies.

"Rescue teams have described it as the biggest job they have ever experienced," OCHA told AFP.

Japan's Nissan To Monitor OSACA, Japan, March 18, 2011 (AFP) - Nissan Motor said Friday it would monitor all its vehicles made in  
Vehicles for Radioactivity Japan for radioactivity, amid international concern over efforts to avert a nuclear catastrophe at a stricken atomic plant.

03/18/2011

"We will continue to implement all appropriate measures to reassure the public that all products from our company remain within globally accepted safety standards," the company said in a statement.

"The testing will continue" until we are confident that any risk of contamination is completely removed," the automaker said.

Attempts are being made by Japan's Self-Defence Forces to douse fuel rods and prevent a calamitous radiation release at the Fukushima No. 1 power station.

Levels of radiation there have fluctuated wildly after the plant 250 kilometres (155 miles) northeast of Tokyo suffered critical damage from Japan's biggest ever earthquake last week and the devastating tsunami it unleashed.

The government has set a 20-kilometre exclusion zone and told those living between it and 30 kilometres from the plant to stay indoors as hourly radiation levels in the some nearby areas spike.

The twin disasters knocked out the cooling systems, sparking a series of explosions and fires. Authorities have since raced to keep the fuel rods inside reactors and containment pools submerged under water.

If they are exposed to air, they could degrade further and emit even more dangerous radioactive material.

U.S. Military Considering Dispatch of 450-member Radiation Unit To Japan

Washington, March 18 Kyodo -- The U.S. military is considering sending to Japan a unit of about 450 personnel trained in radiation management to help the country deal with its cascading nuclear crisis, Adm. Robert Willard, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, said Thursday.

03/18/2011

A nine-member advance team has already been dispatched to Japan to consult with the Japanese authorities over what measures to take, including whether reinforcement is necessary.

The special unit is capable of monitoring radioactive material and decontamination.

Willard said the military is also considering using new technology to enable work inside the troubled six-reactor Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture, where leaks of high-level radiation have hampered efforts to cool reactors.

Japanese authorities and the plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., have been battling to bring the plant's reactors and spent-fuel storage pools under control since their cooling systems were knocked out in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Japan's Nuke Agency Raises Accident Severity Level To 5 From 4

Tokyo, March 18 Kyodo -- Japan's nuclear safety agency said Friday that it has raised the severity level of the country's nuclear accident involving the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station to 5 from 4 on a 7-level international scale.

03/18/2011

The provisional evaluation would mean that the country's disaster has come to the same level as the Three Mile Island accident in the United States in 1979.

Among the six reactors at the power plant, the No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 reactors that were operating at the time of the magnitude 9.0 quake halted automatically, but the cores are believed to have partially melted as they lost their cooling functions after the quake.

Given the damage to the cores and continuing radiation leak, the incident would stand at level 5 on the

International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale, an agency official told a press conference.

The evaluation is specifically for the incidents involving the No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 reactors.

IAEA plans special meeting Monday (March 21, 2011) on Japan nuclear plants

TOKYO, March 18 (Reuters) - The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Friday that the U.N. atomic watchdog plans to hold an extraordinary meeting on Japan's nuclear plants next Monday. Yukiya Amano, the head of the agency, announced plans for the meeting during a news conference in Tokyo.

03/18/2011

Japan official: Disasters overwhelmed government

2011-03-18, AP

YAMAGATA, Japan (AP) -- A top Japanese official acknowledged Friday that the government was overwhelmed by the scale of last week's twin natural disasters, slowing its response to the nuclear crisis that was triggered by the earthquake and tsunami that left at least 10,000 people dead. The admission by Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano came as Japan reached out Friday to the U.S. for help in stabilizing its overheated, radiation-leaking nuclear complex, and as the country reclassified the rating of the nuclear accident from Level 4 to Level 5 on a seven-level international scale. Nuclear experts have been saying for days that Japan was underplaying the crisis' severity. The International Nuclear Event Scale defines a Level 4 incident as having local consequences and a Level 5 as having wider consequences. The Level 5 puts the accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant on a par with the one at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania in 1979. The reclassification did not appear to signal that the crisis had grown more severe, only that officials felt it needed to be upgraded. "The unprecedented scale of the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan, frankly speaking, were among many things that happened that had not been anticipated under our disaster management contingency plans," Edano said, admitting that information had not been shared quickly enough. "In hindsight, we could have moved a little quicker in assessing the situation and coordinating all that information and provided it faster," he said. At the stricken complex, military fire trucks sprayed the reactor units for a second day, with tons of water arcing over the facility in desperate attempts to prevent the fuel from overheating and spewing dangerous levels of radiation.

03/18/2011

"The whole world, not just Japan, is depending on them," Tokyo office worker Norie Igarashi, 44, said of the emergency teams working amid heightened radiation levels at the complex.

Last week's 9.0 quake and tsunami set off the nuclear problems by knocking out power to cooling systems at the Fukushima plant on the northeast coast. Since then, four of the troubled plant's six reactor units have seen fires, explosions or partial meltdowns.

The unfolding crises have led to power shortages in Japan, forced factories to close, sent shockwaves through global manufacturing and triggered a plunge in Japanese stock prices.

"We see it as an extremely serious accident," Yukiya Amano, the head of the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency, told reporters Friday after arriving in Tokyo. "This is not something that just Japan should deal with, and people of the entire world should cooperate with Japan and the people in the disaster areas."

"I think they are racing against the clock," he said of the efforts to cool the complex.

One week after the twin disasters -- which left more than 6,500 dead and over 10,300 missing -- emergency crews are facing two challenges in the nuclear crisis: cooling the reactors where energy is generated, and cooling the adjacent pools where used nuclear fuel rods are stored in water.

Both need water to stop their uranium from heating up and emitting radiation, but with radiation levels inside the complex already limiting where workers can go and how long they can remain, it's been difficult to get enough water inside.

Water in at least one fuel pool -- in the complex's Unit 3 -- is believed to be dangerously low. Without enough water, the rods may heat further and spew out radiation.

"Dealing with Unit 3 is our utmost priority," Edano told reporters.

Edano said Tokyo is asking the U.S. government for help and that the two are discussing the specifics.

"We are coordinating with the U.S. government as to what the U.S. can provide and what people really need," Edano said.

While Tokyo quickly welcomed international help for the natural disasters, the government initially balked at assistance with the nuclear crisis. That reluctance softened as the problems at Fukushima multiplied.

Washington says its technical experts are now exchanging information with officials from Tokyo Electric Power Co., which owns the plant, and with government agencies.

A U.S. military fire truck was also used to help spray water into Unit 3, according to air force Chief of Staff Shigeru Iwasaki, though the vehicle was apparently driven by Japanese workers.

The U.S. vehicle was used alongside six Japanese military fire trucks normally used to extinguish fires at plane crashes.

The fire trucks allowed emergency workers to stay a relatively safe distance from the radiation, firing the

water with high-pressure cannons. The firefighters also are able to direct the cannons from inside the vehicle.

Officials shared few details about Friday's operation, which lasted nearly 40 minutes, though Iwasaki said he believed some water had reached its target.

The U.S. has also now conducted overflights of the reactor site, strapping sophisticated pods onto aircraft to measure airborne radiation, U.S. officials said. Two tests conducted Thursday gave readings that U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary Daniel B. Poneman said reinforced the U.S. recommendation that people keep away from a 50-mile (80-kilometer) radius around the Fukushima plant.

Meanwhile, tsunami survivors observed a minute of silence Friday afternoon to mark one week since the quake, which struck at 2:46 p.m. Many were bundled up against the cold at shelters in the disaster zone, pressing their hands together in prayer.

Low levels of radiation have been detected well beyond Tokyo, which is 140 miles (220 kilometers) south of the plant, but hazardous levels have been limited to the plant itself. Still, the crisis has forced thousands to evacuate and drained Tokyo's normally vibrant streets of life, its residents either leaving town or holing up in their homes.

The Japanese government has been slow in releasing information on the crisis, even as the troubles have multiplied. In a country where the nuclear industry has a long history of hiding its safety problems, this has left many people -- in Japan and among governments overseas -- confused and anxious.

"We have enough to worry about already. The nuclear crisis makes it all worse," said Yaeko Sato, 57, wrapped in two blankets in a hilltop shelter above the town of Shizugawa, sitting beside a list of the dead and the missing. She and her husband fled in their car, but now have no gas and cannot leave. "All we hear are rumors."

"We are worried about the nuclear crisis, but we are more worried about how we will rebuild our lives. I don't know how many months we'll have to stay here. I don't know where we will live," she said.

At times, Japan and the U.S. -- two very close allies -- have offered starkly differing assessments over the dangers at Fukushima. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jazcko said Thursday that it could take days and "possibly weeks" to get the complex under control. He defended the U.S. decision to recommend a 50-mile (80-kilometer) evacuation zone for its citizens, wider than the 12-mile (20-kilometer) band Japan has ordered.

Crucial to the effort to regain control over the Fukushima plant is laying a new power line to the plant, allowing operators to restore cooling systems. The operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., missed a deadline late Thursday but hoped to complete the effort late Friday, said nuclear safety agency spokesman Minoru Ohgoda.

But the utility is not sure the cooling systems will still function. If they don't, electricity won't help. President Barack Obama assured Americans that officials do not expect harmful amounts of radiation to reach the U.S. or its territories. He also said the U.S. was offering Japan any help it could provide. Police said more than 452,000 people made homeless by the quake and tsunami were staying in schools and other shelters, as supplies of fuel, medicine and other necessities ran short. Both victims and aid workers appealed for more help, as the chances of finding more survivors dwindled. About 343,000 Japanese households still do not have electricity, and about 1 million have no water. At the Fukushima plant, a core team of 180 emergency workers has been rotating out of the complex to minimize radiation exposure. The storage pools need a constant source of cooling water. Even when removed from reactors, uranium rods are still extremely hot and must be cooled for months, possibly longer, to prevent them from heating up again and emitting radioactivity.

Japan and the uses of  
adversity

The Economist, 2011-03-17

The rest of Asia watches with horror, pity and admiration

03/17/2011

FEW bright spots illuminate the bleak sequence of calamities unfolding in Japan. But here are two: the quotidian, stoic heroism with which so many Japanese have responded to devastating loss and terrifying danger; and the outpouring of sympathy and support for them from around the world. In the many parts of Asia where anti-Japanese sentiment runs deep, the disasters may even mark a turning-point in attitudes, bringing a new respect and warmth to perceptions of Japan.

Hostility towards the country in what bankers call "ex-Japan Asia" has fluctuated, and, especially in China, has at times been manipulated by governments. But it has never vanished. It has three roots. One is the legacy of Japan's imperialist past and its begrudging, half-hearted apologies for wartime atrocities. Second are simmering territorial disputes with China, Taiwan and South Korea over tiny islets in the East China Sea, and the fisheries and oil-and-gas fields around them.

Third is plain envy of Japan's efficiency, wealth and power, mixed with resentment at the arrogance they are sometimes seen as fostering. That Japan is a huge aid donor and investor in developing Asia has mitigated but not eradicated these prejudices, which have also withstood two decades of economic stagnation punctuated by a huge disaster—the Kobe earthquake of 1995. Japan's present emergency, however, may have a more lasting impact. It is more multifaceted and comes after a further 16 years of relative Japanese decline, including its recent ceding to China of its status as the world's second-largest

economy.

Even now there have been a few vile, jubilant voices among Japan's neighbours. The chinaSMACK website reported a microblogger who greeted the earthquake with the pithy remark: "Splendid!" A blogger in Taiwan—an assistant to a member of parliament—criticised donations to Japan, and indulged in racist abuse of Japanese "dogs". Less grotesquely, a Malaysian newspaper published an insensitive cartoon of a popular Japanese manga hero, Ultraman, fleeing a tsunami.

All of this, however, met fierce criticism. One comment on the Chinese "Splendid!" post was "What's wrong with you?" The Taiwanese blogger's boss and the Malaysian newspaper were quick to apologise. And the cruelty was not just an Asian phenomenon. There was equally offensive rubbish on Facebook out of America, calling the catastrophes retribution for a 70-year-old act of infamy at Pearl Harbour.

Away from the nastier fringes of the internet, the typical reaction, in Asia as elsewhere, has been of appalled sympathy. As the tsunami of sludge swept over north-eastern Honshu on March 11th crowds gathered, transfixed by the pictures, in front of television sets in shops, bars, stations and airports. Since then it has become more apparent how many lives might have been lost, what hardship survivors are enduring, and what peril they face from the risk of a deadly nuclear disaster. Japan's past hardly seems relevant any more, except for the memory that it is the only nation to have suffered nuclear attack.

Beyond pity at seeing residents of a rich, proud country scavenging for food; hoarding bottled water and huddling for shelter on schoolroom floors, it was hard not to feel admiration as well. Chinese and Indian websites were agog at the orderliness of the Japanese, even those now homeless and even as the nuclear panic mounted. They noted the lack of looting. Some drew unfavourable comparisons with their own people and governments. An article on one Chinese site, Caixin, referred both to the earthquake in China's Sichuan province in 2008, when some 70,000 people died, and to the way schools in Japan have been used as shelters. In the Sichuan earthquake many schools collapsed. Parents blamed corruption and shoddy construction.

This popular response was matched by official warmth. Like China's during the relief effort that followed the Sichuan earthquake, Japan's foreign relations have improved. It has been on bad terms with China since a row last September over the Senkaku islands. But China has donated aid and, at his annual press conference on March 14th, Wen Jiabao, the prime minister, made a point of giving a message of support for Japan, recalling its help to China in 2008. Similarly, the disasters have led to a rapprochement with Russia, with which relations have also been fraught over a territorial dispute. Vladimir Putin, the Russian prime minister, has offered aid in the form of energy and ordered officials to speed up an oil-and-gas project on the island of Sakhalin to meet future Japanese demand.

Russia's offer may be based on the assumption that Japan will have to pare back its reliance on nuclear

energy. And that is another lesson that Asian observers of Japan's crisis have taken home: if even Japan—so well-organised and disciplined, so well prepared for disaster and so experienced in nuclear power—can come so close to catastrophe, what nuclear risks are their own countries running? Despite criticism of Japan's handling of the nuclear crisis, many Chinese or Indians suspect their own authorities are no more competent or transparent.

#### Meltdown

Yet China is building almost as many nuclear power plants as the rest of the world combined. India, too, has big plans to expand its nuclear-power industry. Like China and Japan, it is prone to earthquakes. This week both India and China announced safety reviews. Neither is likely to call a permanent halt to further expansion. The world has tended to approve of their plans. Both countries at present rely heavily on coal for electricity generation, which both will be boosting hugely in coming decades. The alternative to nuclear expansion may be more coal, and higher carbon emissions. It is hard to look on the bright side for long.

Japan: Bungling,  
cover-ups define  
Japanese nuclear power

TOKYO (AP) — Behind Japan's escalating nuclear crisis sits a scandal-ridden energy industry in a comfy relationship with government regulators often willing to overlook safety lapses.

Leaks of radioactive steam and workers contaminated with radiation are just part of the disturbing catalog of accidents that have occurred over the years and been belatedly reported to the public, if at all.

In one case, workers hand-mixed uranium in stainless steel buckets, instead of processing by machine, so the fuel could be reused, exposing hundreds of workers to radiation. Two later died.

"Everything is a secret," said Kei Sugaoka, a former nuclear power plant engineer in Japan who now lives in California. "There's not enough transparency in the industry."

Sugaoka worked at the same utility that runs the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant where workers are racing against time to prevent a full meltdown following Friday's 9.0 magnitude quake and tsunami.

In 1989 Sugaoka received an order that horrified him: edit out footage showing cracks in plant steam pipes in video being submitted to regulators. Sugaoka alerted his superiors in the Tokyo Electric Power Co., but nothing happened. He decided to go public in 2000. Three Tepco executives lost their jobs.

The legacy of scandals and cover-ups over Japan's half-century reliance on nuclear power has strained its credibility with the public. That mistrust has been renewed this past week with the crisis at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant. No evidence has emerged of officials hiding information in this catastrophe. But the vagueness and scarcity of details offered by the government and Tepco — and news that seems to grow worse each day — are fueling public anger and frustration.

"I can't believe them," said Taketo Kuga, a cab driver in Tokyo, where low levels of radiation was observed

03/17/2011

Tuesday, despite being 140 miles (220 kilometers) away from the faulty plant.

Kuga has been busy lately driving to airports and train stations people eager to get out and flee southward. And it unsettles him the information about radiation is all over the Internet, hours before officials make their announcements.

"I don't feel safe," he said.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. official Takeshi Makigami says experts are doing their utmost to get the reactors under control.

"We are doing all that is possible," he told reporters.

Worried that over-dependence on imported oil could undermine Japan's humming economy, the government threw its support into nuclear power, and the industry boomed in profile and influence. The country has 54 nuclear plants, which provide 30 percent of the nation's energy needs, is building two more and studying proposals for 12 more plants.

Before Friday's earthquake and tsunami that triggered the Fukushima crisis and sent the economy reeling, Japan's 11 utility companies, many of them nuclear plant operators, were worth \$139 billion on the stock market.

Tepco — the utility that supplies power for Japan's capital and biggest city — accounted for nearly a third of that market capitalization, though its shares have been battered since the disasters, falling 65 percent over the past week to 759 yen (\$9.6) Thursday. Last month, it got a boost from the government, which renewed authorization for Tepco to operate Fukushima's 40-year-old Unit 1 reactor for another 10 years.

With such strong government support and a culture that ordinarily frowns upon dissent, regulators tend not to push for rigorous safety, said Amory Lovins, an expert on energy policy and founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute.

"You add all that up and it's a recipe for people to cut corners in operation and regulation," Lovins said. Competence and transparency issues aside, some say it's just too dangerous to build nuclear plants in an earthquake-prone nation like Japan, where land can liquefy during a major temblor.

"You're building on a heap of tofu," said Philip White of Tokyo-based Citizens' Nuclear Information Center, a group of scientists and activists who have opposed nuclear power since 1975.

"There is absolutely no reason to trust them," he said of those that run Japan's nuclear power plants. Japan is haunted by memories of past nuclear accidents.

— In 1999, fuel-reprocessing workers were reported to be using stainless steel buckets to hand-mix uranium in flagrant violation of safety standards at the Tokaimura plant. Two workers later died in what was the deadliest accident in the Japanese industry's history.

— At least 37 workers were exposed to low doses of radiation at a 1997 fire and explosion at a nuclear

reprocessing plant operated in Tokaimura, northeast of Tokyo. The operator, Donen, later acknowledged it had initially suppressed information about the fire.

— Hundreds of people were exposed to radiation and thousands evacuated in the more serious 1999 Tokaimura accident involving JCO Co. The government assigned the accident a level 4 rating on the International Nuclear Event Scale ranging from 1 to 7, with 7 being most serious.

— In 2007, a powerful earthquake ripped into Japan's northwest coast, killing at least eight people and causing malfunctions at the Kashiwazaki Kariwa nuclear power plant, including radioactive water spills, burst pipes and fires. Radiation did not leak from the facility.

Tepco has safety violations that stretch back decades. In 1978, control rods at one Fukushima reactor dislodged but the accident was not reported because utilities were not required to notify the government of such accidents. In 2006, Tepco reported a negligible amount of radioactive steam seeped from the Fukushima plant — and blew beyond the compound.

Now with the public on edge over safety, Tatsumi Tanaka, head of Risk Hedge and a crisis management expert, believes the government would find it difficult to approve new plants in the immediate future. Tanaka says that, true to Japan's dismal nuclear power record, officials bungled the latest crisis, failing to set up a special crisis team and appoint credible outside experts.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., regulators and the government spokesman have been holding nationally televised news conferences, sometimes several a day, on the latest developments at the Fukushima plant.

But the reactors have been volatile, changing by the hour, with multiple explosions, fires and leaks of radiation. The utility, regulators and government spokesmen often send conflicting information, adding to the confusion and the perception they aren't being forthright, Tanaka says.

"They are only making people's fears worse," he said. "They need to study at the onset what are the possible scenarios that might happen in about five stages and then figure out what the response should be."

Japan: Russian Experts  
Believe Fukushima NPP  
May Be Spared The Worst

MOSCOW. March 17 (Interfax) - Experts from the Kurchatov Institute do not believe in the possibility of a self-induced chain reaction at the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

03/17/2011

"I think that the core meltdown of five reactors is the worst that may happen. Most probably, this cannot be avoided," Institute Deputy Director Yaroslav Shtrombakh told a Thursday press conference in Moscow.

"So far, we believe there is no self-induced chain reaction there," he added.

Japan: Fukushima

EuroNews, March 16, 2011 Wednesday

03/17/2011

witness: 'The main road  
out of here is gridlocked'

The residents of crisis-hit Fukushima face an uncertain future.

The town is suffering under the weight of a potential nuclear meltdown, a shattered infrastructure, a lack of fuel, gridlocked roads and snow.

Graham Chave lives in Fukushima City. He told euronews:

"Yet again it's a waiting game; we are still watching the power plants, seeing what is going on there. We're hearing these disturbing stories that large numbers of the personnel have been evacuated, they were only away from thereactors for an hour or so, they have returned there and are continuing their efforts to put out fires and contain any radiation that is going out. We are watching that and watching the wind direction, obviously. Luckily we have a very strong westerly wind here that is blowing everything nasty out to sea."

euronews: "Are you suffering from snow and cold weather at the moment?"

Graham Chave:

"It's snowing here. There are a couple of inches on the ground, which is probably a good thing, because a lot of people don't want to go outside because of the perceived risk of radiation."

euronews: "Regarding fuel, are people beginning to run out of fuel not only for transportation, but also for heating and other essentials?"

Graham Chave:

"If you can find a gas station with any fuel you will be queuing for a couple of hours to get about 12 litres, that is 12 litres per car. So that is not really going to get you very far. Heating, a lot of people here use kerosene for heaters and carry it around in 18 litre plastic containers, and a lot of places are selling 10 litres at a time per person. So with this weather it's difficult."

euronews: "If there is a nuclear meltdown in Fukushima, what are you going to do?"

Graham Chave:

"We will just hop in car and head directly west to relatives - that's on the way to the other coast, we don't have enough gas to get really much further, but again our options are limited. Going north we have to go through the Sendai area, which will be difficult. Heading south to Tokyo, depending on the wind, Tokyo is just as much at risk of radiation as here. The main road out of here - and you have to remember the expressways are closed to everything except emergency traffic - the main regular road out of here is gridlocked, it is very, very slow going and once you get on that road you won't be able to find any more petrol and I don't know what's going to happen after that."

Japan: Sdf Trucks Begin Shooting Water at Crisis-hit Fukushima Reactor

Tokyo, March 17 Kyodo -- The Self-Defense Forces' fire trucks began shooting high-pressure streams of water Thursday evening at the crisis-hit No. 3 reactor of the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.

03/17/2011

The move is part of an unprecedented attempt to cool down the reactor's apparently overheating fuel pool, after SDF helicopters dropped tons of water earlier in the day.

Japan: Tepco, Others To Discontinue Building Nuke Facilities in Aomori

Aomori, Japan, March 17 Kyodo -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. will discontinue the construction of a new nuclear power plant in Higashidori, Aomori Prefecture, in the wake of severe accidents inflicted on its Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant in Fukushima Prefecture by last week's catastrophic earthquake and tsunami, a company official said Thursday.

03/17/2011

Electric Power Development Co., known as J-Power, and Recyclable-Fuel Storage Co., which is partly owned by TEPCO, also told the Aomori prefectural government the same day that they will shelve their respective projects to build nuclear facilities for the time being.

J-power has been constructing a nuclear power plant in the town of Oma and Recyclable-Fuel Storage a temporary storage facility for spent nuclear fuel in the city of Mutsu.

"We will put off full-scale construction (of the plant) slated to start in April," said Mikio Sakuma, head of TEPCO's Aomori office, as he reported the decision to the prefectural government, adding, "We are not in a position to say when to resume building it." TEPCO began building the plant in late January in the village on the Pacific coast in northeastern Japan, with an eye to begin operating it in March 2017.

It is designed to have an advanced boiling water reactor with a 1.39 million-kilowatt output capacity, the largest of the type in Japan.

Japan Sets Limits on

Tokyo, March 17 (Jiji Press) -- Japan's health ministry on Thursday imposed numerical restrictions

03/17/2011

Radiation for Food

for radiation levels in food in the wake of radiation leaks from a quake-hit nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan.

The Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry notified prefectural governments of the regulations the same day and urged them to ensure that food with radiation exceeding the levels set under the regulations will not be shipped or sold under the food sanitation law.

There have so far been no confirmed cases of food breaching the numerical limits, ministry officials said.

It is the first that the Japanese government has introduced numerical limits for radiation levels for domestically grown food, the officials said. The upper limits were set based on the standards adopted by the Nuclear Safety Commission.

The figures are particularly strict for products such as water, milk, dairy products and baby food.

Local sanitation authorities are in charge of inspections and must check food content based on sampling results.

The regulations cover the whole country, senior vice health minister Kohei Otsuka said at a news conference.

The Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant, run by Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501>, was damaged by Friday's 9.0-magnitude earthquake that hit the Tohoku region of northeastern Japan.

South Korea To Offer Boric Acid To Japan

SEOUL, March 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to transfer its reserve of boric acids to Japan to help the country stabilize quake-damaged nuclear reactors that have started to release radioactive material, the government said Wednesday.

03/16/2011

The Ministry of Knowledge Economy said that Tokyo requested assistance of the key material vital for stopping fission nuclear reactions after its own stockpile was largely used up at the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

The state-run Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co., which operates South Korea's 21 commercial reactors, said it has 309 tons of the material in powder form and could transfer 52.6 tons in the next few days, the ministry said. It said the remainder is adequate for six months of use.

"Seoul has decided to provide whatever reserves it can spare without jeopardizing local nuclear operations," a ministry official said. "Depleted reserves will be restocked once the emergency situation has passed."

Boric acid is a key material that goes into control rods used to halt or slow down fission reactions at nuclear reactors. Japan has mixed large amounts of the material with seawater and poured them into the reactors as an emergency measure.

The Fukushima power plant, located about 250 kilometers northeast of Tokyo, was hit hard by a record 9.0-magnitude quake last week. Explosions have been reported in four of its six reactors, causing radiation to be vented into the environment.

Besides providing boric acid, local oil companies said they plan to ship refined petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel and kerosene to Japan after many refineries were forced to shut down due to the devastating quake.

Local oil companies such as S-Oil Corp., SK Energy Co. and GS Caltex Corp. said they have received requests from Japanese companies such as JX Nippon Oil & Energy Corp. for assistance.

Refiners said they are assessing their production capabilities and plan to ship what they can to help Japan better cope with the current crisis situation.

Japan: Tepco,  
Government Blasted for  
Slow Response To Nuclear  
Plant Disaster

Mainichi Daily News Online 1643 GMT 16 Mar 11

Radiation leaks at the quake-hit Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant have highlighted the slow response to the disaster by the plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO), as well as the central government.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan belatedly set up an ad hoc joint headquarters for the government and TEPCO on March 15, four days after the killer earthquake and tsunami that devastated a wide area along the Pacific

03/16/2011

Coast in northeastern and eastern Japan, leaving at least 3,700 people dead and about 22,000 missing.

Some officials familiar with the case said the Kan government's response to the nuclear accidents was too slow.

Kan held a meeting at the newly established liaison office at TEPCO's head office early on the morning of March 15 as he pressured TEPCO executives to take responsibility for bringing the nuclear crisis under control.

"You are the only ones (who can deal with the situation). There will be no pullout (from the nuclear plant). Please be prepared," he told TEPCO officials.

The effort represents a measure by the Kan government to virtually bring the private utility company under government control to deal with the emergencies at the Fukushima nuclear plant.

Abnormalities at some of the nuclear plant's reactors occurred immediately after the 2:46 p.m. tremor on March 11. People close to the prime minister said TEPCO, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency and other parties assured a skeptical Kan at the time that there was no cause for alarm.

Haruki Madarame, chairman of the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan who was summoned to the Prime Minister's Office in the wee hours of Saturday, explained, "There is the possibility of hydrogen being released, but there will be no problem."

This infuriated Prime Minister Kan, a graduate of the Tokyo Institute of Technology, who raised his voice at one point, saying, "If there is hydrogen, an explosion will happen!"

After the hydrogen explosion at the No. 1 reactor, according to high-ranking government officials, government leaders asked TEPCO to open a steam vent of the pressure container but TEPCO resisted for fear of a release of radioactive material before reluctantly agreeing to inject seawater into the troubled reactor unit.

Officials with the Prime Minister's Office blamed TEPCO for the poor response to the crisis. "TEPCO was optimistic about everything and too passive," one of them said.

"TEPCO is not promptly sending us up-to-date information," Kan complained in a series of meetings with lawmakers of the ruling and opposition parties.

But whatever the effects of his argument, the Kan government left TEPCO to respond to the unfolding crises at the nuclear plant, leading to partial meltdowns at the No. 1, 2 and 3 reactors and the release of high-level radioactive materials, as well as global concerns about the safety of nuclear power plants.

Japanese Leaders Leave  
People in the Dark

Der Spiegel, 2011-03-15

03/16/2011

Leaders in Japan have not comported themselves well since Friday's disaster. Information has been in short supply and distrust among the Japanese has begun to spread. Now, the blame game has begun in earnest. On Tuesday, five days after the Fukushima disaster, Japanese Prime Minister Kan Naoto, 64, finally lost his patience. He stepped into his limousine and was driven to the headquarters of Tokyo Electric Power Company (Tepco) in the Japanese capital city. "What is going on here?" he screamed at the flabbergasted executives responsible for the out-of-control Fukushima power plant. "We are depending on you, don't even think about retreating -- pull yourselves together."

Desperation is spreading in Tokyo's government quarters. Finally, Kan has moved to create a joint crisis team comprised of his cabinet and Tepco executives. It appears now that, after days of confusion over responsibility and the constant downplaying and hush-up of the danger through Tepco, but also through his own government, Kan now wants to get things under control.

That is, if it isn't already too late. A short time later, Kan addressed the Japanese people, preparing them for possible new radiation leaks at the nuclear power plant. He said the residents located within a 30-kilometer (around 19 miles) radius of the Fukushima plant should remain indoors. Previously, those measures had only been imposed over a 20-kilometer radius.

Japanese Wait in Vain for Information on Nuclear Disaster

With the nerve-wrecking leisureliness of a Japanese tea ceremony, Tokyo is finally beginning to explain to its people the gravity of the situation in Fukushima. And to the rest of the world. On Monday, it became known that several countries have criticized Japan's information management. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), unsolicited, has said it wants to dispatch an expert commission to Japan.

Even Kan's chief cabinet secretary, Yukio Edano -- who had sought to play down the threat of nuclear radiation with empty words like "there is a low possibility that a massive amount of radiation has been

leaked" or there was a "low possibility of radioactive contamination" that would be harmful to health -- is no longer ruling out that possibility. Instead of speaking of "micro sievert," he is suddenly speaking of "milli sievert," as he reads the cheat sheet provided by his staff. Lay people may have trouble differentiating between the two, but Japanese television explained it a short time later to viewers: A milli sievert is a thousand times stronger -- already at a dosage of 100, a milli-sievert is enough to make a male radiation victim sterile.

Despite the new openness, the Japanese people are still waiting in vain for reliable information about the possibility of a meltdown and useful instructions on what they can do to protect themselves. What, for example, are the 30 million people living in the Tokyo metropolitan area supposed to do if Edano in the near future announces even higher radiation rates?

The cabinet secretary is visibly making an effort to avoid panic. Instead he prefers to rely on truisms like this: "The further away you move the lower the radiation levels will become."

#### Fears Grow

Fear is mounting amongst the Japanese and their trust in Tokyo's announcements is dissipating quickly. The numerous panels of experts being interviewed on Japanese television are also expressing their bewilderment at the paucity of information coming from the government and Tepco. "Why aren't they giving us clear information?" they ask. "This is really getting irritating." By now you can hear commentary like that on all the channels. What the world is currently experiencing is the typical Japanese habit of trying sweep accidents under the carpet -- out of shame and a false sense of group loyalty or corporate spirit. By now, though, everyone knows about the accident.

"The nail that sticks out gets hammered down," is not just a Japanese proverb, it is also a rule of behavior the country's children learn at a very young age. This time, too, no one in power in Tokyo has had the confidence to tell the entire truth. That is also true of Japanese institutions, which are confusing the people in the same way as the office of the prime minister. These include the nuclear regulatory authority, Nisa. One can recognize Nisa authorities by the neat white uniforms with blue stripes they wear (the prime minister and spokesman Edano, for their part, wear blue overalls, and Tepco managers can be recognized by their suits and ties).

Nisa was first established 10 years ago -- not a very long time for a country that has been using nuclear power since the 1950s and currently produces more than one-third of its electricity using nuclear power. Even so, they still had enough time to address safety concerns at the fully outmoded Fukushima plant, built in 1971 -- or even to take it offline.

They could, at the very least, be forthcoming in warning the Japanese about a situation that is growing ever graver. Instead, Nisa officials have resembled bored parking lot attendants during their press conferences.

"As the chief cabinet secretary just announced," is one of their favorite sentences -- or: "You'll have to ask Tepco."

Tepco Takes Its Time, But Japan Doesn't Have any More

Fukushima has become a tragic mix of questionable competence and deliberate deception. The response of Tepco, too, has been problematic. The listed electricity company is not used to having to explain anything to consumers. It was only on Sunday that Tepco chief Masataka Shimizu gave his first press conference -- two days after a "nuclear emergency" had been declared at Fukushima and several hours after the explosion in reactor bloc 1.

Shimizu said the scope of nuclear radiation was under review, but that he didn't think it would have "immediate" consequences for human health.

If not immediate, though, then when? Tepco likes to take its time, but Japan may not have much left. Prime Minister Kan and his crisis team also reportedly first learned of the explosion in reactor bloc 1 after seeing it on television. According to the reports, Tepco apparently didn't think it necessary to immediately inform Kan. Worse yet, chief cabinet secretary Edano has been quoted in the local press as saying: "The information that the office of the prime minister obtained from Tepco was not correct."

Tokyo is losing its patience and officials have begun casting blame at each other. But Kan and Edano too have been criticized. The prime minister first addressed his people on Saturday evening, 30 hours after the terrible earthquake shook Tokyo and the northern half of Japan's main island. The prime minister uttered a few stately sentences, but he didn't have much to say about the nuclear catastrophe. Instead he referred questions to spokesman Edano and disappeared.

But fears are mounting, and Kan himself appears to have now recognized that fact. And his next public address may be much, much grimmer than his last.

Japan: Accurate information key to effective crisis management

The Mainichi Daily News, 2011-03-15

The issuing of evacuation orders for areas near a nuclear power plant where explosions have occurred without clarifying what is the actual situation at the plant has only caused anxiety to the public. In addition to explaining what is the actual situation at the plant, power suppliers as well as the government are urged to clearly explain what they assume will happen to nuclear power plants effected by the massive earthquake. If groundless presumptions escalate the public's anxiety, it could cause many people to panic, spreading unnecessary damage.

03/16/2011

What is important in crisis management at the time of a serious disaster like the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake is the prompt dispatch of information from reliable sources. The public learned such a lesson from the outbreak of swine flu.

However, relevant organizations have failed to provide consistent information to the public. The Prime Minister's Office, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) and Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) and other organizations concerned have so far held separate news conferences to explain what has happened to the Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant. Since TEPCO, which operates the plant, is the primary information source, there are time lags and gaps in the accuracy of information announced by the power supplier and other entities.

It took hours before the government announced an explosion at the building that houses the No. 1 reactor reportedly because TEPCO was late in reporting the incident to the government regulator. Even though the way information on the incident is provided has since improved, the relevant organizations still have failed to sufficiently share necessary information.

Confusion over rolling power outages -- the suspension of electricity supply to different areas on a rotation basis -- is attributable largely to the inadequate provision of information. TEPCO's explanations and its response to the shortage of power have changed from time to time, and members of the public have not been informed of when power supply to their homes would be suspended -- even the night before the planned cuts.

Power outages without providing sufficient information on the situation could endanger the lives of people who use artificial respirators at home. Conflicting information has led to the public's confusion over the suspension of railway services in the metropolitan area.

Given the scale of the disaster, rolling power outages can win understanding from the public. The problem is the relevant organizations' failure to dispatch accurate information on the measure in an appropriate manner.

Under the current circumstances, gathering and providing information on the nuclear power plant and power supply should no longer be left to the discretion of a single private company.

Based on real-time information, the government should cooperate closely with experts in nuclear power generation, radiation, crisis management, public relations and risk management in providing accurate information to the general public.

The nation as a whole should work together to overcome this extremely serious crisis. It's time for the entire nation to increase its crisis management ability by sharing accurate information.

GE to offer technical assistance to Japan

NEW YORK, March 15, Kyodo

General Electric Co. of the United States, which supplied the nuclear reactors at the quake-hit Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant, said Tuesday it will offer technical assistance to the Japanese government and the plant's operator Tokyo Electric Power Co.

More than 1,000 engineers from the company's joint venture with Hitachi Ltd., the Wilmington, North Carolina-based GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Inc., will provide assistance, it said.

Responding to a request by Tokyo Electric, GE will also provide 10 truck-mounted gas turbines for emergency use to address power shortages in Japan, it said.

03/16/2011

French watchdog puts Japan nuclear accident at level five or six

Paris, 14 March 2011 (AP): The nuclear accident in Fukushima has reached a level of seriousness "beyond the Three Mile Island level (level five) without reaching that of Chernobyl" (level seven - highest level), the president of the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN), Andre-ClaudeLacoste, said on Monday [14 March].

"We feel that we are at least at level five and no doubt at level six, and I'm talking with the approval of my Japanese colleagues," Andre-ClaudeLacoste said during a joint press briefing given by the ASN-IRSN (Radioprotection and Nuclear Safety Institute).

"We are beyond the Three Mile Island level (level five) without reaching that of Chernobyl, we are certainly at an intermediate level, but we cannot rule out" reaching the level of the Chernobyl disaster, he added.

In Vienna, the director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Yukiya Amano, said on Monday evening that it was "very unlikely" for the current crisis in the Fukushima-1 nuclear power plant to turn into a situation comparable to the Chernobyl accident.

On 12 March, the day of the first explosion at Fukushima-1, the Japanese authorities said the accident at the nuclear power station had reached level four of the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES), which has seven levels. On this INES scale, the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986 was put at level seven, the highest ever reached.

MrLacoste added that a "crisis which may last a week or even several weeks" had to be expected. "We are unable to say that there are no more difficulties regarding the three other reactors" of the Fukushima-1 power station, which has six reactors. The three other reactors were not in service at the time of the accident but still contain spent fuel.

In the case of Chernobyl, there was an "absence of controlling the nuclear explosion" while in the case of Fukushima there is merely an "absence of controlling the cooling", MrLacoste said.

The IRSN has sent an expert to the scene with a team from France's disaster and emergency services to

03/16/2011

confirm the data provided by the Japanese authorities, according to the president of the board of governors of the Institute, Agnes Buzin.

Japan Fukushima  
Earthquake and Tsunami  
News March 11 -12, 2001

Japan Fukushima Earthquake and Tsunami Events March 11 -12, 2001  
In Descending Order

03/13/2011

#### Radiation Could Already Have Leaked at Nuke Plant

Tokyo, March 12 Kyodo -- Radioactive substances could already have leaked at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant after a magnitude 8.8 earthquake hit northern Japan, the operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Saturday.

The amount of radiation reached around 1,000 times the normal level in the control room of the No. 1 reactor of the plant, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency also said. The discovery suggests radioactive steam could spread around the facility.

The agency also said radiation has been more than eight times the normal level at a monitoring post near the main gate of the plant.

The authorities expanded the evacuation area for residents in the vicinity of the plant from a 3-kilometer radius to 10 km on the orders of Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who plans to visit the facility later Saturday.

#### Tokyo Electric Power To Release Reactor Pressure

Tokyo, March 12 (Jiji Press) -- Tokyo Electric Power Co. has decided to release the pressure from reactors of a quake-hit nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture, northern Japan, to prevent them from breaking down, company sources said Saturday.

Releasing the pressure from the company's Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant by opening their valves may let a small amount of radioactive substances leak out into the atmosphere, according to Tokyo Electric Power.

The safety of nearby residents will be ensured as all the residents in a 10-kilometer radius from the power plant have been evacuated or instructed by the government to stay at home, according to the sources.

Immediately after the 8.8-magnitude quake hit northeastern Japan, all the three operating reactors at the power plant stopped automatically.

Internal pressure is feared to have risen at all the reactors. The pressure in the No. 1 reactor increased to 600 kilopascals from the normal level of 400 kilopascals.

Meantime, Tokyo Electric Power is striving to restore the No. 2 reactor's cooling system, which stopped working because the quake caused a power outage and emergency diesel power generation equipment broke down.

While the reactor's cooling water levels are still kept at about 3.5 meters above the top of its nuclear fuel rods, the level's decline would force the fuel rods exposed to air to generate radiation.

#### State of Emergency Declared at Fukushima Plant

TokyoAsahi Shimbun Online 1733 GMT 11 Mar 11

Friday's devastating earthquake in the Tohoku region may have created a dangerous situation at two nuclear reactors in Fukushima Prefecture.

Officials of the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency were informed by Tokyo Electric Power Co. that the emergency core cooling system was not working at two reactors.

In addition, another mechanism that had been used to send water to the core also stopped at 8:30 p.m.

If the cores are not sufficiently cooled, there is a danger of a possible core meltdown.

At a news conference Friday night, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said a state of emergency at a nuclear facility was declared at 4:36 p.m.

It is the first time such a state of emergency has been declared.

According to NISA officials, although the reactor core stopped operations after the earthquake hit, water had to be inserted to the core to cool it because heat continued to be emitted from the nuclear fuel.

Although workers had to initiate emergency core cooling system procedures, the lack of an external power source and the failure of an emergency generator crippled the system that circulates water to the core to cool it.

TEPCO officials dispatched 51 generator vehicles to the reactors in an attempt to restore power. One vehicle reached one of the nuclear reactors late Friday and some of that reactor's power was restored.

At 9:23 p.m., the central government issued an evacuation instruction for residents living within a 3-kilometer radius of the No. 1 Fukushima nuclear power plant as well as an instruction to residents living within a radius of between 3 and 10 kilometers to remain indoors.

Edano said no radiation leakage had been detected.

The company issued an emergency evacuation order for the two reactors at the No. 1 Fukushima nuclear power plant. Officials from local communities gathered at a special monitoring facility in Okuma to oversee the cooling of the cores.

There was also the possibility that seawater pumps for cooling purposes may have stopped at two reactors at the No. 2 Fukushima nuclear power plant.

If those pumps remain inoperational, it could affect the emergency core cooling systems at those reactors as well.

3,000 Ordered To Evacuate Near Quake-hit Fukushima Nuclear Plant

Tokyo, March 12 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING FIRE EXTINGUISHED AT ONAGAWA PLANT) Japan declared a state of atomic power emergency Friday after the country, which has about 50 nuclear power reactors, was hit by a magnitude 8.8 earthquake, instructing around 3,000 residents near the Fukushima No. 1 plant to evacuate.

Top government spokesman Yukio Edano told an evening press conference, "We have a situation where one of the reactors (of the plant) cannot be cooled down." But the chief Cabinet secretary said the evacuation instruction was only precautionary.

Edano said, "No radiation has leaked outside thereactor. The incident poses no danger to the environment at the moment." He also said early Saturday in Tokyo the incident was under control.

The post-quake situation prompted the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency to scramble for details from contacts in Japan's industry ministry, while saying in a statement that at least four nuclear power plants "closest to the quake have been safely shut down" after the 2:46 p.m. quake.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., the operator of the Fukushima plant, reported that the water level around fuel rods was falling in thereactor. Radioactive materials could be emitted if part of a fuel rod is exposed to the air.

But officials of the prefectural government dismissed the view that the plant is in a critical situation, saying the top of the water is 3.4 meters above the fuel rods at the troubled No. 2 reactor.

The evacuation advisory was issued for people living within a 3-kilometer radius of the plant, while those living within a 10-kilometer radius were asked to stay home, Edano said.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan declared the emergency, the first in the quake-prone country, so that authorities can easily implement emergency relief measures, Edano said. Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa ordered the Self-Defense Forces to act in response to the declaration.

The Defense Ministry dispatched a chemical corps of the Ground Self-Defense Force to the plant and Motohisa Ikeda, senior vice industry minister, also left for Fukushima by an SDF helicopter.

According to the industry ministry, a total of 11 nuclear reactors automatically shut down at the Onagawa plant, the Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 plants and the Tokai No. 2 plant after the strongest recorded earthquake in the country's history.

A fire started at a building housing the turbine of the Onagawa plant in Miyagi at 3:30 p.m. but was put out

before 11 p.m., the operator, Tohoku Electric Power Co., said, denying it had detected any signs of radiation leaks.

Water spilled from pools containing fuel rods at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant on the Sea of Japan coast in Niigata Prefecture and the Onagawa plant, the operators said, saying they saw no signs suggesting radiation leaks.

#### US Transports Coolant To Japan

WASHINGTON | Fri Mar 11, 2011 11:05am EST

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States has transported coolant to a Japanese nuclear plant affected by a massive earthquake and will continue to assist Japan, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Friday.

"We just had our Air Force assets in Japan transport some really important coolant to one of the nuclear plants," Clinton said at a meeting of the President's Export Council.

"You know Japan is very reliant on nuclear power and they have very high engineering standards but one of their plants came under a lot of stress with the earthquake and didn't have enough coolant," Clinton said.

#### Japan Reactor Being Cooled

LONDON, March 11 (Reuters) - The World Nuclear Association, the main nuclear industry body, said on Friday that it understood the situation at Japan's Fukushima plant after a massive earthquake was under control, and water was being pumped into its cooling system.

"We understand this situation is under control," an analyst at the association told Reuters.

The Japanese government had declared an emergency situation around the plant as a precaution and evacuated residents, saying a cooling system was not working.

The analyst said he understood that a back-up battery power system had been brought online after about an hour, and begun pumping water back into the cooling system, where the water level had been falling.

#### Japan Orders Evacuation of Residents Near N-plant

Tokyo, March 11 (Jiji Press) -- The government on Friday ordered evacuation of residents in a 3-kilometer radius from a quake-hit Tokyo Electric Power Co. nuclear power plant in Fukushima Prefecture, northern

Japan, citing a possible radiation leak.

The government, however, has confirmed no radiation leak so far. The evacuation order was issued after the 8.8-magnitude quake hit northern Japan to have all the three reactors at the power plant shut down automatically.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said at a news conference that the government called for preemptive evacuation, urging the 5,862 residents to stay calm in following the order.

The government also instructed 45,345 residents living outside the area but in a 10-kilometer radius to stay at home.

According to the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, cooling functions of the No. 2 reactor at the plant have stopped working, affected by a power outage caused by the quake.

The agency is unable to confirm cooling water levels at the reactor and the No.1 reactor. The plant's emergency diesel power generation equipment has stopped working, leading the company to dispatch power supply cars, according to the agency.

As the power supply cars have reached the plant, the company is proceeding with work to resupply electricity to restore cooling functions.

The Fukushima prefectural government has reported that cooling water levels at the No.2 reactor are dropping and warned that continued decline would expose nuclear fuel rods to air to generate radiation. Reactors were also automatically shut down at the company's Fukushima No. 2 nuclear power station, with emergency supply of cooling water starting at one of them.

The nuclear safety agency said sufficient cooling water is supplied at the reactor, but tsunami prevented the agency from confirming whether pumps taking in sea water for two other reactors are working properly.

Kyodo: Gsdf Sent To Area Near Fukushima Nuke Plant To Assist Evacuation

Tokyo, March 12 Kyodo -- A total of around 160 Ground Self-Defense Force personnel and a number of large vehicles have been dispatched to an area near the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant in Fukushima Prefecture to help evacuate local residents, a senior SDF officer said late Friday.

More than 100 members of a GSDF special unit trained to deal with chemical disasters have been advancing toward the area, SDF chief Ryoichi Oriki said at a news conference at the Defense Ministry.

Some 3,000 residents near the nuclear plant have been ordered to evacuate due to a problem with a cooling system detected at one of the six reactors at the Tokyo Electric Power Co. plant.

Meanwhile, liaison officers from U.S. Forces Japan were being sent to the ministry to coordinate the disaster response of the SDF and U.S. forces, he added.

Around 300 aircraft and about 40 vessels of the SDF have been dispatched or are being prepared for dispatch to deal with the disaster, according to the ministry.

3,000 Ordered To Evacuate Near Quake-hit Fukushima Nuclear Plant

Tokyo, March 11 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING GOV'T SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS) Japan declared a state of atomic power emergency Friday after the country, which has about 50 nuclear power reactors, was hit by a powerful earthquake, instructing around 3,000 residents near the Fukushima No. 1 plant to evacuate. Japan's top government spokesman Yukio Edano told an evening press conference, "We have a situation where one of the reactors (of the plant) cannot be cooled down." But the chief Cabinet secretary said the evacuation instruction was only precautionary.

"No radiation has leaked outside the reactor. The incident poses no danger to the environment at the moment," Edano said.

The post-quake situation prompted the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency to scramble for details from contacts with Japan's industry ministry, while saying in a statement that at least four nuclear power plants "closest to the quake have been safely shut down" after the 2:46 p.m. quake.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., the operator of the Fukushima plant, reported that the level of the water surrounding the fuel rods was going down in the reactor.

Radioactive materials could be emitted if part of a rod is exposed to the air.

But officials of the prefectural government dismissed a view that the plant is in any critical situation, saying the top of the water is 3.4 meters above the fuel rods at the troubled No. 2 reactor.

The evacuation advisory was issued for people living within a 3-kilometer radius of the plant, while those living within a 10-kilometer radius were asked to stay home, Edano said.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan declared the emergency even though no radiation leak has been detected after the magnitude 8.8 quake so that authorities can easily implement emergency relief measures, Edano said.

Japanese Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa ordered the Self-Defense Forces to act in response to the state of atomic power emergency. Also, the Defense Ministry dispatched a chemical corps of the Ground Self-Defense Force to the plant.

Motohisa Ikeda, senior vice industry minister, also left Tokyo for Fukushima on Friday evening by an SDF helicopter.

According to the industry ministry, a total of 11 nuclear reactors were automatically shut down at the Onagawa plant, Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 plants and Tokai No. 2 plant after the biggest-magnitude quake in the country's modern history.

At the Onagawa plant in Miyagi Prefecture, a fire started at a building housing the turbine, the operator, Tohoku Electric Power Co., said, denying it detected any signs of radiation leaks.

Water spilled from pools containing fuel rods at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant on the Sea of Japan coast in Niigata Prefecture and the Onagawa plant, the operators said, saying they saw no signs suggesting radiation leaks.

Hokkaido Electric Power Co. reported no problems at its Tomari No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 plants on the northernmost main island.

There were no immediate signs of any problems at the Hamaoka nuclear plant on the Pacific coast in Shizuoka Prefecture, southwest of Tokyo, the prefectural government said.

Fukushima Pref. Warns of Radiation Leak at N-plant

Fukushima, March 11 (Jiji Press) -- The Fukushima prefectural government on Friday warned that water levels dropped at a reactor of a quake-hit Tokyo Electric Power Co. <9501> nuclear power plant, posing a threat of a radiation leak.

If the water levels at the No.2 reactor at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power station of the company keep falling, nuclear fuel rods would be exposed to air to generate radiation, according to the prefecture.

The prefecture urged residents in a 2-kilometer radius from the reactor to immediately evacuate.

Japan initiates emergency protocol after earthquake

11 March 2011

Nuclear Engineering International

Onagawa, Fukushima Daiichi, Fukushima Daini and Tokai nuclear power stations have automatically shut down following a magnitude 8.8 earthquake off the northeast coast of the largest island of Japan, Honshu. All four operating plants on that coast have automatically shut down, or SCRAMmed, according to Japan Atomic Information Forum (JAIF). Higashidori 1, which is also located on Honshu's northeast coast, was shut down for a periodic inspection.

The earthquake struck at 2:45pm local time. A 6:45 pm local time report from the Japan Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency contained more information of damage and other problems in a site-by-site report.

-A CO2 fire has broken out at Onagawa nuclear power station.

-Utility TEPCO has requested the establishment of a nuclear emergency response programme for Fukushima Daiichi 1&3 and Fukushima Daini 1.

JAIF reported that Fukushima Daiichi 1, 2 and 3 automatically shut down; units 4, 5 and 6 were in maintenance outages. Fukushima Daini 1, 2, 3 and 4 automatically shut down.

JAIF has reported that TEPCO sent the emergency report because emergency diesel generators at the two sites are out of order. It said that there is no report that the radiation was detected out of the site. It said that an emergency headquarters has been set up and will issue information hourly.

JAIF also reported that the Rokkasho reprocessing facility was being powered by emergency diesel generators. No other unusual events or radiation leaks have been reported. Nuclear power stations at Hamaoka, Kashiwazaki-Kariwa and Tomari are continuing normal operation, according to JAIF.

After an accident occurs at a nuclear power plant, the licensee must notify the national Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency by law.

A minister in its controlling organisation, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, notifies the prime minister's office. The central nuclear emergency response headquarters (NERHQ) of the national government issues a nuclear emergency declaration, which also includes instructions about preventative measures. It receives technical advice from the Nuclear Safety Commission. The NERHQ sends a specialist and the NSC sends a commissioner to the site.

After the emergency declaration is received, the local office of the national government's NERHQ arranges prevention measures based on factors including facility information, climate and monitoring.

Nuclear emergency response operations are coordinated in one of 20 so-called off-site centres spread across Japan, which are close to, but not inside, nuclear facilities. The off-site centre's role is to be the main centre of information, incident analysis, and emergency plan organisation and direction. Two or three senior specialists for nuclear emergency preparedness work in each OFC. In normal conditions, the specialists work as nuclear power safety inspectors, checking plant operation from the viewpoint of regulation. During an emergency, the specialists organize prevention measures as a secretariat and report it to a joint council for nuclear emergency response. The joint council includes not only the local office of the national government's NERHQ and the senior specialists, but also representatives of the Nuclear Safety Commission and prefectural and municipal NERHQs.

The joint council devises instructions to residents for evacuation and/or sheltering. It also instructs the emergency services and coast guard, self-defence force, Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organisation (JNES), the National Institute of Radiological Sciences, the Japan Atomic Energy Agency, and other bodies.

JNES has constructed a dedicated high-speed network system connecting the 20 off-site centres and other agencies called Emergency Preparedness Response Network (EPRNet). It includes video conferencing systems, e-mail, telephone, fax, and connections to a meteorological information service, a plant information collection, diagnosis, prognosis and analytical prediction tool (called ERSS), and an emergency environmental dose prediction tool (called SPEEDI).

Japan's Tepco shuts seven nuclear units after earthquake  
Singapore (Platts)--11Mar2011/555 am EST/1055 GMT

Japan's Tokyo Electric Power Company has shut a total of seven nuclear units at two of its nuclear power plants in Fukushima prefecture after a 8.9-magnitude earthquake struck northeastern Japan off the main Honshu island Friday, a company spokesman said.

At its 4.4 GW Fukushima Daini plant, units 1, 2 and 3 (460 MW, 784 MW and 784 MW respectively) were operating during the earthquake and have all been shut, the spokesman said.

Units 4, 5 and 6 (784 MW, 784 MW and 1.1 GW respectively) were all offline for maintenance.

At the Fukushima Daiichi plant, all four 1.1 GW units were running during the earthquake and were subsequently stopped, he added.

At Tepco's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant in the northwest, units 2, 3 and 4 were already offline for inspections, while units 1, 5, 6 and 7 were operating during the earthquake and are still operating, the spokesman said.

Tepco released a statement at 1630 Tokyo time (0730 GMT) confirming the outages, and adding: "At all the nuclear power stations, monitoring posts, which monitor radiation through exhaust stacks have shown normal values. In other words, at the present, no radiation leaks have been confirmed."

The company said that 4.05 million households had lost power as a result of the earthquake.

The earthquake struck at a depth of 10 km, off Sanriku in Miyagi prefecture at around 2:46 pm (0546 GMT), the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The agency also issued a tsunami warning for Honshu's Pacific coast, warning of waves up to 3 meters high.

Emergency Cooling System Working at Quake-hit Fukushima Plant

TokyoKyodo World Service 1047 GMT 11 Mar 11

Tokyo, March 11 Kyodo -- An emergency cooling system was activated at the No. 1 reactor of the Fukushima No. 2 nuclear plant after a powerful earthquake hit northern Japan on Friday, the industry ministry said.

The operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., notified the ministry of the move, the ministry said, adding monitors outside the facility have detected no abnormalities.

#### Fire at Tohoku Elec Onagawa nuclear plant

TOKYO, March 11 (Reuters) - A fire broke out at Tohoku Electric Power Co's Onagawa nuclear plant in northeastern Japan following Friday's major earthquake, Kyodo news agency said.

Prior to the Kyodo report, the company had said it had not received information on whether there had been any problems at the nuclear power plant after the disaster.

Separately, Fukushima Prefecture, the site of a Tokyo Electric Power nuclear power plant, said on Friday the plant's reactor cooling system was functioning, denying an earlier report that it was malfunctioning.

Japanese media reported that the government had decided to declare a nuclear power emergency situation, which occurs if there is confirmation of radioactivity leaks from a nuclear power plant or a reactor cooling system breaks down.

#### Devastating earthquake hits Japan

Financial Times

By Jonathan Soble in Tokyo, Rahul Jacob in Hong Kong and agencies

Published: March 11 2011 06:30 | Last updated: March 11 2011 08:15

Japan was reeling Friday after an 8.9 magnitude earthquake hit the northeast of the country, causing many injuries, fires and a 12m tsunami along parts of the country's coastline.

Japan was braced for further tsunamis to hit in the coming hours. Its Pacific coast was badly affected and the country was bracing for waves at least 20 foot high. The country's northern region was expecting a significant number of casualties and a tsunami warning was issued by several countries including Russia, Indonesia, Mexico and Taiwan.

"People in Japan should exercise the spirit of solidarity and act fast," said Japan's prime minister Naoto Kan appealing for calm, "we ask you to act in such a way to minimise the damage."

In Sendai, the closest large city to the quake's epicentre, oil storage tanks caught fire and the tsunami

flooded the airport, sending staff and passengers onto the roof. Outside the city, television helicopters captured a vast moving blanket of water, mud, debris, cars and unmoored houses -- some of them on fire -- spreading across rice fields.

Residents of several Sendai districts and smaller cities and towns in Miyagi and neighbouring Aomori were ordered to leave their homes.

The governor of Miyagi prefecture, where Sendai is located, asked for Self Defence Forces soldiers to be deployed to assist rescue efforts.

The quake was strongly felt in Tokyo, where there were isolated reports of mostly superficial damage.

Thousands of people milled in parks and squares in the city's skyscraper districts after fleeing tall buildings.

Transport systems were brought to a standstill and mobile phone service failed -- though many people managed to communicate using the city's numerous public wireless internet points.

In the two hours following the earthquake, there were 12 significant aftershocks of at least 5.9 magnitude, which continued to shake buildings and cause damage. The most severe of these measured 7.1.

Precise numbers of dead and injured were not immediately available. NHK relayed sporadic reports of casualties, including more than a dozen elderly people believed to be trapped under the collapsed roof of a nursing home in northern Japan. About five people are reported dead in that incident.

"The building shook for what seemed a long time and many people in the newsroom grabbed their helmets and some got under their desks," Reuters correspondent Linda Sieg said in Tokyo.

"It was probably the worst I have felt since I came to Japan more than 20 years ago."

In crowded central Tokyo in areas such as Shinjuku and Marunouchi, thousands of people rushed out of skyscrapers into parks and squares.

The Japanese utility Hokuriku Electric Company said that all three of its nuclear reactors at its Onagawa plant in northern Japan had shut down automatically. NHK showed ceiling panels inside Ibaraki airport, Japan's newest regional airport north of Tokyo, collapsing during the quake.

Tokyo Electric Power (Tepco) reported that 4.5m homes lost power in the capital area, and many northern districts were without electricity entirely. A nuclear plant in Fukushima prefecture operated by Tepco shut down automatically, but at least one diesel generator needed to cool its reactors failed, though Tepco said safety had not been compromised.

Tokyo Stock Exchange headquarters were rocked by the quake but its trading system kept functioning. The Nikkei 225 closed down 1.7 per cent at 10,254.43. The yen dropped to a two week low against the dollar.

Equity markets across the region sold off. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 1.5 per cent while Sydney's S&P ASX 200 fell 1.2 per cent.

Public broadcaster NHK showed flames and black smoke billowing from a building in Odaiba, a Tokyo

suburb, and bullet trains to the north of the country were halted, Reuters reports.

Black smoke was also pouring out of an industrial area in Yokohama's Isogo area. TV footage showed boats, cars and trucks floating in water after a tsunami hit the town of Kamaichi in northern Japan. An overpass, location unknown, appeared to have collapsed into the water.

Kyodo news agency said there were reports of fires in the city of Sendai in the northeast.

Passengers on a subway line in Tokyo screamed and grabbed other passengers' hands. The shaking was so bad it was hard to stand, said Reuters reporter Mariko Katsumura.

Earthquakes are common in Japan, one of the world's most seismically active areas. The country accounts for about 20 per cent of the world's earthquakes of magnitude 6 or greater.

**No Radiation Leaks Or Abnormalities in Quake-hit Japan: Prime Minister Kan**

Tokyo, March 11 Kyodo -- (EDS: RECASTING) Japan has detected no abnormalities such as radiation leakage at nuclear power plants in the country, Prime Minister Naoto Kan said Friday, following a powerful earthquake and aftershocks that hit a wide area on the Pacific coast of the northeastern region.

A total of 11 nuclear reactors were automatically shut down at the Onagawa plant, Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 plants and Tokai No. 2 plant, the industry ministry said, adding there were no immediate reports from monitoring posts of fires or other abnormalities near the nuclear plants after the 2:46 p.m. quake.

Kan told a press conference, "Parts of nuclear plants were automatically shut down but we haven't confirmed any effects induced by radioactive materials outside the facilities." Tokyo Electric Power Co., which operates the Fukushima plants, said it kept operating the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant on the Sea of Japan coast in Niigata Prefecture, while Hokkaido Electric Power Co. reported no problems at its Tomari No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 plants on the northernmost main island.

There were no immediate signs of any problems at the Hamaoka nuclear plant on the Pacific coast in Shizuoka Prefecture, southwest of Tokyo, the prefectural government said.

**Powerful Quake Hits Northeastern Japan**

Tokyo, March 11 (Jiji Press) -- An extremely powerful earthquake hit the northeastern Japan region of Tohoku at 2:46 p.m. Friday (5:46 a.m. GMT).

The quake, which also rocked a wide range of areas including Tokyo, eastern Japan, measured 7, the upper limit of the Japanese seismic intensity scale, in northern Miyagi Prefecture in the Tohoku region. Its magnitude was estimated at 7.9, the Meteorological Agency said.

The agency issued a heightened tsunami alert to residents in the prefectures of Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima along the Pacific coast.

A tsunami with an estimated height of more than 10 meters reached the shore of Miyagi Prefecture, the agency said.

The focus of the quake is located off Miyagi Prefecture and is 10 kilometers deep.

Tohoku Electric Power Co. halted its Onagawanuclear power plant, according to the industry ministry's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. officials said the No. 1 to No. 3 reactors of its first Fukushima nuclear plant was shut down automatically.

Operations of the firm's second Fukushima plant's No. 1 to No. 4 reactors were also suspended.

Japan Atomic Power Co. halted its Tokainuclear power plant in Ibaraki Prefecture.

According to Miyagi police, many portions of the Tohoku Expressway were damaged.

The Tokyo Fire Department reported several injuries in central Tokyo and fires in 10 places including Daiba and Ikebukuro.

Tohoku Electric said power outage affects all areas in Aomori, Akita and Iwate Prefectures and almost all areas in Yamagata and Miyagi Prefectures.

Japan Govt: No radioactive leaks at Tohoku nuke plants

NHK News, Friday, March 11, 2011 15:34 +0900 (JST)

The government's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency says no abnormal levels of radiation have been

reported at four nuclear power plants in the quake-hit Tohoku region.

Power companies have suspended the operation of the plants and are checking their safety.

#### Nuclear Plants Shut Down in Miyagi, Fukushima

TokyoKyodo World Service 0707 GMT 11 Mar 11

Tokyo, March 11 Kyodo -- (EDS: ADDING INDUSTRY MINISTRY INFO, INFO ON HOKKAIDO, FIXING OPERATOR) Nuclear plants on the Pacific coast in Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures have been automatically shut down Friday following a powerful earthquake that hit a wide area in northeastern Japan, the operators said.

There were no immediate reports from monitoring posts of fires or other abnormalities near the nuclear plants after the 2:46 p.m. quake, the industry ministry said.

The suspended power plants were the Onagawa plant in Miyagi Prefecture, operated by Tohoku Electric Power Co., and the Fukushima No. 1 and No. 2 plants in the adjacent Fukushima Prefecture, run by Tokyo Electric Power Co., according to the companies.

Tokyo Electric also said it kept operating the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant on the Sea of Japan coast in Niigata Prefecture, while Hokkaido Electric Power Co. reported no problems at its Tomari No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 plants in the northernmost main island.

There were no immediate signs of any problems at the Hamaoka nuclear plant on the Pacific coast in Shizuoka Prefecture, southwest of Tokyo, the prefectural government said.

#### Powerful quake rocks northern Japan

Kyodo News, Friday, March 11, 2011

A powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.9 rocked northeastern Japan on Friday, measuring the highest level intensity of 7 on the Japanese seismic scale, in Miyagi Prefecture, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Local police said many people were injured in the 2:46 p.m. quake, with reports of fires coming not only from the prefectural capital of Sendai but also from Tokyo, some 300 kilometers from Sendai, where a

prolonged and powerful temblor was also felt.  
 The Metropolitan Police Department said many people were injured when part of the Kudan Kaikan hall in Chiyoda Ward in central Tokyo collapsed.  
 The agency issued a rare warning of huge tsunami for the Pacific coastal region including Iwate Prefecture. Public broadcaster NHK said a large number of cars were washed away into the sea when a tsunami hit the Kamaishi port in Iwate Prefecture.  
 In Kyodo News' Sendai office, part of the ceiling collapsed and bookshelves and office equipment toppled over.  
 Fires occurred across a wide area, including at an ironworks in Chiba Prefecture.  
 Onagawa nuclear power plant in Miyagi Prefecture automatically halted operations following the quake. Its operator, Tohoku Electric Power Co., was checking whether any damage was caused.  
 A major blackout occurred across a wide area of northeastern Japan.  
 The quake affected the nation's key transportation systems, including Narita airport, which shut its runways for safety checks.

Japan: JMTR Nuclear Reactor To Resume Operations, Aims To Be Global Standard

Tokyo Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun (Nikkei Telecom 21 Database Version) in Japanese 04 Mar 11  
 [Article by Staff Writer Shinichi Amano titled "Japan Materials Testing Reactor Challenging the Future as the Global Standard of Nuclear Reactors (1), Aiming for World's Highest Operational Availability." Refurbished materials testing reactor will resume operations in April.]  
 The Japan Materials Testing Reactor (JMTR, Oarai-machi, Ibaraki Prefecture) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency [JAEA] has been called the global standard of nuclear reactors. With the completion of refurbishment construction, the reactor will resume operations in April for the first time in roughly five years and will operate for the next 20 years as a reactor that can generate a high level of neutron flux even compared to test reactors and other nuclear reactors now operating throughout the world. Industrial applications of the JMTR reactor are also anticipated including for the manufacture of semiconductors and molybdenum-99, which is used in cancer treatments and is a raw material used in pharmaceuticals.  
 The Materials Testing Reactor is a reactor used in fundamental research and durability tests of reactor fuels and by exposing various materials to neutrons for testing and research. Since reaching initial criticality in 1968, the JMTR reactor has been used in irradiation testing of fuels and materials for light water reactors used to generate power and in the testing of fuels and materials for fast reactors, high temperature gas-cooled reactors, and fusion reactors. However, due to the aging of the facilities, operations were halted

03/10/2011

in August 2006, and approximately 6 billion yen was invested to refurbish the equipment. With the completion of that refurbishment effort, the JMTR reactor will resume operations in April.

Hiroshi Kawamura, Assistant Director of the JAEA Oarai Research and Development Center (and Neutron Irradiation and Testing Reactor Center Director), positioned the materials testing reactor as follows. "It is a nuclear reactor that supports the fundamental technologies of nuclear power."

The nuclear reactor, which is the core of the testing reactor, is located in the nuclear reactor building that houses the pressure vessel, heat exchanger, and other equipment. The pressure vessel is made of stainless steel and is 9.5 meters tall with an inner diameter of 3 meters at the core. The thermal output is 50 megawatts, and the nuclear reactor can implement neutron irradiation in a broad range from slow neutrons to fast neutrons at a rate of up to 4-exa ( $10^{18}$ ) neutrons per square centimeter every second.

The samples produced from the nuclear reactor are sent to a facility that handles highly radioactive materials called a hot lab where post-irradiation tests are conducted. The data obtained here is used in the development of fuel and materials for nuclear reactors and in the evaluation of safety and other areas.

The hot lab is directly connected to the nuclear reactor by a water channel, and due to the radiation shielding effect of the water in the water channel, the irradiated samples can be sent through the water without having to insert them in a shielding container.

After operations are resumed, the reactor will be operated for 210 days per year (operational availability of 60%), and after that, the goal will be increased to 240 days per year (operational availability of 70%).

Assistant Director Kawamura stated enthusiastically, "All of the aged nuclear reactor devices have been updated, and now we're going to ensure stable, safe operations and target an operational availability of 70%, which would be the world's highest level."



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 2, 2012

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find documents responsive to your request during the Committee's December hearing for documents that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission had previously provided to another Member of Congress.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide or have already provided other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc: Representative Elijah E. Cummings



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your request during the Committee's December hearing for documents that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission had previously provided to another Member of Congress.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide or have already provided other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc: Representative Elijah E. Cummings

Jan. 3, 2012

To: Rebecca Schmidt/Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

From: Eliot Brenner/Director, Office of Public Affairs *EB*

On Thursday, Dec. 15, upon arriving back at the office from the Senate Environment and Public Works hearing I found a notice from the IT department that my 2.5 gigabyte mailbox was approaching full. I sorted my mail, incoming and outgoing, by size, and deleted the largest files which included perhaps eight or ten emails to reporters the night of Dec. 9 containing the megabytes of information contained in four documents about the chairman. That action took place before the arrival from SECY of the letter from four members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee seeking press-related emails.

In assembling a package responsive to that request I did find a few subsequent emails to reporters with those documents, and an example of the contents is included in this package.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

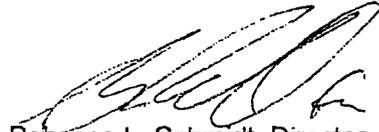
While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca L. Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable John Shimkus  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment  
and the Economy  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

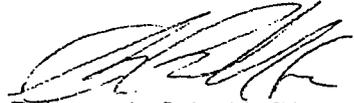
While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Gene Green, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Ed Whitfield  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Cliff Stearns  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight and  
Investigations  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your December 15, 2011 letter, enclosed please find the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Per your request, enclosed are the documents provided in response to the October 25, 2011, letter from Congressman Markey. These documents include voting records, adjudicatory documents, related correspondence and e-mails, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided to the Commissioners' offices. My staff has also forwarded to you, via e-mail, information e-mailed to Mr. Markey's staff in response to his request.

Logs of withheld material, also provided to Mr. Markey, are enclosed as well. These logs list records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process; also listed are records related to sensitive Executive Branch deliberations to prevent adverse impacts on foreign relations.

Documents that are responsive to your request for documents related to the NRC's response to the press concerning the Commissioners' October 13, 2011, correspondence to and from the White House and the Congressional hearings on December 14 and 15, 2011 are also enclosed.

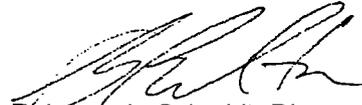
While some of the documents provided to you are publicly available, please note that a number of the documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

In response to your request for an explanation of why the NRC did not notify Committee leadership of materials sent to Mr. Markey, as a general practice, NRC's Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) does not share requests from the personal offices of individual Members of Congress with other offices as a courtesy to the requestor.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner is providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to the Committee. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca L. Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: Representative Diana DeGette, Ranking Member

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

OFFICE OF COMMISSION  
APPELLATE ADJUDICATION

December 2, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

FROM: Brooke D. Poole, Director *Brooke Poole*  
Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN MARKEY'S LETTER OF OCTOBER 25, 2011

In response to Congressman Markey's letter of October 25, 2011, requesting documents and other information related to the events of Fukushima or the NRC's response thereto, please find attached the responsive documents identified by the Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication (OCAA). In addition, we attach a log identifying documents which are being withheld. The log does not include documents already identified as withheld by the NRC's Office of the Secretary.

Please contact me at 301-415-2653 should you have any questions regarding OCAA's response to Congressman Markey's request.

Attachments: Responsive Documents  
Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication Log of Withheld Material

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

<i>Reason for Withholding</i>	<i>Type of document</i>	<i>General subject matter</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Addressee</i>	<i>Relationship of author to addressee</i>
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/27/2011	Bernice Ammon	Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Ho Nieh, Darani Reddick, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Assistants, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/29/2011	Brooke Poole	Darani Reddick, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/29/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Darani Reddick, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Bernice Ammon	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Darani Reddick, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Lisa Clark, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Director

**Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey**

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Margaret Bupp	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Bernice Ammon	Ho Nieh, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Lisa Clark	Bernice Ammon	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Ho Nieh	Bernice Ammon	Commission Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Brooke Poole	Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commission Legal Assistant, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	6/30/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/6/2011	Darani Reddick	Brooke Poole	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/11/2011	Richard Laufer	Commission Assistants, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff	SECY Staff to Commission Staff, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/19/2011	Darani Reddick	Brooke Poole	Commission Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/20/2011	Bernice Ammon	Rebecca Tadesse	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Technical Assistant

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/20/2011	Bernice Ammon	Rebecca Tadesse	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Technical Assistant
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/20/2011	Linda Herr	Commission Assistants, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff	Commissioner's Staff to Commission Assistants, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	7/21/2011	Bernice Ammon	Rebecca Tadesse	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Technical Assistant
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/1/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Commission Assistants, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Assistants, OCAA Staff, SECY Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/15/2011	Brooke Poole	Lisa Clark, Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Darani Reddick	Brooke Poole, Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commissioners' Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Brooke Poole, Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commissioners' Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Margaret Bupp	Brooke Poole, Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commissioners' Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Lisa Clark	Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole, Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commissioners' Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Roger Davis	Lisa Clark, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole, Darani Reddick, Bernice Ammon	
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/16/2011	Brooke Poole	Roger Davis, Lisa Clark, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Darani Reddick, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/17/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/17/2011	Lisa Clark	Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/17/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/18/2011	Brooke Poole	Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commissioner's Legal Assistant, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/18/2011	Brooke Poole	Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commissioner's Legal Assistant, OCAA Staff

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/23/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/23/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/26/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole, Kimberly Sexton, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Lisa Clark	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/26/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon, Kimberly Sexton, Lisa Clark, Margaret Bupp, Roger Davis, Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/29/2011	Lisa Clark	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA \
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/29/2011	Bernice Ammon	Lisa Clark	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Legal Assistant
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/29/2011	Bernice Ammon	Lisa Clark	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Legal Assistant
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/29/2011	Lisa Clark	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/29/2011	Lisa Clark	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/30/2011	Darani Reddick	Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commissioners' Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/31/2011	Bernice Ammon	Darani Reddick, Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/31/2011	Bernice Ammon	Darani Reddick, Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/31/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/31/2011	Bernice Ammon	Kimberly Sexton, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commissioner's Legal Assistant, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	8/31/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Bernice Ammon, Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/1/2011	Lisa Clark	Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/1/2011	Brooke Poole	Lisa Clark, Bernice Ammon	OCAA Director to Commissioner's Legal Assistant, OCAA Staff

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/1/2011	Darani Reddick	Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Darani Reddick	Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Lisa Clark	Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Lisa Clark	Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Darani Reddick	Lisa Clark, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Lisa Clark	Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff

Log of Withheld Material -- Response to October 25, 2011 Letter from Congressman Markey

Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Roger Davis	Lisa Clark, Darani Reddick, Kimberly Sexton, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/2/2011	Lisa Clark	Brooke Poole	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/7/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/7/2011	Kimberly Sexton	Lisa Clark, Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole, Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Staff
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/7/2011	Bernice Ammon	Kimberly Sexton, Lisa Clark, Darani Reddick, Roger Davis, Margaret Bupp, Brooke Poole	OCAA Staff to Commission Legal Assistants, OCAA Director
Pre-decisional adjudicatory document	E-mail	SECY-11-0082	9/8/2011	Darani Reddick	Bernice Ammon	Commissioner's Legal Assistant to OCAA Staff



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 16, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your letter dated December 15, 2011, to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This is our second response representing the Chairman's office.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy  
and Commerce

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 16, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your letter dated December 15, 2011, to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This is our second response representing the Chairman's office.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy  
and Commerce

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 16, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your letter dated December 15, 2011, to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This is our second response representing the Chairman's office.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy  
and Commerce

Enclosures:  
As stated

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2011 10:15 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** you at this hearing?

--

Ryan Grim  
Desk: x40241 (Senate Daily)  
Cell: (b)(6)  
AIM: (b)(6)  
@ryangrim

Subscribe to HuffPost Hill: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/hill/signup.html>

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:19 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua

do you have copies of the two Daley letters? Also, gimme a ring when you can

--

Ryan Grim  
Desk: x40241 (Senate Daily)  
Cell: (b)(6)  
AIM: (b)(6)  
@ryangrim

Subscribe to HuffPost Hill: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/hill/signup.html>

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** Harder, Amy [aharder@nationaljournal.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:11 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NRC news

Hi Josh, just tried calling you but your office said you were on the phone. I can be reached at either of the numbers below pretty much all day, so if you could call me as soon as you get the chance, that'd be great. My deadline is 4:30 p.m. And yes, I am working on a profile of the chairman and trying to get a better understanding of exactly what happened to compel the commissioners to send a letter to the White House. Thanks for reaching out. I am ccing my gmail account on here because my work email has been slow to respond and spotty for the last several days. Can you make sure to cc both addresses when you respond?

**Amy Harder**  
Energy and environment reporter  
*National Journal Daily*  
M: [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
O: (202) 266-7436  
[aharder@nationaljournal.com](mailto:aharder@nationaljournal.com)

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:46 AM  
**To:** Harder, Amy  
**Subject:** NRC news

Amy – I believe you may be working on a profile of Chairman Jaczko and was hoping to speak with you. Please give me a ring at your convenience.

Thank you,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

[REDACTED] (b)(6) c

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:00 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: You still around?

Yup should I give you a call? Or you can call me, (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [<mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:56 PM  
**To:** 'jbeattie@accessintel.com'; Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** You still around?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:44 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re: You done writing?

I haven't written anything since the fri nite piece. Yes I'd like to chat w you tomorrow anytime. I could also talk tonite but whatever works. Crazy stuff. Jeff

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 06:21 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** You done writing?

Chat tomorrow?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** URGENTLY seeking comment on Magwood comments re abusive behavior

Toward female staff. Urgently want to include a response ASAP.

-----  
Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile:  (b)(6)

[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 2:40 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Testimony

Hi – is it possible to get a copy of this testimony?

## **Jaczko: NRC among best workplaces**

By Dan Berman  
Published: 12/14/2011 05:04 PM EST

Despite everything you might have heard about its feuding commissioners, the NRC's embattled chairman says his agency is still a great place to work.

The allegedly hot-tempered Gregory Jaczko is set to tell lawmakers Wednesday about the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's successes in this "exceptionally challenging and productive year" — including the fact that the NRC was ranked the second-best place to work in the federal government, according to a copy of his prepared testimony obtained by POLITICO.

"Even with the pressures of the past year, the NRC once again scored among the top tier of federal agencies in the 2011 Best Places to Work in the Federal Government rankings, conducted by the Partnership for Public Service," Jaczko's testimony says. "The NRC scored No. 1 in all four major indices, including leadership and knowledge management, results-oriented performance culture, talent management and job satisfaction."

Jaczko's prepared remarks ignore the entire controversy consuming his agency during the past week, including the revelation that his four fellow commissioners complained to the White House this fall that Jaczko, a former aide to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, is a bully who is "causing serious damage" to the commission with "increasingly problematic and erratic" behavior.

Earlier this year, it was revealed that Jaczko and Commissioner Kristine Svinicki, a Republican, have spared over everything from serious issues including safety reviews and agency budgets to minor items like foreign travel requests.

In his written testimony, Jaczko praises NRC employees for their work in the past year, which was unexpectedly busy because of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear catastrophe in Japan and natural disasters in the U.S., such as Midwestern flooding and the August earthquake that damaged a Virginia reactor.

"We have many important issues on our plate right now — both internally to strengthen our organization and externally to continue ensuring the safety and security of our nation's nuclear facilities and materials," Jaczko adds. "We cannot predict with any certainty all the issues that might arise in the upcoming year. That makes it all the more important that we prudently manage the resources entrusted to us by the American people, take full advantage of all the talents and expertise that our diverse team brings to the table and

keep our focus — first and foremost — on our safety and security mission.”

*This article first appeared on POLITICO Pro at 4:54 p.m. on December 13, 2011.*

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 893 8390

Mobile: (b)(6)

[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 7:29 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Rtrs / embargoed statement?

Hello. Just wondering whether you might be able to share an embargoed opening statement ahead of tomorrow's hearing? Happy to embargo it to a time of your choosing.

Any other developments tonight ?

Bests / Roberta

Roberta Rampton

Mobile: (b)(6) roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 2:53 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Reuters / checking in, in case there are comments etc.

I've checked in with Eliot as well.

We have this story on the wire which we'll be updating at least one more time.

My colleague at White House is checking for comment there.

Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

14:45 10Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Sen. Reid defends US nuke chief against complaints

- \* Nuclear Regulatory Commission chair Jaczko under fire
- \* Agency divided over reforms prompted by Japan disaster
- \* Regulatory reforms would cost plant operators millions

(Adds Murkowski comments)

By Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 10 (Reuters) - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on Saturday sought to defend the chairman of the U.S. nuclear safety commission, a man he helped put into power and who is locked in a bitter battle with fellow regulators over reforms prompted by Japan's Fukushima nuclear accident.

The deep-seated infighting within the five-member Nuclear Regulatory Commission was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The complaints about NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko are "a politically motivated witch hunt against a man with a proven track record of ensuring that nuclear power is produced as safely and responsibly as possible," a Reid spokesman said.

"His leadership during the Fukushima nuclear crisis was instrumental in ensuring the safety of Americans in the wake of that disaster, and his safety-oriented approach is what we need to protect the American people from a similar crisis in our own backyards," said Reid spokesman Adam Jentleson.

Republican Darrell Issa, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on Friday released a letter sent to the White House in October where the four commission members said Jaczko was overstepping his powers.

The letter also said Jaczko was intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors reviewing the agency's analysis of the March disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

The commissioners - two Democratic appointees and two Republican - said Jaczko's "behavior and management practices have become increasingly problematic and erratic."

The most powerful Republican on the Energy Committee, Alaska's Sen. Lisa Murkowski, said Jaczko's behavior was "unacceptable at any level of government" and asked Obama to take action.

"The president needs to immediately address the concerns raised by the four commissioners if he wants members of Congress and the public to have faith in the agency," she said in a statement.



## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 12:50 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Reuters / purely fyi

Hello – just reaching out in case the Chairman makes any further comment this weekend, or if there are further developments. My contact info is below.

Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

23:28 09Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Private spat within US nuclear agency laid bare

- \* Commissioners complain to White House about chairman
- \* Jaczko defends his record, apologizes for "distraction"
- \* Comes ahead of Capitol Hill hearing on Wednesday
- \* Democratic Rep. Markey report cites "conspiracy" at NRC

(Recasts with details and background throughout, adds Jaczko letter to White House)

By Richard Cowan and Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 9 (Reuters) - Deep-seated infighting within the five-member U.S. nuclear safety regulator was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The details shed new light on how caustic relationships have become at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which is rolling out a sweeping series of reforms for U.S. nuclear power plants in the wake of the March disaster at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

On one side is the agency's chairman, Gregory Jaczko, who previously worked for prominent nuclear critics in Congress.

On the other, four commissioners -- two Democratic appointees and two Republicans -- who complained to the White House in October that Jaczko was overstepping his powers, and intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors that was reviewing the agency's analysis of the Fukushima accident.

"We believe that his actions and behavior are causing serious damage to this institution and are creating a chilled work environment at the NRC," the four commissioners said in a



**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:47 AM  
**To:** Roberta. Rampton@thompsonreuters.com (Roberta.Rampton@thompsonreuters.com)  
**Subject:** NRC news

Roberta – thanks for trekking to Rockville to cover today's meeting. Can you please give me a call when it's done? I wanted to talk to you about a piece I think you are working on.

Thank you,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

c

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 6:44 PM  
**To:** 'Ryan Grim'  
**Attachments:** 1999 IG report.docx

One more piece of background

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 5:25 PM  
**To:** 'Ryan Grim'  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Attachments:** Chairman Jaczko Accomplishments.docx

Some additional info

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ryan Grim [<mailto:ryan@huffingtonpost.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:09 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:**

What's the story with that IG report?

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

A comprehensive evaluation of the structure and role of the NRC Commission was conducted by the Inspector General (IG) in 1999. The report identified a number of areas where Commission collegiality could be improved while preserving the agency's ability to carry out its critical health and safety mission.

The IG recognized the inherent ambiguity in the Commission's structure, which gives Commissioners equal authority over policy matters but vests the Chairman with additional executive powers to ensure efficient and coherent management of the agency. The lesson of Three Mile Island highlighted the importance of prompt and decisive action in emergency situations and prompted President Carter to initiate the legislation that strengthened the Chairman's management authority. The lack of a common understanding of these roles and responsibilities has negatively affected Commission interaction over the years and is considered a key to improving collegiality and effectiveness.

Chairman Jaczko has taken a number of initiatives that were recommended 12 years ago by the IG to improve functioning of the Commission. At the beginning of his term, he established agency-wide goals and objectives with specific performance measures. He shared them with his Commission colleagues before finalizing them and asked for input but they provided none. Sharing these throughout the agency and tracking our progress has been an important step in establishing an over-arching direction to guide agency efforts at all levels.

He has also worked to focus Commission efforts on common priorities, recommended by the IG as a critical component of Commission effectiveness and leadership. At his initiative, the Commission now follows a much more comprehensive agenda planning process in which the Commission meets on a monthly basis to set common priorities for the policy issues it will address and to agree on a schedule for upcoming Commission meetings. This process has helped Commissioners identify shared priorities and coordinate diverse and demanding Commissioner travel schedules, as well as have better dialogue on policy issues since each of them is considering the same issues contemporaneously and can benefit from each others' thoughts and views.

The Chairman has also initiated proposals to enhance transparency of our decision making process by conducting Commission deliberations and voting on policy matters in public meetings. While these have not garnered the support of a majority of his colleagues thus far, he continues to work with them in the hope of reaching agreement on means to provide greater public engagement and understanding of our collegial processes.

An additional recommendation in the 1999 IG report is that the Commission hold an annual offsite meeting to improve communication and collegiality. While the Chairman has hosted all of his colleagues for a dinner shortly after they three new members arrived, he has not been able to get them to agree to attend a Commission meeting to discuss these types of issues despite his best efforts. As a point of reference, it took the Chairman's Chief of Staff several months to get all of his colleagues (the other Chiefs of Staff) to agree to attend an hour and a half long offsite retreat to discuss communication....

## Chairman Jaczko's Accomplishments

- Since he was first sworn in as a Commissioner in January of 2005, Greg Jaczko has been a strong advocate for strengthening the safety and security of nuclear power facilities and materials in the U.S.
- Although some of the positions he has taken have been unpopular with the nuclear industry, that has not stopped the Chairman from doing what is right for nuclear safety.
- Despite the opposition he has encountered on many occasions, Chairman Jaczko has proven effective in building consensus and making important changes to strengthen nuclear safety throughout his tenure.
- As a Commissioner, he worked successfully with Commissioners on both sides of the aisle that were equally interested in safety, and met with great success in doing so. As Chairman, he has continued to focus on safety, and has been accountable for his executive responsibilities. He has also worked to provide a more active role for the Commission in fulfilling their responsibilities.
- In 2009, Commissioner Jaczko secured a 3-1 Commission majority for his proposal to require that potential new reactors address the threat of a large commercial aircraft impact in their designs. Although the rest of the Commission opposed this measure when he initially proposed it in 2007, Commissioner Jaczko did not give up and worked persistently over the next two years to build majority support for this important safety measure.
- Commissioner Jaczko, working with his colleagues on both sides of the aisle, was part of the majority that determined that the Commission rather than a licensing board, would hold the mandatory hearings on any new reactor license application. As Chairman, he made it a priority to ensure that the new Commission focused on this responsibility. He proposed several Commission meetings so that he and his colleagues could discuss expectations for the hearings, and he requested Commission votes on the hearing process well in advance of the first mandatory hearing. His efforts proved successful. Just last month, the Chairman presided over the first mandatory hearing on a new reactor license application since the 1970's. This was the first time the Commission itself- rather than the licensing boards – conducted such a hearing.
- In 2011, under the Chairman's leadership, the agency published the Final Safety Culture Policy Statement. This was the culmination of a multi-year effort and was initiated by a proposal from Commissioner Jaczko to his colleagues to have the agency develop this policy statement. Despite the lack of industry support for his proposal and the initial reluctance of some of his colleagues, the Commissioner was able to secure majority support and the Commission directed the staff to draft this policy statement. As Chairman, he maintained his focus on this issue proposing several Commission meetings on this topic and proposing several voting papers such that this significant policy matter was finalized.
- In 2009, the agency under Chairman Jaczko's leadership took strong action to resolve significant concerns about the ability of the proposed Westinghouse AP1000 reactor

design to withstand severe natural hazards. Although this issue had been identified during the previous Chairman's tenure, it was only under Chairman Jaczko's leadership that the agency took the necessary action. The NRC simply told the plant designer that changes needed to be made or the agency would not approve the design. Because of this forceful NRC action, Westinghouse made significant safety improvements to the design.

- After becoming Chairman, he initiated an expanded monthly agenda planning session where the Commission gets together to discuss not only the upcoming meetings it wants to hold, but also to collaboratively decide how to prioritize the items on which it must vote. This has provided the Commission with more transparency and input into the timing of the voting matters that come before the Commission than the Commission has ever had. Commissioners and senior managers have repeatedly recognized the benefits of this strategic and coordinated approach in ensuring the Commission's workload is managed as efficiently and effectively as possible. Despite repeated attempts from some of his colleagues to try to undermine this process, the Chairman has succeeded in making it a normal course of the Commission's business.
- As Commissioner and as Chairman, Chairman Jaczko has focused on the importance and need for openness and transparency. Under his leadership, the White House recognized the agency for its success in implementing the open government initiative. In addition, the Chairman has publicly released his external meeting calendar, and along with his engagements with more traditional media outlets, he also conducted two lengthy sessions with bloggers interested in nuclear issues. Internally, the Chairman continues his openness by offering open door sessions every Monday for any employee interested in discussing matters with him and has an internal agency blog where he directly shares his thoughts on agency happenings.
- Since he's been Chairman, the agency has twice been recognized as the Best Place to Work in Federal Government, and recently ranked #1 yet again in the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey in the four key areas developed by OPM, including Leadership and Knowledge Management, Results-Oriented Performance Culture, Talent Management and Job Satisfaction.
- After many years of rapid growth that led to inefficiencies in the agency, the Chairman has led an effort to more wisely spend taxpayer resources by focusing on efficient expenditure of funds on the important work the NRC is budgeted to do. This focus on budget execution has led to a significant decrease of unobligated carryover in 2010.
- In 2010, recognizing the need for revised processes as a result of rapid growth in contractor support, Chairman Jaczko tasked staff with developing a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Acquisition program. As a result, the agency is moving to a strategic acquisition approach that proactively plans for future year acquisition needs to allow for more efficient execution while consolidating similar acquisition needs across the agency to provide greater leverage in negotiations. A pilot program is underway and full deployment of the strategic acquisition program is expected by FY 2013. In order to accomplish this, the Chairman invested significant time with his colleagues on this matter, despite the issue clearly falling outside the Commission's statutory roles.

- The Chairman successfully led the agency through the emergency response following the tragic earthquake and Tsunami in Japan in March, 2011, the domestic event response, and the ensuing crisis at the Fukushima Daichi nuclear site in Japan. At the same time, the Chairman also successfully focused the Commission on the need to determine policy implications of this event for domestic licensees. He garnered support from his colleagues on a proposal to establish a task force to examine near-term recommendations and insights, as well as a task force to examine longer-term issues. The Commission approved this direction and the Chairman successfully managed the process such that the Task Force was able to perform its challenging task in the short amount of time provided by the Commission. The resulting Near-Term Task Force Report entitled, "Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" was issued on time, and provides comprehensive and well-founded recommendations for improvements to ensure public health and safety following the events at Fukushima.

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:04 PM  
**To:** 'Ryan Grim'  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Attachments:** En and Comm HEARING on Review of Energy Depts Yucca Mnt Nuke Energy Repository License Application June 14.pdf

The IG report courtesy of the house science committee. See especially the last three pages:  
[http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/061311\\_IGREPORT.pdf](http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/061311_IGREPORT.pdf)

The Chairman's statement on the IG report:  
<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1116/ML11160A163.pdf>

And attached is the transcript from the Energy and Commerce Committee hearing with the IG discussing the Chairman's statement. See pages 25-26 and then 41.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ryan Grim [<mailto:ryan@huffingtonpost.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:09 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:**

What's the story with that IG report?

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 7:50 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re:

Thanks. Gimme a ring when you can. (b)(6)

On Sun, Dec 11, 2011 at 6:43 PM, Batkin, Joshua <[Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)> wrote:

One more piece of background

--  
Ryan Grim  
Desk: x40241 (Senate Daily)  
Cell: (b)(6)  
AIM: (b)(6)  
@ryangrim

Subscribe to HuffPost Hill: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/hill/signup.html>

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:09 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua

What's the story with that IG report?

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:42 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

Got it thanks

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

On Dec 10, 2011, at 1:26 PM, "Batkin, Joshua" <[Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)> wrote:

Chairman's response to Daley.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

<Letter to William M Daley (12-7-11).pdf>  
<Facts about issues raised.pdf>  
<Transmittal ltrs & Reorg Plan No 1 of 1980.pdf>  
<Agency accomplishments slides.pdf>

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 2:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Hey Josh,

Am finally back at my desk. Just tried your cell. I'm at (b)(6)

Brian

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Joshua Batkin <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/13 11:54:04

Til mid afternoon - then on cell (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--

Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov  
**At:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

-----Original Message-----

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [\[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net\]](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM

To: Batkin, Joshua

Subject: testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,

Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:10 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Ok. Will give you a call this afternoon. Thanks.

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----  
From: [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
At: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:54:04 AM Eastern Standard Time

Til mid afternoon - then on cell (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----  
From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----  
From: [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
At: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

-----Original Message-----

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [\[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net\]](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM

To: Batkin, Joshua

Subject: testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,

Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6) cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--

Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)

**At:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

C

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [\[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net\]](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM

**To:** Batkin, Joshua

**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office  
(b)(6) cell

## Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:46 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
**At:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

202-654-7318 office  
(b)(6) cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:44 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

and thanks much.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Joshua Batkin <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/13 9:42:47

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:44 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Sure thing.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Joshua Batkin <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/13 9:42:47

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

-----  
Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6) cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** 'lucia@huffingtonpost.com'  
**Subject:** Re: HuffPost media query

Will call you asap - few minutes though probably

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Lucia Graves <lucia@huffingtonpost.com>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Wed Dec 14 15:18:23 2011  
**Subject:** HuffPost media query

Hi it's Lucia Graves from HuffPost. I work with Ryan Grim. I'd love get your reactions to today's NRC hearing, if you have a minute. Cell is the best way to reach me this pm: (b)(6).

--  
Lucia Graves  
Chief of Staff  
Huffington Post  
Cell: (b)(6) Cell:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

COMMISSIONER

December 8, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Chairman, Committee on Environment  
and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Ranking Member, Committee on  
Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Boxer and Ranking Member Inhofe:

In response to a request from a House of Representatives oversight committee, the undersigned provided the attached memo and letter. In recognition of your Committee's oversight role and in light of the December 15, 2011 NRC oversight hearing, we are forwarding the same documents to you.

The attached documents are sensitive in nature. Therefore, they have been labeled as "NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE" and we respectfully request that these documents be held in confidence with access limited to Members and Committee staff.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Kristine L. Swirski

Commissioner George Apostolakis

Commissioner William D. Magwood, IV

Commissioner William C. Ostendorff

Attachments:  
as stated

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:37 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** late breaking news  
**Attachments:** daley letter.pdf

Eliot, I'm going to end up writing 600 words on this tonight.

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-862-0363  
cell:   
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 5:41 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Tomorrow's news tonight -- read and delete

~~Internal use only -- no distribution outside NRC -- no redistribution --  
May contain material proprietary to news agencies~~

1: HOUSE HEARING – The chairman and four commissioners appeared today at a nearly 2 ½-hour hearing of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform called to explore the public airing of internal commission discord. The chairman stated his case and the commissioners theirs, and all took questions. There will be very substantial coverage in both the trade and mainstream media. It was broadcast live by C-Span, which then repeated the broadcast immediately afterwards. Tomorrow the chairman and commissioners will be testifying before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and are likely to face questions similar to those posed by House members.

2: CNN – Facilities Security notified OPA this morning that a CNN crew was on the White Flint North plaza and "wanted to talk to someone." The crew was led by a producer who had previously asked OPA for an interview, first regarding Vermont Yankee and preemption and later license renewal in general. OPA had been resolute in politely telling the producer that given the context of VY, the agency would be unable to provide an interview. The producer apparently concluded it was best to "camp out" on the plaza and demand the same interview on a day when the entire Commission was on the Hill. In the face of an on-camera discussion where the producer decried the agency's "lack of transparency" and our status as servants of the taxpayers, OPA pointed out the Commission's location twice, and reiterated the agency would be unable to provide an interview. The producer then concluded the proper course of action was to remain on the plaza, obtain large sheets of paper and a marker, handwrite an "NRC, why won't you talk to us?" sign, and videotape the producer holding the sign in front of the NRC sign at the corner of Marinelli and Rockville Pike. OPA management has communicated our displeasure at the producer's behavior to CNN management.

3 USEC PIKETON – McClatchy Newspapers in Washington contacted OPA with some questions about the loss of power mishap that occurred June 11 at the lead cascade at USEC Piketon. We outlined the scenario, explaining that equipment was damaged and why, and provided the reporter with a copy of the ensuing inspection report. We also explained why no event notification was filed until July 1 – the licensee was not initially aware that items relied upon for safety were involved. The incident remains under review.

4: VERMONT YANKEE – Three staffers from Region I, including the Senior Resident Inspector for the plant, will appear before the Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel (VSNAP) this evening. They will be discussing NRC oversight of the plant, as well as post-Fukushima reviews/changes undertaken by the agency. We can expect media coverage. Along those lines, the Rutland (Vt.) Herald called to seek additional background on NRC attendees and the purpose of their presentation.

5: DAVIS-BESSE – OPA 3 had a long conversation with a Cleveland Plain Dealer reporter about NRC's conclusions on the safety of the shield building and the CAL issued to FENOC to ensure the continued safety of the shield building going forward. The reporter had been out of the office for two weeks and plans to do a longer story since the Dealer only ran a brief on this topic in his absence. In addition to usual questions about the NRC's decision, he inquired about the status of our response to David Lochbaum's questions about the shield building and when they would be publically available. We offered to provide him with the answers and said we will post them to the NRC's website shortly, as soon as we complete an expanded set of Q&As offering further detail about the NRC's decision on the shield building safety. The reporter also requested FENOC's documents characterizing the cracks. When we told him that documents submitted by the licensee during an inspection are not publically available, he indicated that the paper would be filing a FOIA request.

8: SEABROOK – A free-lance reporter from New York wanted to know more about our recent Information Notice on concrete degradation at Seabrook. In particular, the reporter sought information on potential impacts at other-facilities, including Salem and Indian Point.

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 5:37 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Tomorrow's news tonight -- read and delete

~~Internal use only -- no distribution outside NRC -- no redistribution --  
May contain material proprietary to news agencies~~

1: COMMISSION MATTERS – While there may be minimal coverage of today's commission meeting on fire safety, there will be substantial coverage of a report produced by the staff of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in advance of tomorrow's hearing. The list of news organizations we head from today is long ... and distinguished.

Here's one of the many stories filed in advance of the hearing and based on the report:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-12-13/jaczkos-outbursts-undermine-nrc-u-s-house-republicans-say-1-.html>

And here's a Politico story based on a leaked copy of what purports to be the chairman's testimony:

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1211/70386.html>

2: FERMI— OPA fielded questions from CTV news and the Monroe Evening News about the focus for the upcoming DEIS meeting. Reporters wanted to know if comments from Canadian citizens would be considered. OPA told them that all comments/questions received from Canadians or any other individuals would be reviewed in the DEIS process.

3: PALISADES—OPA spoke to Platts about a preliminary yellow and two preliminary white findings. The NRC recently received the utility's response to one of the preliminary white findings. OPA discussed all three issues and explained that for the one preliminary white issue the next step in the process would be to evaluate the new information the utility sent to the NRC and make a final decision based on all the information.

4: MOX – The Aiken (S.C.) Standard contacted Region II with questions about the upcoming Applicant Performance Review meeting for the Shaw Areva MOX facility under construction at the Savannah River Site. We explained to the reporter that we hold such a meeting each year and in the review period we are examining, the facility had no areas needing improvement. She was uncertain whether she would be covering the meeting Thursday night in Aiken.

5: SEQUOYAH – Noting on the NRC website that Sequoyah has a white performance indicator in the third quarter of this year, The Chattanooga Times-Free Press called with questions. The reporter was advised the white performance indicator came from an excessive number of unplanned scrams – four in the 7,000 hour performance period. She was advised that our related supplemental inspection is tentatively scheduled for February. There are no indications at this point the scrams have any commonality – all were uncomplicated – but that will be determined during the inspection.

6: AES THAMES – Questions about the decommissioning of this facility in Connecticut that uses fixed nuclear gauges were posed by The Day (of New London, Conn.). The company has filed for bankruptcy, leading to the facility's closure.

7: OYSTER CREEK – The Asbury Park (N.J.) Press had additional questions about fire-protection measures at the plant, based on concerns raised by the Beyond Nuclear organization. The reporter watched the Commission briefing Tuesday morning regarding NFPA 805, during which Beyond Nuclear elaborated on the issues.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials  
**Attachments:** Letter to William M Daley (12-7-11).pdf; Facts about issues raised.pdf; Transmittal ltrs & Reorg Plan No 1 of 1980.pdf; Agency accomplishments slides.pdf

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 7, 2011

The Honorable William M. Daley  
Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Daley:

I have read the letter provided to you by my colleagues on October 13<sup>th</sup> and have appreciated my discussions with you since then. I provide the following response to the issues raised to your attention.

I have enjoyed many of my interactions with my new colleagues over the last year and a half, and with about the same number of years of experience on the Commission as all four of them added together, I have a clear understanding and profound appreciation for the Commission structure of government. My sole and passionate focus since I came to the agency in 2005 has been on nuclear safety and security and I have used all of my abilities and the fullest extent of my authorities, first as a Commissioner and now as the Chairman, to further that vital mission.

Unfortunately, all too often, when faced with tough policy calls, a majority of this current Commission has taken an approach that is not as protective of public health and safety as I believe is necessary. On multiple policy issues, a majority of the Commission has dismissed my policy views, as well as the recommendations of the technical staff, public interest groups, and Members of Congress and established policies that have loosened the agency's safety standards. While I personally worry about the long term affect those decisions will have on the safety and security of the industry we regulate, I hold no personal animosity toward my colleagues for their policy views. The statutes governing the NRC clearly state that nuclear safety policy is made by a majority vote of the Commission. I follow the law, I respect the policy duly established by the Commission even if I disagree with it, and I faithfully execute Commission policy as I oversee the staff of the agency.

If there are challenges to the continued effective functioning of the Commission as my colleagues claim, it does not arise from our sometimes stark policy differences, but rather from the lack of understanding the current Commissioners have of their statutory roles at the agency. As the statutes governing the NRC make clear – the duties of the Commission are policy-making, rulemaking, and adjudications. *All other functions* were transferred to the NRC Chairman under the Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980 (see attached). This dramatic change was made because the President and the Congress recognized after the accident at Three Mile Island that diffuse leadership of five people responsible for managing the agency was a real threat to strong and effective safety regulation.

As the President's Plan transmittal letter to Congress for its consideration stated "placing management responsibilities in the Chairman would result in greater attention to developing and implementing nuclear safety policies and to strict enforcement of the terms of licenses granted by the Commission.....Freed of management and administrative details, the Commission could then concentrate on the purpose for which that collegial body was created – to deliberate on the formulation of policy and rules to govern nuclear safety and to decide or oversee the disposition of individual cases."

All of the issues detailed in the letter you received from my colleagues have their origin in individual Commissioners disagreeing with management decisions I have transparently made to keep the staff as focused on safety as I can possibly keep them. I seek to consult with my colleagues on a great number of the decisions I make whether they are policy or management related. I do not always agree with their suggestions and advice, however, and that has led to a circular claim that if I exercise my statutory authorities I am somehow abusing them.

I have attached a detailed description of the facts surrounding the issues my colleagues raised to your attention, but to address a few of the more specific and absurd claims here, I can assure you of the following:

- There is no chilled work environment around me. I have been a champion of an open and collaborative work environment and I have publicly praised staff who have the courage to state their differing opinions. Morale at the NRC is very healthy as demonstrated by the fact that our employees have rated the agency as one of the best places to work in the entire federal government in OPM and Partnership for Public Service initiatives, including ranking the NRC number one in leadership and job satisfaction.
- I have and will continue to work very closely with the staff on the formulation of policy proposals for the Commission. I do this because my responsibility under the law as the principal executive officer of the Commission is for "developing policy planning and guidance for consideration by the Commission." It is entirely appropriate and necessary for me to work with the staff of the agency that I manage to carry out that function.
- I have never attempted to intimidate the Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards nor has any member of that Committee expressed concerns about our interactions to me. All of my interactions with ACRS have been appropriate and to ensure the NRC staff would be able to carry out their responsibilities.
- I do not ignore the will of the Commission on policy matters. Certainly interpretation and execution of policy is a complex endeavor and I would be happy to engage my colleagues if they have concerns about any specific issues. I will continue to faithfully uphold my statutory obligation to be governed by "the general policies established by the Commission" and regularly consult with the General Counsel to ensure I am doing so.

Finally, I would like to address the accusation that I have shown my colleagues such disrespect that the Commission no longer functions effectively. I have a seven year tenure of working collegially and productively with many different Commissioners, Members of Congress,

Administration officials, licensees and members of the public. The challenges being highlighted by the current Commissioners began with their arrival at the Commission a year and a half ago. I am disappointed to note that those differences were exacerbated by the lack of my fellow Commissioners' understanding of their role in an emergency during agency's response to the disaster in Japan.

As Chairman, I was the one who attended the White House National Security Council meetings to address the situation in Japan. As the chief spokesperson for the agency, I was the one who spoke from the White House press briefing room to reassure the American people. As the principal executive officer, I was the one who managed the agency's emergency staff and made recommendations to the Executive Branch about what protective actions we would take if an event like this were to occur in the United States. I did this not out of any desire to limit the roles of my colleagues but rather to faithfully carry out my statutory responsibilities. To act in any other manner would not have been consistent with the statute or in the best interest of public health and safety. As the President noted in the Reorganization Plan transmittal letter to Congress, "Experience has shown that the Commission as a whole cannot deal expeditiously with emergencies or communicate in a clear, unified voice to civil authorities or the public.... The Plan would correct this situation by specifically authorizing the Chairman to act for the Commission in an emergency."

Even though it was not possible to involve my four colleagues in the operational management of the event, I strove to keep them fully informed – providing information to them multiple times each day including personally briefing them on developments. I fully appreciated the fact that changing nuclear safety regulations in the U.S. in response to the events in Japan was a Commission responsibility and so a short 10 days after the event, I held a Commission meeting and asked my colleagues to formally vote on the NRC's approach to learning the lessons of Fukushima. Two days later the Commission unanimously approved my proposal for establishing a Lessons-learned Task Force, something the President had also called upon the agency to do.

There have always been disagreements among Commissioners. Conflict is inherent in the Commission structure of government and this is not the first time that confusion over differences between the roles and responsibilities of the NRC Chairman and Commissioners has caused communication problems. The NRC Inspector General detailed these challenges in a 1999 report on the structure of the Commission. If there is anything unique at this point in the history of the agency in my opinion, it is the Commissioners' refusal to collegially discuss and attempt to resolve disagreements internally. Since their arrival, I have invited my colleagues to join me in informal Commission discussions to improve communications, offered to participate in facilitated Commission meetings with a trusted third party to promote a better dialogue, and proposed a more transparent voting process so that the Commission could conduct more of its business in public. A majority of my current colleagues have declined to participate in any of these initiatives.

But all of the preceding discussion pales in comparison to the importance of nuclear safety and security. Despite this internal discord, I have ensured the Commission has the tools and

information it needs to continue to make decisions and that the agency staff continues to successfully execute the policy established by the Commission. On that front I am pleased to report tremendous progress. This year the Commission has issued 92 formal decisions, held 38 public Commission meetings, 10 closed Commission meetings, and met for 14 planning sessions to discuss our overall agenda. Because of the work of the Commission and the staff, the agency has made tremendous progress on issues from fire safety, to emergency preparedness, to a safety culture, not to mention license reviews for new nuclear reactors, and the responsible closeout and transparent documentation of the Yucca Mountain license review. The agency dealt with the nuclear safety implications of the Virginia Earthquake and Midwest flooding, and devoted considerable effort to responding to the Fukushima event, including developing a substantive set of safety requirements for US plants to ensure such an unlikely severe accident could not happen here. Please see attached information highlighting many of the accomplishments of the NRC over the past year.

I continue to be honored by the opportunity to serve the American people as an NRC Commissioner and as the Commission Chairman. I continue to be unbelievably proud of the NRC staff and their single-minded focus on the agency's mission. I continue to be proud of what the agency has been able to accomplish for public health and safety.

I do apologize for any distraction the disagreements we have had at the Commission, and which would have been better addressed through internal dialogue, may have caused you. We have dealt with some of the most controversial issues ever put before the agency over the past year and we sometimes argued vigorously over them. As the Chairman of our collegial body, I take responsibility for improving the level of our dialogue. I will continue to reach out to my Commission colleagues in an effort to improve our communication and I will continue to keep them fully informed.

I assure you that I come to work every day to do my job better than the day before. The civil servants I am privileged to work alongside deserve no less. I will continue to manage the NRC staff in a manner that is as protective of public health and safety as established Commission policy will allow and to be as open and transparent as we can. I would be happy to continue our dialogue on these matters at your convenience if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Gregory B. Jaczko

Encl: Transmittal letters and Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980  
Facts about issues raised  
Agency Accomplishments slides

## Facts About Issues Raised in October 13, 2011 Letter

### **Accusation that Chairman Jaczko is damaging the NRC mission**

- Longstanding disagreements between the Chairman and the other current Commissioners are caused by two fundamental differences:
  - First, the Chairman is clearly the Commissioner most focused on nuclear safety, as a review of the public voting record demonstrates.
  - Second, the other Commissioners have a fundamental misunderstanding of their role: The Commission, as a body, is responsible for policy-making, rule-making and adjudications. **All other functions** were transferred to the Chairman under Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, making the Chairman responsible for the management of the agency. Among other things, per the statute, the NRC Chairman is the official spokesman for the Commission, responsible for conducting Public and Congressional Relations. The Chairman is the principal executive officer of the Commission responsible for developing policy planning and guidance for consideration by the Commission. The Executive Director for Operations reports for all matters to the Chairman. Additionally, all the functions vested in the Commission are transferred to the Chairman in an emergency.
  - Inherent tension between roles and responsibilities has been recognized frequently over the years. It was debated after Three Mile Island accident when the President and the Congress attempted to address and clarify roles and responsibilities by significantly strengthening the authorities of the NRC Chairman in the Reorganization Plan of 1980. But as a comprehensive evaluation of the structure and role of the NRC Commission conducted by the NRC Inspector General in 1999 pointed out, the problem still persists. The IG found then that lack of a common understanding of roles and responsibilities has negatively affected Commission interaction over the years and addressing that is considered a key to improving collegiality and effectiveness.

### **Accusation that Chairman Jaczko has created a chilled work environment**

- The Chairman has championed an open work environment and is known around the agency and in the public as fostering vibrant debate and a strong safety focus. He has spoken publicly about the importance of openness and transparency since joining the Commission in 2005.
- He cares passionately about nuclear safety, holds people accountable, and demands excellence. His staff regularly debates and disagrees with him and he welcomes that questioning culture.

- He is the only Commissioner who maintains a weekly open door session for any NRC staff member to raise any issue with him.
- He has publicly praised staff who have had the courage to state their differing professional opinions.
- The fact that there is a healthy work environment is demonstrated by staff at all levels of the agency who have felt empowered to publicly disagree with decisions made by the agency and the Chairman in the media and before Congress.
- In a Government Executive story from October 7, the Chairman is quoted as saying that while the issues around Yucca Mountain "have been challenging and contentious for the country for a long time. What I continue to be proud of is having an agency where people with strong views can go to Congress and express those views. It's a hallmark of our agency. Those are the people who work at this agency. That's how we do the right thing." Passions can be equally strong among employees performing reviews of applications for nuclear licenses. "Nuclear safety is not an easy issue, and regulation requires that kind of open exchange of ideas," he said.
- Further proof of the healthy work environment the Chairman has fostered during his 2 ½ year Chairmanship can be found in the fact that in September the Office of Personnel Management rated the NRC number one among all large government agencies in 'Leadership and Knowledge Management, Results-Oriented Performance Culture, Talent Management, and Job Satisfaction' based on a survey of the NRC staff.
- In addition, there has been remarkable stability among the agency's senior staff reporting to him during the more than two and a half years he has been Chairman. In addition, he has personal office staff who have worked for him for his entire seven years on the Commission.

**Accusation that the Chairman withholds policy information and modifies staff recommendations**

- Per statute the Chairman is "the principal executive officer of the Commission, and shall be responsible to the Commission for developing policy planning and guidance for consideration by the Commission." He works closely with the staff of the agency to appropriately carry out that function.
- He has also worked to focus Commission efforts on common priorities, recommended by the IG in 1999 as a critical component of Commission effectiveness and leadership. At the Chairman's initiative, the Commission now follows a much more comprehensive agenda planning process in which the Commission meets on a monthly basis to set common priorities for the policy issues it will address and to agree on a schedule for upcoming Commission

- meetings. This process has helped Commissioners identify shared priorities and coordinate diverse and demanding Commissioner travel schedules, as well as have better dialogue on policy issues since each of them is considering the same issues contemporaneously and can benefit from each others' thoughts and views.
- In additional, several sitting Commissioners have testified before Congress this year that they have access to all of the information they need to accomplish their statutory responsibilities.
  - Finally, even a cursory review of the Chairman's voting record makes it clear that he does not make a practice of modifying staff recommendations, evidenced by the fact that he has sometimes found it necessary to vote against staff recommendations.

**Accusation that he intimidated the Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards**

- The agency staff responded tremendously well to the crisis in Japan under Chairman Jaczko's leadership.
- The operations center was fully activated and technical staff provided excellent support to the Japanese and US government in the responding to the events at the Fukushima nuclear plant.
- The Chairman personally kept his colleagues informed of the agency's activities during the response.
- The Chairman also worked collaboratively with his Commission colleagues after a request from the President that the NRC review the lessons of the disaster to ensure US nuclear plants are safe.
- Twelve days after the earthquake in Japan, the Commission approved the Chairman's proposal to establish a task force to make safety recommendations.
- The ACRS is an advisory committee to the Commission. At the height of the agency's response to the devastating disaster in Japan, Chairman Jaczko communicated with the Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards Chairman.
- At that time, the ACRS was attempting to task the NRC staff with additional work at the same time the agency was fully engaged to help the Japanese and US governments deal with the ongoing nuclear emergencies, while also continuing to ensure safety of US nuclear plants and materials.
- The Chairman had the ultimate responsibility for making sure the staff could successfully accomplish both of those important tasks so he explained to the ACRS chairman that staff could not support ACRS's additional requests immediately.
- He further assured ACRS that at the appropriate time, and consistent with the policy established by the Commission in a March 23, 2011 formal vote, the staff would provide the Committee with the information they were seeking.

- That commitment was met:
  - The ACRS had 3 meetings on the events at the Fukushima nuclear plant between March 23 and June 23, 2011.
  - The NRC staff conducted the initial briefing on April 7<sup>th</sup> to provide the ACRS with the early insights and implications from the accident. The briefing involved the participation of 17 NRC staff members, and provided information on the event and NRC's response.
  - Subsequently, on May 26<sup>th</sup>, the ACRS was briefed by the Department of Energy and Nuclear Energy Institute on their activities and insights relating to the accident.
  - On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, senior NRC management provided a briefing to the ACRS to update them on the accident and discuss actions that the NRC staff had underway to learn from the events.

**Accusation that the Chairman ignored the will of the majority of the Commission**

- The Chairman has always faithfully upheld his statutory obligation to be governed by the general policies established by the Commission.
- He regularly consults with the General Counsel and has obeyed the letter and the spirit of the statutes governing his function.

**Accusation that the Chairman shown disrespect to the Commission to the point that it no longer functions as effectively as it should**

- Chairman Jaczko has been on the Commission for almost seven years. He has significantly more experience on the Commission than any of his colleagues and has had the honor of serving as Chairman longer than three of his colleagues have worked at the NRC. Throughout that long tenure he has a solid record of working collegially and productively with many different Commissioners, Members of Congress, licensees and members of the public.
- The challenges highlighted by the current Commissioners began with their arrival at the Commission last year. There have always been disagreements among Commissioners but they have traditionally been discussed and resolved internally among professional colleagues rather than aired externally.
- The Chairman agrees that the Commission could function better. He strongly believes that if the Commission's decision-making process was more transparent, the public could have a better understanding of the Commission's views on nuclear safety and more confidence in the agency. That is why he has proposed

conducting Commission meetings to discuss and decide policy issues but his colleagues have been unwilling to do so.

- After the new Commissioners joined the agency last year, he recognized early on that the communication at the Commission level could be improved. As a recommendation from a 1999 IG report stated - the Commission could hold an annual offsite meeting to improve communication and collegiality. While the Chairman hosted all of his colleagues for a dinner shortly after the three new members arrived, he has not been able to get them to agree to attend a Commission meeting to discuss communication issues despite his best efforts.
- The Chairman offered to have a dialogue facilitated by a mutually respected leader in Washington to build trust.
- He cosigned a letter with Commissioner Svinicki in August in which he disputed a story that they were not getting along by stating: "While we may sometimes have disagreements on policy issues, we do meet regularly to discuss these differences and work on solutions for the agency."
- The Chairman cares passionately about nuclear safety and he holds himself and others to high standards. He has never behaved unprofessionally with colleagues, despite their accusations that when he exercised his statutory authorities he is by default abusing them.

**Accusation that the Chairman inappropriately terminated NRC staff detailee's assignment to a Commission office without any advance discussion with the affected Commissioner**

- A Commissioner inappropriately and without consultation redirected a staff person to work in their personal office in direct violation of established Commission policy. That policy was established to ensure the Commissioners have access to these specific technical resources as shared resources.
- It is the Chairman's responsibility to ensure staff follows established Commission policy and that all Commissioners are treated fairly and equally.
- The Chairman resolved the situation and assured the Commissioner that agency staff would continue to support his information needs.

**Accusation that the Chairman inappropriately attended a meeting of the agency's senior management and showed disdain for the Commission**

- The Chairman was not an "invited guest" at the October 5, 2011, agency leadership meeting of his senior staff. This is a periodic meeting held by the Chairman and the EDO, who by statute reports to the Chairman for all matters. The characterization that the Chairman was invited to this meeting highlights the fundamental misunderstanding that the other Commissioners have had about their

role since they joined the Commission. Chairman Jaczko has on multiple formal and informal occasions attempted to explain to his fellow Commissioners that the NRC's governing statutes make the Chairman the principal executive officer of the agency. The senior managers report to the Chairman and he is responsible for the day-to-day management of the agency. The Commission is responsible for policy-making.

- At the senior management meeting the Chairman had a candid and appropriate discussion about some of the Commission disagreements that resulted in the current version of the Internal Commission Procedures. None of the other Commissioners or their personal staff attended, and therefore they have no firsthand knowledge of the Chairman's remarks.

#### **Discussion about senior manager personnel issues**

- Senior agency staff personnel issues are not appropriate for discussion outside of the Commission.

#### **Statement that the Chairman left his colleagues with no viable alternative to sending a letter to the White House**

- One viable alternative would have been to raise these concerns with the Chairman.

#### **Accusation that the Chairman inappropriately directed the staff to withdraw a policy paper**

- The Chairman did not withhold a policy issue from the Commission – he directed the staff to comply with a process they had previously agreed to and which had been directed by the full Commission.
- Arguments to the contrary are disingenuous since the Chairman personally raised this issue in advance with all of his Commission colleagues, none of them offered any concerns, and all of them received both drafts of the referenced paper.

#### **Accusation that the Chairman inappropriately criticized the staff for its "21-day" Fukushima paper**

- The Chairman has been intently focused on making sure the agency learns the lessons of the nuclear disaster in Japan and promptly makes any needed changes.

- He has very publicly called on his colleagues to make decisions about the recommendations the Commission's task force provided in July and to require licensees to implement all safety improvements within five years.
- His colleagues on the Commission responded with requests for multiple additional analyses by different members of the staff.
- The Chairman in his role as principal executive officer held a very productive meeting with senior staff after a subsequent policy paper related to these recommendations came to the Commission in September.
- During that meeting he facilitated a discussion which allowed the staff to clarify some of the confusing aspects of the recommendations they were making to the Commission.
- The only direction he provided in that meeting was that the staff should be prepared to explain, at the public Commission meeting, any changes they were proposing to the original safety recommendations put before the Commission by the task force two months earlier.
- The Chairman then used the knowledge he gained from his discussion with his senior staff to ask specific questions during a public Commission meeting. He had this exchange in public and with his Commission colleagues present, and was able to ask clarifying question of the staff, ensuring stakeholders had an accurate view of what was before the Commission for its decision-making.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 1 OF 1980

---

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 1 OF 1980, TO STRENGTHEN  
MANAGEMENT OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION,  
PURSUANT TO 5 U.S.C. 903



MARCH 27, 1980.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the  
Committee on Government Operations and ordered to be printed

---

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

59-011 O

WASHINGTON : 1980

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am submitting herewith to the Congress Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, under authority vested in me by the Reorganization Act of 1977 (Chapter 9 of Title 5 of the United States Code). The Plan is designed to strengthen management of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in order to foster safety in all of the agency's activities.

The need for more effective management of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has been amply demonstrated over the past year. The accident at Three Mile Island one year ago revealed serious shortcomings in the agency's ability to respond effectively during a crisis. The lessons learned from that accident go beyond crisis management, however. They provide the impetus for improving the effectiveness of all aspects of the government regulation of nuclear energy.

In my statement of December 7, 1979, I responded to the recommendations of my Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island and set forth steps now being taken to address those recommendations. I stated that I would send to Congress a Reorganization Plan to strengthen the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's ability to regulate nuclear safety. I am submitting that Plan today.

The Plan clarifies the duties of the Chairman as principal executive officer. In addition to directing the day-to-day operations of the agency, the Chairman would take charge of the Commission's response to nuclear emergencies and, as principal executive officer, would be guided by Commission policy and subject to Commission oversight.

**MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS**

Intensive investigations undertaken since the Three Mile Island accident have revealed management problems at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. These problems must be rectified if the Commission is to be a strong and effective safety regulator.

—My Commission, called the Kemeny Commission after its Chairman, Dr. John Kemeny, concluded that the underlying problem at Three Mile Island stemmed not from deficient equipment but rather from compounded human failures. This included the inability of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to pursue its safety mission effectively in view of its existing management policies and practices. The Kemeny Commission reported a lack of "closure" in the system to ensure that safety issues are raised, analyzed and resolved. Kemeny Commission members also concluded that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission relies too heavily on licensing, and pays insufficient attention to ensuring the safety of plants once they are in operation.

—During the course of its investigation, the Kemeny Commission found serious managerial problems at the top of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It noted that the Commissioners and the Chairman are unclear as to their respective roles. Uncertain, diffused leadership of this kind leads to highly compartmentalized offices that operate with little or no effective guidance and little coordination.

—A recently completed independent study authorized and funded by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission itself also found serious fault with the Commission's management and called for a major organizational overhaul. The report states that there is no authoritative manager but, instead, five equally responsible Commissioners who deal individually with office directors who, in turn, head their own "independent fiefdoms."

—Likewise, a recent report of the General Accounting Office notes the failure of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to define either the authority of the Chairman or that of the Executive Director for Operations. The staff lacks policy guidance and top management leadership to set priorities and resolve safety issues. There are unreasonable delays in developing policies to guide the licensing and enforcement activities of the agency.

The central theme in all three of these studies is the failure of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to provide unified leadership and consistent direction of the agency's activities. The present statutes contain conflicting and ambiguous provisions for managing the agency. Important corrective actions cannot or will not be taken by the Commission until the laws are changed. Failure to do so constitutes a continuing nuclear safety hazard.

The present Reorganization Plan would improve the effectiveness of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by giving the Chairman the powers he needs to ensure efficient and coherent management in a manner that preserves, in fact enhances, the commission form of organization.

#### COMMISSION

Under the proposed Plan, the Commission would continue to be responsible for policy formulation, rulemaking and adjudication as functions which should have collegial deliberation. In addition, the Commission would review and approve proposals by the Chairman concerning key management actions such as personnel decisions affecting top positions which directly support Commission functions, the annual budget, and major staff reorganizations. In carrying out its role, the Commission would have the direct assistance of several Commission-level offices as well as the licensing board, the appeal panel, and the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. The Plan would not alter the present arrangement whereby the Commission, acting on majority vote, represents the ultimate authority of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and sets the framework within which the Chairman is to operate.

#### CHAIRMAN

Under the Plan, the Chairman would act as the principal executive officer and spokesman for the Commission. To accomplish this, those functions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission not retained by the Commission would be vested in the Chairman, who is currently coequal with the Commissioners in all decisions and actions. The Chairman would be authorized to make appointments, on his own authority, to all positions not specified for Commission approval and would be responsible to the Commission for assuring staff support by the operating offices in meeting the needs of the Commission. The Executive Director for Operations would report directly to and receive his authority from the Chairman. Heads of operating offices would also report to the Chairman or, by delegation, to the Executive Director for Operations. Office heads would also be authorized to communicate directly with members of the Commission whenever an office head believed critical safety issues were not being addressed.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's ability to respond decisively and responsibly to any nuclear emergency must be fully ensured in advance. Experience has shown that the Commission as a whole cannot deal expeditiously with emergencies or communicate in a clear, unified voice to civil authorities or to the public. But present law prevents the Commission from delegating its emergency authority to one of its members. The Plan would correct this situation by specifically authorizing the Chairman to act for the Commission in an emergency. In order to ensure flexibility, the Chairman would be permitted to delegate his authority to deal with a particular emergency to any other Commissioner. Plans for dealing with various contingencies would be approved by the Commission in advance. The Commission would also receive a report from the Chairman or his designee describing the management of the emergency once it was over.

#### ACTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS PLAN

Not included in this Plan are two actions that I support in principle but that need not or cannot be accomplished by means of a Reorganization Plan. First the Commission, as part of its implementation of this reorganization, can and should establish an internal entity to help oversee the performance of the agency as it operates under the Chairman's direction. This action does not require a Reorganization Plan. Second, I have consistently favored funding assistance to intervenors in regulatory proceedings. This is particularly important in the case of nuclear safety regulation. I therefore encourage the Commission to include consideration of intervenor funding as part of its review and upgrading of the licensing process, as called for by the Kemeny Commission. I have also requested Congress to appropriate funds for this purpose. This activity cannot be authorized by a Reorganization Plan.

## NO ADDED COSTS

This proposed realignment and clarification of responsibilities would not result in an increase or decrease of expenditures. But placing management responsibilities in the Chairman would result in greater attention to developing and implementing nuclear safety policies and to strict enforcement of the terms of licenses granted by the Commission.

Each of the provisions of this proposed reorganization would also accomplish one or more of the purposes set forth in 5 U.S.C. 901(a). No statutory functions would be abolished by the Plan; rather they would be consolidated or reassigned in order to improve management, delivery of services, execution of the law, and overall operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission.

By Executive Order No. 12202, dated March 18, 1980, I established a Nuclear Safety Oversight Committee to advise me of progress being made by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the nuclear industry, and others in improving nuclear safety. I am confident that the present Reorganization Plan, together with the other steps that have been or are being taken by this Administration and by others, will greatly advance the goal of nuclear safety. It would permit the Commission and the American people to hold one individual—the Chairman—accountable for implementation of the Commission's policies through effective management of the Commission staff. Freed of management and administrative details, the Commission could then concentrate on the purpose for which that collegial body was created—to deliberate on the formulation of policy and rules to govern nuclear safety and to decide or oversee disposition of individual cases.

JIMMY CARTER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 1980.

## REORGANIZATION PLAN No. 1 OF 1980

Prepared by the President and submitted to the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled March 27, 1980, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 9 of title 5 of the United States Code.

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Section 1. (a) Those functions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission", concerned with:

- (1) policy formulation;
- (2) rulemaking, as defined in section 553 of title 5 of the United States Code;
- (3) adjudications, as defined in section 551 (6) and (7) of title 5 of the United States Code;

shall remain vested in the Commission. The performance of any portion of those functions may be delegated by the Commission to a member of the Commission, including the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Chairman", and to the staff through the Chairman.

(b)(1) With respect to the following officers or successor officers duly established by statute or by the Commission; the Chairman shall initiate the appointment, subject to the approval of the Commission; and the Chairman or a member of the Commission may initiate an action for removal, subject to the approval of the Commission:

- (i) Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation,
- (ii) Director of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards,
- (iii) General Counsel,
- (iv) Secretary of the Commission,
- (v) Director of the Office of Policy Evaluation,
- (vi) Director of the Office of Inspector and Auditor,
- (vii) Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel,
- (viii) Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Panel.

(2) The Chairman shall also initiate the appointment of the Members of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards which shall take effect upon the approval of the Commission. The provisions for appointment of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards and the term of the members shall not be affected by the provisions of this Reorganization Plan.

(c) The Commission shall act as provided by subsection 201(a)(1) of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended (43 U.S.C. 841(a)(1)) solely in the direct performance of functions of the Commission, described in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, and only when such functions have not been delegated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(5)

AMENDMENTS TO  
REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 1 OF 1980

---

MESSAGE

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

AMENDMENTS TO REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 1 OF 1980, TO  
STRENGTHEN MANAGEMENT OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY  
COMMISSION, PURSUANT TO 5 U.S.C. 903



May 5, 1980.—Message and accompanying papers referred to the Committee  
on Government Operations and ordered to be printed

---

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

59-011 O

WASHINGTON: 1980

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I herewith transmit the following amendments to Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, which I sent to the Congress on March 27, 1980.

The amendments to Reorganization Plan No. 1 are consistent with my original intent of strengthening the management of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in order to improve safety in all of the agency's activities, while preserving the advantages of the Commission form. The amendments reinforce the purpose of the Plan in two respects. First, the amended Plan gives the Commission a greater role in selection of key program officers of the agency by adding four positions to the list of appointments initiated by the Chairman for the Commission's advice and consent. These are the Executive Director for Operations, the Director of Inspection and Enforcement, the Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research, and the Director of Standards Development. Each of these positions contributes to nuclear safety regulation, and each performs functions that help determine the policy and performance of the agency.

The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards advises the Commission as a whole. Since its members serve renewable 4-year terms, another amendment provides that a Commission member, as well as the Chairman, can initiate an appointment to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards for approval by the Commission.

As a means to ensure that the flow of information to the Commission will not be restricted, the Plan has been amended to make explicit that the Chairman, and the Executive Director of Operations through the Chairman, shall keep the Commission fully and currently informed.

The second general purpose of the amendments is to provide for more effective management of the agency by making more explicit the responsibilities of the Chairman and the Executive Director for Operations acting under his direction. As amended, the Plan charges the Chairman with planning for the development of policy for consideration and approval by the Commission. In the past, this responsibility has not been clearly fixed and has consequently been neglected. The amended Plan continues to make clear that the Executive Director for Operations reports to the Chairman. An amendment, however, requires the Chairman to delegate to the Executive Director for Operations the authority to appoint the staff and the day-to-day administration of the agency. Under this arrangement, the Chairman retains responsibility for the delegated functions but will be better able to handle his other leadership tasks.

In summary, the amendments I am transmitting to Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, based on review and hearings conducted by the Congress and on continued consultations, will help establish a more accountable central management structure for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as it pursues its statutory objective of ensuring safety in the use of nuclear power.

JIMMY CARTER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 5, 1980.

### A. REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 1 OF 1980

51 SC App. 1

Prepared by the President and submitted to the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled March 27, 1980,<sup>1</sup> pursuant to the provisions of chapter 9 of title 5 of the United States Code.<sup>2</sup>

#### Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Sec. 1. (a) Those functions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission", concerned with:

(1) policy formulation;

(2) rulemaking, as defined in section 553 of title 5 of the United States Code, except that those matters set forth in 553(a)(2) and (b) which do not pertain to policy formulation orders or adjudications shall be reserved to the Chairman of the Commission;

(3) orders and adjudications, as defined in section 551 (6) and (7) of title 5 of the United States Code;

shall remain vested in the Commission. The Commission may determine by majority vote, in an area of doubt, whether any matter, action, question or area of inquiry pertains to one of these functions. The performance of any portion of these functions may be delegated by the Commission to a member of the Commission, including the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Chairman", and to the staff through the Chairman.

(b)(1) With respect to the following officers or successor officers duly established by statute or by the Commission, the Chairman shall initiate the appointment, subject to the approval of the Commission; and the Chairman or a member of the Commission may initiate an action for removal, subject to the approval of the Commission:

(i) Executive Director for Operations,

(ii) General Counsel,

(iii) Secretary of the Commission,

(iv) Director of the Office of Policy Evaluation,

(v) Director of the Office of Inspector and Auditor,

(vi) Chairman, Vice Chairman, Executive Secretary, and Members of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel,

(vii) Chairman, Vice Chairman and Members of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Panel.

(2) With respect to the following officers or successor officers duly established by statute or by the Commission, the Chairman, after consultation with the Executive Director for Operations, shall initiate the appointment, subject to the approval of the Commission, and the Chairman, or a member of the Commission may initiate an action for removal, subject to the approval of the Commission:

(i) Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation,

(ii) Director of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards,

(iii) Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research,

(iv) Director of Inspection and Enforcement.

(v) Director of Standards Development.

<sup>1</sup>As amended May 5, 1980.

<sup>2</sup>This Reorganization Plan was originally approved under special Congressional procedures; the Supreme Court decision in *Immigration & Naturalization Service vs. Chadha* (462 US 919 (1983)) called into question the legality of this plan. Congress responded by enacting this Reorganization Plan in P.L. 98-614.

(3) The Chairman or a member of the Commission shall initiate the appointment of the Members of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, subject to the approval of the Commission. The provisions for appointment of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards and the term of the members shall not be affected by the provisions of this Reorganization Plan.

(4) The Commission shall delegate the function of appointing, removing and supervising the staff of the following offices or successor offices to the respective heads of such offices: General Counsel, Secretary of the Commission, Office of Public Evaluation, Office of Inspector and Auditor. The Commission shall delegate the functions of appointing, removing and supervising the staff of the following panels and committee to the respective Chairman thereof: Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Panel and Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.

(c) Each member of the Commission shall continue to appoint, remove and supervise the personnel employed in his or her immediate office.

(d) The Commission shall act as provided by subsection 201(a)(1) of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended (42 USC 5841 (a)(1), as amended) in the performance of its functions as described in subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

Sec. 2. (a) All other functions of the Commission, not specified by section 1 of this Reorganization Plan, are hereby transferred to the Chairman. The Chairman shall be the official spokesman for the Commission, and shall appoint, supervise, and remove, without further action by the Commission, the Directors and staff of the Office of Public Affairs and the Office of Congressional Relations. The Chairman may consult with the Commission as he deems appropriate in exercising this appointment function.

(b) The Chairman shall also be the principal executive officer of the Commission, and shall be responsible to the Commission for developing policy planning and guidance for consideration by the Commission; shall be responsible for the Commission for assuring that the Executive Director for Operations and the staff of the Commission (other than the officers and staff referred to in sections (1)(b)(4), (1)(c) and (2)(a) of this Reorganization Plan) are responsive to the requirements of the Commission in the performance of its functions; shall determine the use and expenditure of funds of the Commission, in accordance with the distribution of appropriated funds according to major programs and purposes approved by the Commission; shall present to the Commission for its consideration the proposals and estimates set forth in subsection (3) of this paragraph; and shall be responsible for the following functions, which he shall delegate, subject to his direction and supervision, to the Executive Director for Operations unless otherwise provided by this Reorganization Plan:

- (1) administrative functions of the Commission;
- (2) distribution of business among such personnel and among administrative units and offices of the Commission;
- (3) preparation of
  - (i) proposals for the reorganization of the major offices within the Commission;
  - (ii) the budget estimate for the Commission; and
  - (iii) the proposed distribution of appropriated funds according to major programs and purposes.

(4) appointing and removing without any further action by the Commission, all officers and employees under the Commission other than those whose appointment and removal are specifically provided for by subsections 1 (b), (c) and 2(a) of this Reorganization Plan.

(c) The Chairman as principal executive officer and the Executive Director for Operations shall be governed by the general policies of the Commission and by such regulatory decisions, findings, and determinations, including those for reorganization proposals, budget revisions and distribution of appropriated funds, as the Commission may by law, including this Plan, be authorized to make. The Chairman and the Executive Director for Operations, through the Chairman, shall be responsible for insuring that the Commission is fully and currently informed about matters within its functions.

Sec. 3. (a) Notwithstanding sections 1 and 2 of this Reorganization Plan, there are hereby transferred to the Chairman all the functions vested in the Commission pertaining to an emergency concerning a particular facility or materials licensed or regulated by the Commission, including the functions of declaring, responding, issuing orders, determining specific policies, advising the civil authorities, and the public, directing, and coordinating actions relative to such emergency incident.

(b) The Chairman may delegate the authority to perform such emergency functions, in whole or in part, to any of the other members of the Commission. Such authority may also be delegated or re-delegated, in whole or in part to the staff of the Commission.

(c) In acting under this section, the Chairman, or other member of the Commission delegated authority under subsection (b), shall conform to the policy guidelines of the Commission. To the maximum extent possible under the emergency conditions, the Chairman or other member of the Commission delegated authority under subsection (b), shall inform the Commission of actions taken relative to the emergency.

(d) Following the conclusion of the emergency, the Chairman, or the member of the Commission delegated the emergency functions under subsection (b), shall render a complete and timely report to the Commission on the actions taken during the emergency.

Sec. 4. (a) The Chairman may make such delegations and provide for such reporting as the Chairman deems necessary, subject to provisions of law and this Reorganization Plan. Any officer or employee under the Commission may communicate directly to the Commission, or to any member of the Commission, whenever in the view of such officer or employee a critical problem or public health and safety or common defense and security is not being properly addressed.

(b) The Executive Director for Operations shall report for all matters to the Chairman.

(c) The function of the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, and Nuclear Regulatory Research of reporting directly to the Commission is hereby transferred so that such officers report to the Executive Director for Operations. The function of receiving such reports is hereby transferred from the Commission to the Executive Director for Operations.

(d) The heads of the Commission level offices or successor offices, of General Counsel, Secretary to the Commission, Office of Policy Evaluation, Office of Inspector and Auditor, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel and Appeal Panel, and Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards shall continue to report directly to the Commission and the Commission shall continue to receive such reports.

Sec. 5. The provisions of this Reorganization Plan shall take effect October 1, 1980, or at such earlier time or times as the President shall specify, but no sooner than the earliest time allowable under section 906 of title 5 of the United States Code.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup>45 FR 40561.

# 2011 NRC Year End Summary

NRC's Regulatory Activities

December 5, 2011

**U.S. NRC**  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
*Protecting People and the Environment*

## Overall

- **Commission issued 92 decisions on policy and adjudicatory matters**
- **Commission conducted 38 public meetings with NRC staff and stakeholders**
- **Issued Safety Culture Policy Statement**
- **Earned OPM's top large agency ranking in all 4 performance indices**
- **NRC's new building to consolidate staff is on schedule**
- **Increase efficiency of business support**
- **Improved budget execution**

## Public Involvement

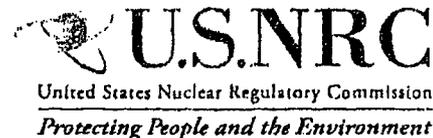
- **Conducted over 1,000 public meetings across the country**
- **Closed 338 FOIA requests of 381 FOIA requests received**
- **Redesigned public web-site**
  - **Improves navigation, content and accessibility**
- **Social Media**
  - **Initiated the agency's first external blog**
  - **Established YouTube and Twitter accounts**

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

## Reactors

- **Issued Final Safety Evaluation Reports for AP1000 and ESBWR Design Certifications**
- **Commission conducted mandatory hearings for Vogtle and Summer COLs**
- **Issued 8 Renewed Reactor Licenses**
- **Completed Safety and Env Reviews of first 2 COLs**
- **Active Preconstruction Inspections**
  - **Vogtle and Summer**
- **Construction Inspections at Watts Bar**

## Reactors, Continued



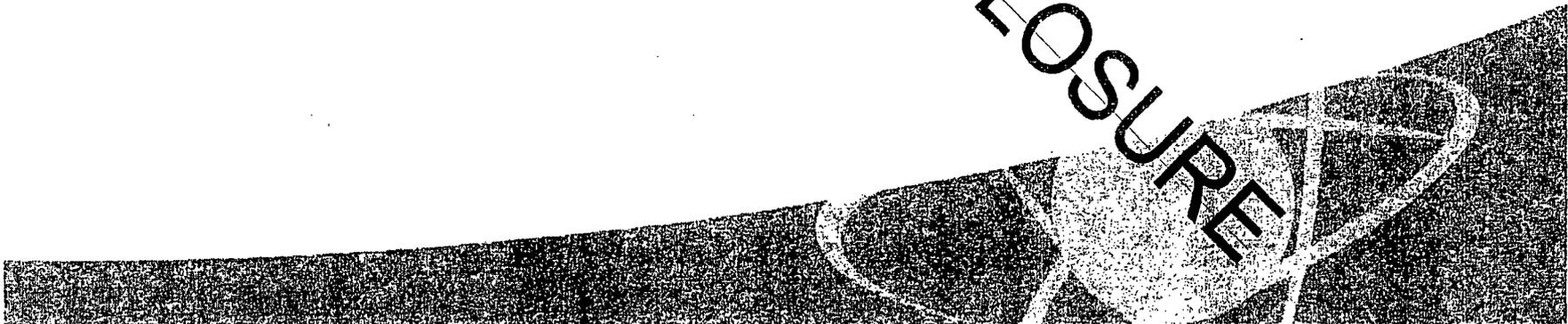
- **Response to Earthquake Impact at North Anna**
- **Approved Cybersecurity Plans at all nuclear plants**
- **Hosted First IRRS Mission to U.S.**
  - **Assessment of our Regulatory Infrastructure**
- **Completed NFPA 805 Fire Protection Pilot Process**
- **Issued Emergency Preparedness rule**
- **Two Plants Placed in Highest Level of Oversight**
  - **Browns Ferry and Fort Calhoun**

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

## Materials

- **Updated Waste Confidence Decision**
- **Completed Orderly Close-out of Yucca Mountain Licensing**
  - **Preparations and Publication of Technical Eval Reports**
- **Completed Mandatory Hearing and Issued License for AREVA**
- **Issued final policy on the Protection of Sealed Radiation Sources Containing Cesium 137 Chloride**
- **Continuing to Update and Increase Usage of the National Source Tracking System**

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE



## **Response to Events in Japan**

- \* **Immediate Activation of Emergency Operations Center**
- \* **Conducted Inspections at all US Operating Reactors**
- \* **Commission Created the Near Term Task Force (NTTF) to Review NRC Process and Regulations**
- \* **Conducted 7 Public Meetings on Events in Japan**
  - **Covered NRC's response, status of NTTF progress, and NTTF recommendations**
- \* **Staff Produced Paper on Implementation of NTTF Recommendations & Subsequent Commission Direction**
- \* **Created Japan Lessons-Learned Program Directorate**

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:02 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Many thanks.

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-862-0363  
cell: (b)(6)  
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:56 PM  
**To:** Wald, Matthew  
**Subject:** Fw: Materials

As promised.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
C: (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:07 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Fw: You still around?

Can you get to jeff too if you think its a good idea? Heard from anyone else?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Beattie, Jeff <[Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com](mailto:Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com)>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:59:38 2011  
**Subject:** RE: You still around?

Yup should I give you a call? Or you can call me 703 236 2405

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [<mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:56 PM  
**To:** 'jbeattie@accessintel.com'; Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** You still around?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Whoever has their letter should get ours asap

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:15:55 2011  
**Subject:** Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Thank you

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:26:01 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Done already.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:24:09 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Whoever has their letter should get ours asap

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot

To: Batkin, Joshua  
Sent: Fri Dec 09 18:15:55 2011  
Subject: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:39 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Deadline Inquiry on Issa/Jaczk

Hi guys,

Issa's office just dropped this letter which shows the 4 members of NRC not named Jaczko writing WH COS Daley and outlining a list of grievances against the chairman. The Oct. 13 letter outlines a list of grievances...

[http://oversight.house.gov/images/stories/Letters/Letter To Daley.pdf](http://oversight.house.gov/images/stories/Letters/Letter_To_Daley.pdf)

What's the chairman's reaction to this? Has he met/talked with/heard from Mr. Daley or the WH in response to this letter?

On deadline. How fun our jobs are...

- Ryan

--  
Ryan Tracy | Reporter  
Dow Jones Newswires | The Wall Street Journal  
office 202.862.9245 | cell (b)(6) | [ryan.tracy@dowjones.com](mailto:ryan.tracy@dowjones.com)

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hiruo, Elaine [Elaine\_Hiruo@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:54 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Congressman Issa's letter to White House Re: Chairman Jaczko

Eliot, The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has just released a letter that Chairman Issa sent to White House Chief of Staff William Daley today on the chilling effect Chairman Jaczko's actions are having on the agency.

"In fact, for more than 18 months, the Commission attempted to manage the Chairman's increasingly erratic behavior behind closed doors," Issa said. "The Commisisoners' efforts to do so were 'received only as encouragement for further transgressions.'"

Is there any comment from Jaczko or the agency to Issa's letter?

Thank you.

Elaine Hiruo

Elaine Hiruo  
Managing Editor, NuclearFuel  
Platts  
The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.  
Office: 202-383-2163  
Fax: 202-383-2187  
elaine\_hiruo@platts.com

---

~~The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient, and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.~~

---

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Andrew Restuccia [arestuccia@thehill.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:54 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot; McIntyre, David  
**Subject:** Looking for response for story as soon as possible

Hey guys.

We just got an Oct. 13 letter from the four NRC commissioners to White House Chief of Staff Daley raising questions about Chairman Jaczko's leadership ability.

The letter says: "We believe that [Chairman Jaczko's] actions and behavior are causing serious damage to this institution and are creating a chilled work environment at the NRC. We are concerned that this will adversely affect the NRC's essential mission to protect the health, safety and security of the American people."

Do you have a comment on this letter?

I'm on my cell phone, since I've already left the office:

--  
Andrew Restuccia  
Staff Writer  
The Hill  
[arestuccia@thehill.com](mailto:arestuccia@thehill.com)  
Office: [202-407-8012](tel:202-407-8012)  
Cell:  (best way to reach me)

Follow me on Twitter: [@AndrewRestuccia](https://twitter.com/AndrewRestuccia)  
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:57 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** You doing politico too?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:58 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Me either . Issa has posted a letter asking the president to fire him and calling daly to testify, and the 4 comm letter and memo. Let me know if I should follow up with anyone.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:47:26 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

DowJones weighed in. I can't read the issa stuff from the committee on blackberry. Can't figure why they would play this card on a friday night.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:30:50 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Thank you

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

From: Brenner, Eliot

To: Batkin, Joshua

Sent: Fri Dec 09 18:26:01 2011

Subject: Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Done already.

Eliot Brenner

Director, Office of Public Affairs

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Protecting People and the Environment

301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

----- Original Message -----

From: Batkin, Joshua

To: Brenner, Eliot

Sent: Fri Dec 09 18:24:09 2011

Subject: Re: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Whoever has their letter should get ours asap

Joshua C. Batkin

Chief of Staff

Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko

(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

From: Brenner, Eliot

To: Batkin, Joshua

Sent: Fri Dec 09 18:15:55 2011

Subject: Got beattie covered. Will rerach out to a few others, like deborah

Eliot Brenner

Director, Office of Public Affairs

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Protecting People and the Environment

301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hiruo, Elaine [Elaine\_Hiruo@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:12 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Congressman Issa's letter to White House Re: Chairman Jaczko

Thank you.

Elaine Hiruo  
Managing Editor, NuclearFuel  
Platts  
The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.  
Office: 202-383-2163  
Fax: 202-383-2187  
elaine\_hiruo@platts.com

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:10 PM  
**To:** Hiruo, Elaine  
**Subject:** Re: Congressman Issa's letter to White House Re: Chairman Jaczko

Just sent you some material.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Hiruo, Elaine <Elaine\_Hiruo@platts.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 18:54:07 2011  
**Subject:** Congressman Issa's letter to White House Re: Chairman Jaczko

Eliot, The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has just released a letter that Chairman Issa sent to White House Chief of Staff William Daley today on the chilling effect Chairman Jaczko's actions are having on the agency.

"In fact, for more than 18 months, the Commission attempted to manage the Chairman's increasingly erratic behavior behind closed doors," Issa said. "The Commisisoners' efforts to do so were 'received only as encouragement for further transgressions.'"

Is there any comment from Jaczko or the agency to Issa's letter?

Thank you.

Elaine Hiruo

Elaine Hiruo  
Managing Editor, NuclearFuel  
Platts  
The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.  
Office: 202-383-2163  
Fax: 202-383-2187  
elaine\_hiruo@platts.com

---

The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.

---

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:13 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Others to talk to

K calling wald now

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:11:32 2011  
**Subject:** Others to talk to

I think it would pay to talk to darius dixon of politico and andrew rustuccia of The Hill. Will get you their numbers later Eliot Brenner Director, Office of Public Affairs US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:21 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Thank you for the quick response. My well-honed reporter's instincts tell me you may or may not have seen this coming.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:41 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Fw: Materials

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Does Obama have the power to remove a member of the NRC?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:25 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

I know nothing, NOTHING!  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
[redacted] (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan <Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:21:14 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Thank you for the quick response. My well-honed reporter's instincts tell me you may or may not have seen this coming.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:41 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Fw: Materials

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
C: [redacted] (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:36 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Thanks. Five-year terms right?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:35 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

Off the record: he names the chairman from among the members and could chose another as chairman, but the individual could still serve their statutory term to which they are confirmed by the senate

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan <Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:31:03 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Does Obama have the power to remove a member of the NRC?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:25 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

I know nothing, NOTHING!  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

C (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan <Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:21:14 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Thank you for the quick response. My well-honed reporter's instincts tell me you may or may not have seen this coming.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:41 PM  
**To:** Tracy, Ryan  
**Subject:** Fw: Materials

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
[REDACTED]  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:40 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** can you call me?

At work – 301-415-1828 or cell – (b)(6). Tx!

Angela B. Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov](mailto:301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:47 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** comment on NRC commissioners' letter to WH

Eliot,

Do you have a comment on this letter, released by Issa's committee this evening?

Four commissioners say they have 'grave concerns' about Chairman Jay Bybee.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office  
(b)(6) cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 7:49 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** markey release

Is below. Report is linked; might be too long to send, so hope this synopsis will serve you well:

## Dec. 9, 2011: New Report Details Conspiracy to Delay, Weaken US Nuclear Safety in Wake of Fukushima

### *"Regulatory Meltdown" Reveals Efforts to Improve Nuclear Safety Undermined by Four NRC Commissioners*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As part of his ongoing investigation into U.S. nuclear safety since the Fukushima meltdowns, today Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), Congress's leading voice for nuclear safety, released a blockbuster new report that details how four Commissioners at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) colluded to prevent and then delay the work of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima, the entity tasked with making recommendations for improvement to NRC regulations and processes after the Fukushima meltdowns, the worst nuclear disaster in history. The Near-Term Task Force members comprise more than 135 years of collective experience at the NRC, and with full access to expert NRC staff completed a methodical and comprehensive review of NRC's regulatory system.

Rep. Markey's office reviewed thousands of pages of documents, including emails, correspondence, meeting minutes and voting records, and found a concerted effort by Commissioners William Magwood, Kristine Svinicki, William Osterhoff and George Apostolakis to undermine the efforts of the Fukushima Task Force with request for Congress additional study in an effort to delay the release and implementation of the task force's final recommendations. Documents also show open hostility on the part of the four Commissioners toward efforts of NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko to fully and quickly implement the recommendations of the Task Force, despite efforts on the part of the Chairman to keep the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency.

**"The actions of these four Commissioners since the Fukushima nuclear disaster has caused a regulatory meltdown that has left America's nuclear fleet and the general public at risk,"** said Rep. Markey. **"Instead of doing what they have been sworn to do, these four Commissioners have attempted a coup on the Chairman and have abdicated their responsibility to the American public to assure the safety of America's nuclear industry. I call on these four Commissioners to stop the obstruction, do their jobs and quickly move to fully implement the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster."**

A copy of the report "Regulatory Meltdown: How Four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners Conspired to Delay and Weaken Nuclear Reactor Safety in the Wake of Fukushima" can be found [HERE](#).

Major findings in the new report include:

- Four NRC Commissioners attempted to delay and otherwise impede the creation of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;

- Four NRC Commissioners conspired, with each other and with senior NRC staff, to delay the release of and alter the NRC Near-Term Task Force report on Fukushima;
- The other NRC Commissioners attempted to slow down or otherwise impede the adoption of the safety recommendations made by the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko kept the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency, despite claims to the contrary made by these Commissioners; and
- The consideration of the Fukushima safety upgrades is not the only safety-related issue that the other NRC Commissioners have opposed.

After the Near Term Task Force released its report in July, Rep. Markey called for the rapid adoption of all recommendations, and sent letters criticizing the proposals to delay even their consideration that were put forward by Commissioners Svinicki, Magwood and Ostendorff.

Rep. Markey also introduced legislation to overhaul nuclear safety. The Nuclear Power Plant Safety Act of 2011 will impose a moratorium on all new nuclear reactor licenses or license extensions until new safety requirements are in place that reflect the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.

Rep. Markey's office also released the report, "Fukushima Fallout: Regulator Loopholes at U.S. Nuclear Plants", detailing several concerns about NRC safety regulations following the Fukushima crisis.

Angela B. Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov](mailto:301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:00 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

Holy sh\*t. This is real hardball now.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 05:55 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fw: markey release

Thought you might want to see this.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
(b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:49:23 2011  
**Subject:** markey release

Is below. Report is linked; might be too long to send, so hope this synopsis will serve you well:

**Dec. 9, 2011: New Report Details Conspiracy to Delay, Weaken US Nuclear Safety in Wake of Fukushima**

*“Regulatory Meltdown” Reveals Efforts to Improve Nuclear Safety Undermined by Four NRC Commissioners*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As part of his ongoing investigation into U.S. nuclear safety since the Fukushima meltdowns, today Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), Congress’s leading voice for nuclear safety, released a blockbuster new report that details how four Commissioners at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) colluded to prevent and then delay the work of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima, the entity tasked with making recommendations for improvement to NRC regulations and processes after the Fukushima meltdowns, the worst nuclear disaster in history. The Near-Term Task Force members comprise more than 135 years of collective experience at the NRC, and with full access to expert NRC staff completed a methodical and comprehensive review of NRC’s regulatory system.

Rep. Markey’s office reviewed thousands of pages of documents, including emails, correspondence, meeting minutes and voting records, and found a concerted effort by Commissioners William Magwood, Kristine Svinicki, William Ostendorff and George Apostolakis to undermine the efforts of the Fukushima Task Force with request for endless additional study in an effort to delay the release and implementation of the task force’s final recommendations. Documents also show open hostility

on the part of the four Commissioners toward efforts of NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko to fully and quickly implement the recommendations of the Task Force, despite efforts on the part of the Chairman to keep the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency.

**“The actions of these four Commissioners since the Fukushima nuclear disaster has caused a regulatory meltdown that has left America’s nuclear fleet and the general public at risk,”** said Rep. Markey. **“Instead of doing what they have been sworn to do, these four Commissioners have attempted a coup on the Chairman and have abdicated their responsibility to the American public to assure the safety of America’s nuclear industry. I call on these four Commissioners to stop the obstruction, do their jobs and quickly move to fully implement the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.”**

A copy of the report “Regulatory Meltdown: How Four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners Conspired to Delay and Weaken Nuclear Reactor Safety in the Wake of Fukushima” can be found [HERE](#).

Major findings in the new report include:

- Four NRC Commissioners attempted to delay and otherwise impede the creation of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- Four NRC Commissioners conspired, with each other and with senior NRC staff, to delay the release of and alter the NRC Near-Term Task Force report on Fukushima;
- The other NRC Commissioners attempted to slow down or otherwise impede the adoption of the safety recommendations made by the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko kept the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency, despite claims to the contrary made by these Commissioners; and
- The consideration of the Fukushima safety upgrades is not the only safety-related issue that the other NRC Commissioners have opposed.

After the Near Term Task Force released its report in July, Rep. Markey called for the rapid adoption of all recommendations, and sent [letters](#) criticizing the proposals to delay even their consideration that were put forward by Commissioners Svinicki, Magwood and Ostendorff.

Rep. Markey also introduced [legislation](#) to overhaul nuclear safety. The Nuclear Power Plant Safety Act of 2011 will impose a moratorium on all new nuclear reactor licenses or license extensions until new safety requirements are in place that reflect the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.

Rep. Markey’s office also released the [report](#), “Fukushima Fallout: Regulator Loopholes at U.S. Nuclear Plants”, detailing several concerns about NRC safety regulations following the Fukushima crisis.

Angela B. Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

Wow. Good luck eliot you've done a heck of a job for your guy.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 06:02 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

[Redacted] (b)(6)

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

[Redacted] (b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:00:23 2011  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

[Redacted] (b)(6)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 05:55 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fw: markey release

Thought you might want to see this  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

C: [Redacted] (b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:49:23 2011  
**Subject:** markey release

Is below. Report is linked; might be too long to send. so hope this synopsis will serve you well:

Dec. 9, 2011: New Report Details Conspiracy to Delay, Weaken US Nuclear

## Safety in Wake of Fukushima

### *“Regulatory Meltdown” Reveals Efforts to Improve Nuclear Safety Undermined by Four NRC Commissioners*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As part of his ongoing investigation into U.S. nuclear safety since the Fukushima meltdowns, today Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), Congress’s leading voice for nuclear safety, released a blockbuster new report that details how four Commissioners at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) colluded to prevent and then delay the work of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima, the entity tasked with making recommendations for improvement to NRC regulations and processes after the Fukushima meltdowns, the worst nuclear disaster in history. The Near-Term Task Force members comprise more than 135 years of collective experience at the NRC, and with full access to expert NRC staff completed a methodical and comprehensive review of NRC’s regulatory system.

Rep. Markey’s office reviewed thousands of pages of documents, including emails, correspondence, meeting minutes and voting records, and found a concerted effort by Commissioners William Magwood, Kristine Svinicki, William Ostendorff and George Apostolakis to undermine the efforts of the Fukushima Task Force with request for endless additional study in an effort to delay the release and implementation of the task force’s final recommendations. Documents also show open hostility on the part of the four Commissioners toward efforts of NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko to fully and quickly implement the recommendations of the Task Force, despite efforts on the part of the Chairman to keep the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency.

**“The actions of these four Commissioners since the Fukushima nuclear disaster has caused a regulatory meltdown that has left America’s nuclear fleet and the general public at risk,”** said Rep. Markey. **“Instead of doing what they have been sworn to do, these four Commissioners have attempted a coup on the Chairman and have abdicated their responsibility to the American public to assure the safety of America’s nuclear industry. I call on these four Commissioners to stop the obstruction, do their jobs and quickly move to fully implement the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.”**

A copy of the report “Regulatory Meltdown: How Four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners Conspired to Delay and Weaken Nuclear Reactor Safety in the Wake of Fukushima” can be found [HERE](#).

Major findings in the new report include:

- Four NRC Commissioners attempted to delay and otherwise impede the creation of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- Four NRC Commissioners conspired, with each other and with senior NRC staff, to delay the release of and alter the NRC Near-Term Task Force report on Fukushima;
- The other NRC Commissioners attempted to slow down or otherwise impede the adoption of the safety recommendations made by the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko kept the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency, despite claims to the contrary made by these Commissioners; and
- The consideration of the Fukushima safety upgrades is not the only safety-related issue that the other NRC Commissioners have opposed.

After the Near Term Task Force released its report in July, Rep. Markey called for the rapid adoption of all recommendations, and sent letters criticizing the proposals to delay even their consideration that were put forward by Commissioners Svinicki, Magwood and Ostendorff.

Rep. Markey also introduced legislation to overhaul nuclear safety. The Nuclear Power Plant Safety Act of 2011 will impose a moratorium on all new nuclear reactor licenses or license extensions until new safety requirements are in place that reflect the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.

Rep. Markey's office also released the report, "Fukushima Fallout: Regulator Loopholes at U.S. Nuclear Plants", detailing several concerns about NRC safety regulations following the Fukushima crisis.

Angela B. Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:14 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Fw: Google Alert - Svinicki and nuclear

Eliot - this is pretty balanced but "The agency watchdog said Jaczko intimidated staff members who disagreed with him" is not accurate. The IG did not make that finding.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Google Alerts <googlealerts-noreply@google.com>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:07:57 2011  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Svinicki and nuclear

News

1 new result for Svinicki and nuclear

[APNewsBreak: NRC panel: Nuke chief damages agency](#)

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four Nuclear Regulatory commissioners from both parties say they have ... as well as Republicans Kristine Svinicki and William Ostendorff. ...

---

Tip: Use quotes ("like this") around a set of words in your query to match them exactly. [Learn more.](#)

[Delete](#) this alert.  
[Create](#) another alert.  
[Manage](#) your alerts.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:17 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** The hil

Is out and adam said he used a lot from gbj's letter. Did you get it yet?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Re: The hil

No, the Hill story when you see it

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:21:28 2011  
**Subject:** Re: The hil

Get what, the letter? Yes, I have been sharing it widely.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:17:11 2011  
**Subject:** The hil

Is out and adam said he used a lot from gbj's letter. Did you get it yet?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

Understood.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 06:06 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

Thanks. I'd do the same for whoever held the job.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:05:33 2011  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

Wow. Good luck eliot you've done a heck of a job for your guy.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 06:02 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

(b)(6)  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
C (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:00:23 2011  
**Subject:** Re: markey release

(b)(6)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 05:55 PM

**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fw: markey release

Thought you might want to see this.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
[REDACTED] (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 19:49:23 2011  
**Subject:** markey release

Is below. Report is linked; might be too long to send, so hope this synopsis will serve you well:

## Dec. 9, 2011: New Report Details Conspiracy to Delay, Weaken US Nuclear Safety in Wake of Fukushima

### *"Regulatory Meltdown" Reveals Efforts to Improve Nuclear Safety Undermined by Four NRC Commissioners*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As part of his ongoing investigation into U.S. nuclear safety since the Fukushima meltdowns, today Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), Congress's leading voice for nuclear safety, released a blockbuster new report that details how four Commissioners at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) colluded to prevent and then delay the work of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima, the entity tasked with making recommendations for improvement to NRC regulations and processes after the Fukushima meltdowns, the worst nuclear disaster in history. The Near-Term Task Force members comprise more than 135 years of collective experience at the NRC, and with full access to expert NRC staff completed a methodical and comprehensive review of NRC's regulatory system.

Rep. Markey's office reviewed thousands of pages of documents, including emails, correspondence, meeting minutes and voting records, and found a concerted effort by Commissioners William Magwood, Kristine Stanicki, William Ostendorff and George Apostolakis to undermine the efforts of the Fukushima Task Force with request for endless additional study in an effort to delay the release and implementation of the task force's final recommendations. Documents also show open hostility on the part of the four Commissioners toward efforts of NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko to fully and quickly implement the recommendations of the Task Force, despite efforts on the part of the Chairman to keep the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency.

**"The actions of these four Commissioners since the Fukushima nuclear disaster has caused a regulatory meltdown that has left America's nuclear fleet and the general public at risk,"** said Rep. Markey. **"Instead of doing what they have been sworn to do, these four Commissioners have attempted a coup on the Chairman and have abdicated their responsibility to the American public to assure the safety of America's nuclear industry. I call on these four Commissioners to stop the obstruction, do their jobs and quickly move to fully implement the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster."**

A copy of the report "Regulatory Meltdown: How Four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners Conspired to Delay and Weaken Nuclear Reactor Safety in the Wake of Fukushima" can be found [HERE](#).

Major findings in the new report include:

- Four NRC Commissioners attempted to delay and otherwise impede the creation of the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- Four NRC Commissioners conspired, with each other and with senior NRC staff, to delay the release of and alter the NRC Near-Term Task Force report on Fukushima;
- The other NRC Commissioners attempted to slow down or otherwise impede the adoption of the safety recommendations made by the NRC Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima;
- NRC Chairman Greg Jaczko kept the other four NRC Commissioners fully informed regarding the Japanese emergency, despite claims to the contrary made by these Commissioners; and
- The consideration of the Fukushima safety upgrades is not the only safety-related issue that the other NRC Commissioners have opposed.

After the Near Term Task Force released its report in July, Rep. Markey called for the rapid adoption of all recommendations, and sent [letters](#) criticizing the proposals to delay even their consideration that were put forward by Commissioners Svinicki, Magwood and Ostendorff.

Rep. Markey also introduced [legislation](#) to overhaul nuclear safety. The Nuclear Power Plant Safety Act of 2011 will impose a moratorium on all new nuclear reactor licenses or license extensions until new safety requirements are in place that reflect the lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.

Rep. Markey's office also released the [report](#), "Fukushima Fallout: Regulator Loopholes at U.S. Nuclear Plants", detailing several concerns about NRC safety regulations following the Fukushima crisis.

Angela B. Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
301-415-1828/angela.coggins@nrc.gov

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 8:58 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: BIOomberg

Good

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 20:57:15 2011  
**Subject:** BIOomberg

Is correcting to say some but not all recommendations endorsed but there are disagreements over implementation, and will quote me. Hope that covers the base.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:29 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Have you seen wald or andrew's stories yet?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:47 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

Hi – Rick said he reached you. Please let me know if the situation changes re “no comment.”  
Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile:   
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:53 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

He said he doesn't have them.

so Rick was pinch hitting.  
Grateful if you could forward them to me.

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile:   
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:48 PM  
**To:** Rampton, Roberta (M Edit Ops)  
**Subject:** RE: Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

The chairman's office is not in a no comment mode. Feel free to quote liberally from the documents I sent to Rick.

---

**From:** [roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com) [<mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:47 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

Hi – Rick said he reached you. Please let me know if the situation changes re "no comment."  
Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile:   
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views

expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Spoerry, Scott [Scott.Spoerry@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:55 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Thanks very much. Can we say that we got these documents from you? Or the NRC press office?

We are just saying we got the other two letters from the Issa Committee website.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:34 PM  
**To:** Spoerry, Scott  
**Subject:** materials we discussed

This should help fill out what you need.

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Spoerry, Scott [Scott.Spoerry@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Thanks...again. We will just use the press or chairman's office source.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:58 PM  
**To:** Spoerry, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Just say they were provided by the chairman's office. (I work for him, so by extension that's where they came from ...; but I am a career fed and don't want to get too close to the hand grenades going back and forth).

Thanks if you can couch it that way ... otherwise say they came from the press office.

eliot

---

**From:** Spoerry, Scott [mailto:Scott.Spoerry@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:55 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Thanks very much. Can we say that we got these documents from you? Or the NRC press office?

We are just saying we got the other two letters from the Issa Committee website.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:34 PM  
**To:** Spoerry, Scott  
**Subject:** materials we discussed

This should help fill out what you need.

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Spoerry, Scott [Scott.Spoerry@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Thanks...again. We will just use the press or chairman's office source.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:58 PM  
**To:** Spoerry, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Just say they were provided by the chairman's office. (I work for him, so by extension that's where they came from ...; but I am a career fed and don't want to get too close to the hand grenades going back and forth).

Thanks if you can couch it that way ... otherwise say they came from the press office.

eliot

---

**From:** Spoerry, Scott [mailto:Scott.Spoerry@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:55 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: materials we discussed

Thanks very much. Can we say that we got these documents from you? Or the NRC press office?

We are just saying we got the other two letters from the Press Committee website.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:34 PM  
**To:** Spoerry, Scott  
**Subject:** materials we discussed

This should help fill out what you need.

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:29 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Re: Have you seen wald or andrew's stories yet?

Ok. The american people thank you for your hard work and dedication to nuclear safety.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 22:03:40 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Have you seen wald or andrew's stories yet?

Don't know where matt's is, [REDACTED]

(b)(5)

I also serviced CNN and Reuters a few minutes ago.

[REDACTED]  
(b)(6)

though I told the ops center to put through to me any reporter who called tonight.

Eliot

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:29 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Have you seen wald or andrew's stories yet?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff

Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Fw: Google Alert - Jaczko

Eliot - that language crept in again:

The agency watchdog said Jaczko intimidated staff members who disagreed with him

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Google Alerts <[googlealerts-noreply@google.com](mailto:googlealerts-noreply@google.com)>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 22:28:00 2011  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Jaczko

News

2 new results for Jaczko

### Panel has 'grave concerns' about US nuclear agency chief

USA Today

By David Goldman, AP Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko speaks to members of the media Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011, in Atlanta. By David Goldman, AP Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko speaks to members of the media ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

### AP News in Brief at 8:58 pm EST

Newsday

APNewsBreak: 4 NRC members say they have 'grave concerns' about NRC Chairman Jaczko WASHINGTON (AP) -- Four Nuclear Regulatory commissioners from both parties say they have "grave concerns" about the panel's chairman, charging that the actions of ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

This as-it-happens Google Alert is brought to you by Google.

[Delete this alert](#)  
[Create another alert.](#)  
[Manage your alerts](#)



USA Today

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 12:53 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

Hi – I misread your email earlier as “the chairman’s office IS in a no-comment mode” but luckily did not misread your instrux to quote from the materials.

Thanks very much for sending.

See you on Wednesday. Please keep me in the loop in the meantime if there are any further developments.

Bests / Roberta

---

**Roberta Rampton**  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile:

roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

23:28 09Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Private spat within US nuclear agency laid bare

- \* Commissioners complain to White House about chairman
- \* Jaczko defends his record, apologizes for "distraction"
- \* Comes ahead of Capitol Hill hearing on Wednesday
- \* Democratic Rep. Markey report cites "conspiracy" at NRC

(Recasts with details and background throughout, adds Jaczko letter to White House)

By Richard Cowan and Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 9 (Reuters) - Deep-seated infighting within the five-member U.S. nuclear safety regulator was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The details shed new light on how caustic relationships have become at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which is rolling out a sweeping series of reforms for U.S. nuclear power plants in the wake of the March disaster at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

On one side is the agency's chairman, Gregory Jaczko, who previously worked for prominent nuclear critics in Congress.

On the other, four commissioners -- two Democratic appointees and two Republicans -- who complained to the White House in October that Jaczko was overstepping his powers, and intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors that was reviewing the agency's analysis of the Fukushima accident.

"We believe that his actions and behavior are causing

serious damage to this institution and are creating a chilled work environment at the NRC," the four commissioners said in a letter to White House Chief of Staff William Daley.

The letter, signed by William Magwood, Kristine Svinicki, William Ostendorff and George Apostolakis, was stamped "not for public disclosure." It was made public by Republican Darrell Issa, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

In a Dec. 7 letter to Daley, Jaczko refuted the accusations and defended his record.

"Unfortunately, all too often, a majority of this current commission has taken an approach that is not as protective of public health and safety as I believe is necessary," he said, apologizing to the White House for the "distraction" caused by the internal bickering at the agency.

The NRC's decisions are being closely watched by regulators around the world, and by operators of nuclear power plants.

Its changes to safety regulations for existing plants are expected to cost millions for operators including Exelon <EXC.N> and Entergy Corp <ETN.N>. The NRC is also expected to soon rule on new plants proposed by Southern Co <SO.N> and SCANA Corp <SCG.N>.

<\*\*\*\*\*>  
Senator to NRC: try to get along [ID:nN1E7710D]  
Jaczko "ruling by intimidation"-watchdog [ID:nN10206427]  
NEWSMAKER-Jaczko meshes physics, politics [nN06200624]  
FACTBOX-Commissioners at the NRC [nN06206336]  
FACTBOX-NRC's post-Fukushima reforms [nN1E77C176]  
TAKE A LOOK-US maps out nuclear reforms [nN06206336]  
>\*\*\*\*\*>

MARKEY POINTS AT OTHER COMMISSIONERS

Also on Friday, Democratic Representative Edward Markey made public a 23-page report accusing the four commissioners of trying to impede U.S. nuclear safety reviews after Fukushima.

"The actions of these four commissioners since the Fukushima nuclear disaster has caused a regulatory meltdown that has left America's nuclear fleet and the general public at risk," said Markey, a Democrat and a long-time nuclear critic.

Jaczko was once an aide to Markey, and also worked as an aide to Nevada Senator Harry Reid, who successfully fought to shut down a dump for nuclear waste planned for deep inside Yucca Mountain -- an issue that continues to rankle Republicans.

Markey said NRC commissioners engaged in a "concerted effort" to "undermine" the NRC task force that studied and proposed new safety steps for the U.S. nuclear power industry, "conspired" to delay the release of task force findings and worked to block the new safety recommendations.

HEARING WEDNESDAY

Jaczko and his fellow commissioners are set to appear on Wednesday before Issa's panel. Issa has also asked Daley to send an administration official to testify.

Meanwhile, Issa released a letter he had sent to Daley saying there were "serious questions" about Jaczko's "conduct and ability to lead" the NRC.

While Issa's letter to Daley did not specifically demand Jaczko's dismissal, it noted that President Barack Obama has the authority to remove him.

It will not be the first awkward Congressional hearing for Jaczko and his colleagues. In August, as they sparred about how best to advance sweeping regulatory changes for the nation's 104 nuclear power plants, they were publicly chided by senior Democratic senator Barbara Boxer for their inability to get along. [ID:nN1E7710D]

In June, the agency's own independent Inspector General described a toxic environment at the commission in a lengthy report requested by House Republicans. [ID:nN10206422]

Jaczko did a round of media interviews this week to talk about the NRC's accomplishments this year, but did not have any comment on Friday, an NRC spokesman said.

On Tuesday, he told reporters the commission is working well. "When we're debating and discussing, it brings out the best in all of us," he said.

(Reporting by Richard Cowan; editing by Todd Eastham)

((richard.cowan@thomsonreuters.com; 202-898-8391; Reuters Messaging; richard.cowan.reuters.com@reuters.net))

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:48 PM  
**To:** Rampton, Roberta (M Edit Ops)  
**Subject:** RE: Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

The chairman's office is not in a no comment mode. Feel free to quote liberally from the documents I sent to Rick.

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:47 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Let me know if "no comment" situation changes...

Hi – Rick said he reached you. Please let me know if the situation changes re "no comment."  
Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Darius Dixon [ddixon@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:38 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Interview?

Eliot - is there anyway Chairman Jaczko could talk to me today?

Are you planning to put out a statement on all this business?

Thanks.

Darius Dixon  
Energy reporter  
POLITICO

BB: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:45 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Fw: Google Alert - Jaczko

This is good but he's been Chair over two and a half years, not 18 months for what its worth...

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Google Alerts <[googlealerts-noreply@google.com](mailto:googlealerts-noreply@google.com)>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 01:46:28 2011  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Jaczko

News

1 new result for **Jaczko**

[Internal Dissension Unsettles the Nuclear Regulatory Commission](#)

New York Times

A letter addressed to the White House chief of staff and signed by four of the five commission members was circulated Friday criticizing the fifth member, Gregory B. **Jaczko**, its chairman, and expressing "grave concerns" that his deficiencies as a ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

.....  
This as-it-happens Google Alert is brought to you by Google.

[Delete this alert.](#)  
[Create another alert.](#)  
[Manage your alerts.](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Peter Behr [pbehr@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:58 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** chairman interview

Hello Eliot -

If the chairman is going to speak to reporters this weekend, on or off the record, could you please add me to the list?

Many thanks,  
Pete

Peter Behr  
ClimateWire  
122 C St. NW Suite 722  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-446-0420 (o)

(b)(6) (c)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:37 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Assorted

Thank you. Let's chat later this PM

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 09:25:50 2011  
**Subject:** Assorted

I've taken care of a variety of odds and ends and will put more emphasis on telling reporters to reread the reorg act. I expect matt ward to correct his blog

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

I have two interview requests (political and pete behr of greenwire or whatever).

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

I need to leave shortly to

(b)(6)

. Should be back in mid afternoon.

Eliot  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** McIntyre, David  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:37 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Letters

Now that they're out, any talking points in case we get calls?

David McIntyre  
NRC Office of Public Affairs  
(b)(6) (mobile)  
301-415-8200 (office)

Sent from my BlackBerry, which is wholly respnsble for all typos

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:13 PM  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Who's got

Electronic copies of his accomplishments and the safety votes?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:16 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

I can scan them in and send them out that way. Will just have to head into the office, but could have it by 2. Need me to do that?

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:13:17 2011  
**Subject:** Who's got

Electronic copies of his accomplishments and the safety votes?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:18 PM  
**To:** Coggins, Angela; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

Just need it by the AM. Will probably go in tomorrow.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:16:09 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

I can scan them in and send them out that way. Will just have to head into the office, but could have it by 2. Need me to do that?

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:13:47 2011  
**Subject:** Who's got

Electronic copies of his accomplishments and the safety votes?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:19 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

Ok. If I am near work today, I'll do it then. If not, one of us can do it tomorrow.

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov)/301-415-1828

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Coggins, Angela; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:18:11 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

Just need it by the AM. Will probably go in tomorrow.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:16:09 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

I can scan them in and send them out that way. Will just have to head into the office, but could have it by 2. Need me to do that?

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov)/301-415-1828

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela; Brenner, Eliot

Sent: Sat Dec 10 13:13:17 2011  
Subject: Who's got

Electronic copies of his accomplishments and the safety votes?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:19 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

Ok. If I am near work today, I'll do it then. If not, one of us can do it tomorrow.

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Coggins, Angela; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:18:11 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

Just need it by the AM. Will probably go in tomorrow.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Coggins, Angela  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Loyd, Susan; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 13:16:09 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Who's got

I can scan them in and send them out that way. Will just have to head into the office, but could have it by 2. Need me to do that?

Angela Coggins  
Policy Director  
Office of Chairman Gregory B Jaczko  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
[angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828](mailto:angela.coggins@nrc.gov/301-415-1828)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela; Brenner, Eliot

Sent: Sat Dec 10 13:13:17 2011  
Subject: Who's got

Electronic copies of his accomplishments and the safety votes?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Peter Behr [pbehr@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:55 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Thanks very much, Eliot. I'll be back to you.  
Pete

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:11 AM  
**To:** Peter Behr  
**Subject:** Fw: Materials

The duties of commissioners v chairman is important to read.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Checking in - any comment today?

Just making sure. We have this story on the wire which we'll be updating at least one more time.  
Question now is whether chairman has the confidence of Obama/White House.  
Bests / Roberta

---

**Roberta Rampton**  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile:   
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

14:45 10Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Sen. Reid defends US nuke chief against complaints

- \* Nuclear Regulatory Commission chair Jaczko under fire
- \* Agency divided over reforms prompted by Japan disaster
- \* Regulatory reforms would cost plant operators millions

(Adds Murkowski comments)

By Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 10 (Reuters) - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on Saturday sought to defend the chairman of the U.S. nuclear safety commission, a man he helped put into power and who is locked in a bitter battle with fellow regulators over reforms prompted by Japan's Fukushima nuclear accident.

The deep-seated infighting within the five-member Nuclear Regulatory Commission was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The complaints about NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko are "a politically motivated witch hunt against a man with a proven track record of ensuring that nuclear power is produced as safely and responsibly as possible," a Reid spokesman said.

"His leadership during the Fukushima nuclear crisis was instrumental in ensuring the safety of Americans in the wake of that disaster, and his safety-oriented approach is what we need to protect the American people from a similar crisis in our own backyards," said Reid spokesman Adam Jentleson.

Republican Dianne Feinstein, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on Friday released a letter sent to the White House in October where the four commission members said Jaczko was overstepping his powers.

The letter also said Jaczko was intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors reviewing the agency's analysis of the March disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

The commissioners - two Democratic appointees and two Republican - said Jaczko's "behavior and management practices have become increasingly problematic and erratic."

The most powerful Republican on the Energy Committee, Alaska's Sen. Lisa Murkowski, said Jaczko's behavior was "unacceptable at any level of government" and asked Obama to take action.

"The president needs to immediately address the concerns raised by the four commissioners if he wants members of Congress and the public to have faith in the agency," she said in a statement.

In his own letter to the White House on Dec. 7, Jaczko, who was appointed chairman by President Barack Obama, questioned fellow commissioners' commitment to public health and safety. For more details, please click on [ID:nN1E7B80Y1].

<AA>  
NEWSMAKER-Jaczko meshes physics, politics [ID:nN06200024]  
FACTBOX-Commissioners at the NRC [ID:nN06206336]  
FACTBOX-NRC's post-Fukushima reforms [ID:nN1E76C176]  
TAKE A LOOK-US maps out nuclear reforms [ID:nNUKEUSA]  
AA>

Democrat Reid represents Nevada and successfully fought to shut down a nuclear waste dump planned for deep inside Yucca Mountain. He helped install Jaczko, his former aide, on the commission, where the chairman's approach and views have often diverged from other members'.

Issa's committee will hold a hearing with all five members of the commission on Wednesday. The next day, Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer will conduct a similar oversight hearing for the Environment and Public Works Committee she chairs.

The NRC's decisions are being closely watched by regulators around the world, and by operators of nuclear power plants.

Its changes to safety regulations for existing plants are expected to cost millions for operators including Exelon <EXC.N> and Entergy Corp <ETR.N>.

In June, the inspector general for the independent agency, which is focused on reactor safety and licenses, as well as oversight of nuclear materials, said Jaczko withheld information from other commission members and attempted to manipulate commission decisions. (Additional reporting by Lisa Lambert; editing by Anthony Boadle)

((lisa.lambert@thomsonreuters.com; +1-202-898-8328; Reuters Messaging: lisa.lambert.reuters.com@reuters.net))  
Keywords: USA ENERGY/NUCLEAR REID

For Related News, Double Click on one of these codes: [E] [C] [MTL] [GRO] [SOF] [E] [U] [NAW] [J] [PSC] [RNP] [DNP] [PGE] [PCO] [PCM] [PCU] [US] [WASH] [NUC] [ELG] [IP] [NGS] [COA] [POL] [COM] [NRG] [PWR] [CMPNY] [NUCPWR] [MUNI] [REGS] [ELEU] [FIN] [UTIM] [ENR] [GEN] [EN] [WSS] [ASIA] [DBT] [BACT] [UTIL] [LEN] [RTRS] [EXC.N] [ETR.N]  
For Relevant Price Information, Double Click on one of these codes: <EXC.N> <ETR.N>  
Saturday, 10 December 2011 14:45:30RTS [nN1E7B902D] {EN}ENDS

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 3:46 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Rebecca; Brenner, Eliot; Coggins, Angela; Loyd, Susan  
**Subject:** Fw: Reuters / checking in, in case there are comments etc.

(b)(5)

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com <roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 14:53:05 2011  
**Subject:** Reuters / checking in, in case there are comments etc.

I've checked in with Eliot as well.

We have this story on the wire which we'll be updating at least one more time.

My colleague at White House is checking for comment there.

Bests / Roberta

---

**Roberta Rampton**  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile: (b)(6)

roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: [http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta\\_rampton/feed/](http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta_rampton/feed/)

14:45 10Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE (L-Sen) Reid defends US nuke chief against complaints

- \* Nuclear Regulatory Commission chair Jaczko under fire
- \* Agency divided over reforms prompted by Japan disaster
- \* Regulatory reforms would cost plant operators millions

(Adds Murkowski comments)

By Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 10 (Reuters) - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on Saturday sought to defend the chairman of the U.S. nuclear safety commission, a man he helped put into power and who is locked in a bitter battle with fellow regulators over reforms prompted by Japan's Fukushima nuclear accident.

The deep-seated infighting within the five-member Nuclear Regulatory Commission was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The complaints about NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko are "a politically motivated witch hunt against a man with a proven track record of ensuring that nuclear power is produced as safely and responsibly as possible," a Reid spokesman said.

"His leadership during the Fukushima nuclear crisis was instrumental in ensuring the safety of Americans in the wake of that disaster, and his safety-oriented approach is what we need to protect the American people from a similar crisis in our own backyards," said Reid spokesman Adam Jentleson.

Republican Darrell Issa, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on Friday released a letter sent to the White House in October where the four commission members said Jaczko was overstepping his powers.

The letter also said Jaczko was intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors reviewing the agency's analysis of the March disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

The commissioners - two Democratic appointees and two Republican - said Jaczko's "behavior and management practices have become increasingly problematic and erratic."

The most powerful Republican on the Energy Committee, Alaska's Sen. Lisa Murkowski, said Jaczko's behavior was "unacceptable at any level of government" and asked Obama to take action.

"The president needs to immediately address the concerns raised by the four commissioners if he wants members of Congress and the public to have faith in the agency," she said in a statement.

In his own letter to the White House on Dec. 7, Jaczko, who was appointed chairman by President Barack Obama, questioned fellow commissioners' commitment to public health and safety. For more details, please click on [ID:nN1E7B80Y1].

<AA<br>
NEWSMAKER-Jaczko meshes physics, politics [ID:nN06200024]<br>
FACTBOX-Commissioners at the NRC [ID:nN06206336]<br>
FACTBOX-NRC's post-Fukushima reforms [ID:nN1E76C176]<br>
TAKE A LOOK-US maps out nuclear reforms [ID:nNUKEUSA]<br>
AA

Democrat Reid represents Nevada and successfully fought to shut down a nuclear waste dump planned for deep inside Yucca Mountain. He helped install Jaczko, his former aide, on the commission, where the chairman's approach and views have often diverged from other members'.

Issa's committee will hold a hearing with all five members of the commission on Wednesday. The next day, Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer will conduct a similar oversight hearing for the Environment and Public Works Committee she chairs.

The NRC's decisions are being closely watched by regulators around the world, and by operators of nuclear power plants.

Its changes to safety regulations for existing plants are expected to cost millions for operators including Exelon <EXC.N> and Entergy Corp <ETR.N>

In June, the inspector general for the independent agency, which is focused on reactor safety and licenses, as well as oversight of nuclear materials, said Jaczko withheld information from other commission members and attempted to manipulate commission decisions. (Additional reporting by Lisa Lambert; editing by Anthony Boadle)

((lisa.lambert@thomsonreuters.com; +1-202-898-8328; Reuters Messaging: lisa.lambert.reuters.com@reuters.net))<br>
Keywords: USA ENERGY/NUCLEAR REID

For Related News, Double Click on one of these codes:[G] [C] [MTL] [GRO] [SOF] [E] [U] [NAW] [J] [PSC] [RNP] [DNP] [PGE] [PCO] [PCM] [PCU] [US] [WASH] [NUC] [ELG] [JP] [NGS] [COA] [POL] [COM] [NRG] [PWR] [CMPNY] [NUCPWR] [MUNI] [REGS] [ELEU] [FIN] [UTIM] [ENR] [GEN] [PIL] [NSS] [ASIA] [DBT] [BACT] [UTIL] [LEN] [RTRS] [EXC.N] [ETR.N]<br>
For Relevant Price Information, Double Click on one of these codes:<EXC.N> <ETR.N><br>
Saturday, 10 December 2011 14:45:30RTS [nN1E7B902D] {EN}ENDS

Roberta Rampton<br>
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile: (b)(6)

roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:12 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Call me

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:13 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Call me

Cell (b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 17:12:23 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Call me

Just a minute. What number, home or cell?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:12 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Call me

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Fw: Press release

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Cope, Grant (EPW) <[Grant\\_Cope@epw.senate.gov](mailto:Grant_Cope@epw.senate.gov)>  
**To:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Sat Dec 10 17:30:20 2011  
**Subject:** Re: Press release

Becky,

Here it is. Please don't hesitate to call.

Hope that you can enjoy some of your weekend.

Best,

Grant

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or [kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

U.S. Senate Committee on  
Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday,

December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

---

Senior Counsel  
Senate Committee on Environment  
and Public Works  
(202) 224-8832

----- Original Message -----

From: Schmidt, Rebecca [<mailto:Rebecca.Schmidt@nrc.gov>]  
Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2011 10:51 PM  
To: Cope, Grant (EPW)  
Subject: Press release

I didn't see it. If you could send, that would be great

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement and a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Thanks, Eliot. Is the chairman commenting on any of the letters or Markey's report?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 05:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.

[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. - Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:49 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Nope, I didn't receive anything. Can you send them to me?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 05:47 PM  
**To:** Hannah Northey  
**Subject:** RE: a supportive statement

We're not doing anything public for now beyond the materials we have sent out. Did I get them to you last night? I can't remember. I was working as fast as I could on my blackberry.

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Thanks, Eliot. Is the chairman commenting on any of the letters or Markey report?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 05:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing, I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 6:17 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Thanks for the note. Have a great weekend. We're out christmas shopping

Scott

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 10:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.

[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on  
Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 6:27 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Yep I'm writing a piece on dems supporting him now.

Ryan Tracy | Reporter

Dow Jones Newswires  
The Wall Street Journal

office 202.862.9245  
cell (b)(6) ryan.tracy@dowjones.com

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 05:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_120911.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_120911.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing, I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners vs the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having

Eliot

For Immediate Release

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory

Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 6:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a supportive statement

Eliot, Sorry about the 18 months. I'm not sure how that got in my copy, but in any case, we'll fix.  
Yes, are we having fun yet.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 5:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 7:28 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Media stories

Seems like so far the stories are fairly balanced.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Susan Loyd

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Are we going to see a statement from Harry Reid?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 03:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing, I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:01 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Ok thanks eliot.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 06:52 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** RE: a supportive statement

Also, politico has parts of the reid statement. I do not have it myself and I cannot find it on his website. I think his flack may have made a few calls.

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [mailto:Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a supportive statement

Are we going to see a statement from harry reid?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 03:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read.  
[http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_maltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_maltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:46 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Dan, some materials for you

Thanks Eliot. Will read. I'm making them available to the ANS Social Media list for those who have interest. Dan

Dan Yurman  
(b)(6)  
Mobile: (b)(6)

On 12/10/2011 8:56 PM, Brenner, Eliot wrote:

These are the documents I have been sharing and I wanted to be sure you had them. As we approach the Wednesday hearing, it would be a useful exercise to read two things: the 1980 reorganization plan with an emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of commissioners v a chairman and also the Markey report. I got deep into the Markey thing and found it quite interesting.

If there's anything I can help you with in the coming week shoot me a note and I will do my best to keep you current.

I saw your first column and found it very straightforward. Thanks.

Eliot

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 10:07 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan  
**Subject:** Energy Daily

Talked to jeff. Asked him to correct the assertion that the IG found he intimidated people.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:08 AM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Dems and Repubs on the commission

Hi guys,

There's been a lot of reporting in the last few days about Dems and Republicans on the commission having concerns with Chairman Jaczko. For the record, can you clarify who's a Dem and who's a Republican since all but Svinicki were appointed (or elevated to chairman) by Obama, and at least one (Apostolakis) comes from a technical background?

I'm working on a story for Monday AM.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 10:14 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Dems and Repubs on the commission

thanks. just wanted to clarify.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Eliot Brenner <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/11 10:12:47

Sure: Ostendorff and Svinicki hold Republican seats. Apostolakis, Magwood and Jaczko hold Democratic seats. It's one of these commission/boards where the party that holds the White House gets to appoint a majority on the commission. When Bush was president there were three commissioners who were Rs and two who were Ds.

Eliot

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:08 AM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Dems and Repubs on the commission

Hi guys,

There's been a lot of reporting in the last few days about Dems and Republicans on the commission having concerns with Chairman Jaczko. For the record, can you clarify who's a Dem and who's a Republican since all but Svinicki were appointed (or elevated to chairman) by Obama, and at least one (Apostolakis) comes from a technical background?

I'm working on a story for Monday AM.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News

1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6) cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 10:48 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Re: today

Sounds good. Transcript rollout is temporarily delayed.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 10:26:07 2011  
**Subject:** today

(b)(5)

Eliot

**NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**

**CLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 10:52 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Re: today

Susan and I are heading in midday. We'll need to talk to becky about and idea.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 10:26:07 2011  
**Subject:** today

(b)(5)

Eliot

**CLOSURE**

**NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 11:02 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** Re: today

The HuffPost article is excellent.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Susan Loyd

(b)(6)

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 10:48:09 2011  
**Subject:** Re: today

Sounds good. Transcript rollout is temporarily delayed.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Cc:** Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 10:26:07 2011  
**Subject:** today

(b)(5)

Eliot

**PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**NOT**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 12:38 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re:Fw: Materials  
**Attachments:** Letter to William M Daley (12-7-11).pdf; Facts about issues raised.pdf; Transmittal ltrs & Reorg Plan No 1 of 1980.pdf; Agency accomplishments slides.pdf; alt\_body.html

Eliot,

How should I attribute the fact sheet: from the NRC? From the Chairman's office?

thanks,  
Brian

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Eliot Brenner <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM)  
**At:** 12/09 19:49:22

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 1:21 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; McIntyre, David  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** request for comment

Hi all,

I'm placing a general request to speak with any of the commissioners about the letters that were made public on Friday. (The four commissioners' letter to Daley, and Chairman Jaczko's Dec. 7 letter to Daley.)

For the Chairman, I'd like to ask if he can comment as to how this dispute may affect safety at US plants, whether it threatens to delay any pending regs, licensing or other policy.

I have the same questions for the other commissioners, but I'd also like to ask Commissioner Apostolakis and Commissioner Magwood to comment on their letter. At least one source has said the fact that two Democratic commissioners have complained about a Democratic chairman puts the White House in an awkward spot.

I'm also reaching out to the other commissioners individually. Am writing for Monday morning.

Thanks much,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office  
(b)(6) cell

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM.; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Dems and Repubs on the commission

Brian;

All the Commissioner/Chairman bios are on the website, of course:

<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/commfuncdesc.html>

I should remember the affiliations, but apart from the Chairman being a Democrat and Svinicki being a Republican, I usually get 'em backwards. Based on the Commission seating arrangements, my recollection is Apostolakis and Ostendorff are Democrats and Magwood is Republican. We'll have it straight eventually.

Scott

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:08 AM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Dems and Repubs on the commission

Hi guys,

There's been a lot of reporting in the last few days about Dems and Republicans on the commission having concerns with Chairman Jaczko. For the record, can you clarify who's a Dem and who's a Republican since all but Svinicki were appointed (or elevated to chairman) by Obama, and at least one (Apostolakis) comes from a technical background?

I'm working on a story for Monday AM.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW

Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:02 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot.  
**Subject:** RE: Dems and Repubs on the commission

Thanks, Scott. Eliot set me straight.

I asked in particular because Apostolakis has a technical background, and Ostendorff was appointed by Obama. Just wanted to make sure I didn't goof on basic facts.

Eliot said Ostendorff and Svinicki hold Repub seats; Jaczko, Magwood, Apostolakis have the Dem seats.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Scott Burnell <[Scott.Burnell@nrc.gov](mailto:Scott.Burnell@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov), BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/11 13:46:55

Brian;

All the Commissioner/Chairman bios are on the website, of course:

<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/commfuncdesc.html>

I should remember the affiliations, but apart from the Chairman being a Democrat and Svinicki being a Republican, I usually get 'em backwards. Based on the Commission seating arrangements, my recollection is Apostolakis and Ostendorff are Democrats and Magwood is Republican. We'll have it straight eventually.

Scott

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:08 AM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Dems and Repubs on the commission

Hi guys,

There's been a lot of reporting in the last few days about Dems and Republicans on the commission having concerns with Chairman Jaczko. For the record, can you clarify

who's a Dem and who's a Republican since all but Svinicki were appointed (or elevated to chairman) by Obama, and at least one (Apostolakis) comes from a technical background?

I'm working on a story for Monday AM.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:04 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Dems and Repubs on the commission

Thanks Eliot.

I've got requests for comment out to the other commissioners' office. Just want to check in with you guys as well.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Eliot Brenner <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:), [Scott Burnell@nrc.gov](mailto:Scott.Burnell@nrc.gov)  
**At:** 12/11 14:02:26

Brian: take my answer. In this case Scott's a little crossed up.

You asked about contacting other commissioners. This is somewhat of an awkward time, since I work exclusively for the chairman. I would suggest you look on their individual websites for contact information.

We're not putting the chairman up today.

Attribute the fact sheet to the chairman's office.

Eliot

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Dems and Repubs on the commission

Brian;

All the Commissioner/Chairman bios are on the website, of course:

<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/organization/commfuncdesc.html>

I should remember the affiliations, but apart from the Chairman being a Democrat and Svinicki being a Republican, I usually get 'em backwards. Based on the Commission

seating arrangements, my recollection is Apostolakis and Ostendorff are Democrats and Magwood is Republican. We'll have it straight eventually.

Scott

---

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:08 AM  
To: Burnell, Scott; Brenner, Eliot  
Subject: Dems and Repubs on the commission

Hi guys,

There's been a lot of reporting in the last few days about Dems and Republicans on the commission having concerns with Chairman Jaczko. For the record, can you clarify who's a Dem and who's a Republican since all but Svinicki were appointed (or elevated to chairman) by Obama, and at least one (Apostolakis) comes from a technical background?

I'm working on a story for Monday AM.

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6) cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Peter Behr [pbehr@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** thanks and new question

Much appreciated, as always. I have read Markey and the reorganization documents.

New question - is the IG holding a new inquiry in allegations of a "chilled environment?"

Peter Behr  
ClimateWire  
122 C St. NW Suite 722  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-446-0420 (o)  
(b)(6) (c)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Sat 12/10/2011 5:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read. [http://markey.house.gov/docs/resolutions/meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/resolutions/meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing, I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received some of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I'm having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011

[marv\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:marv_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or [kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. - Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

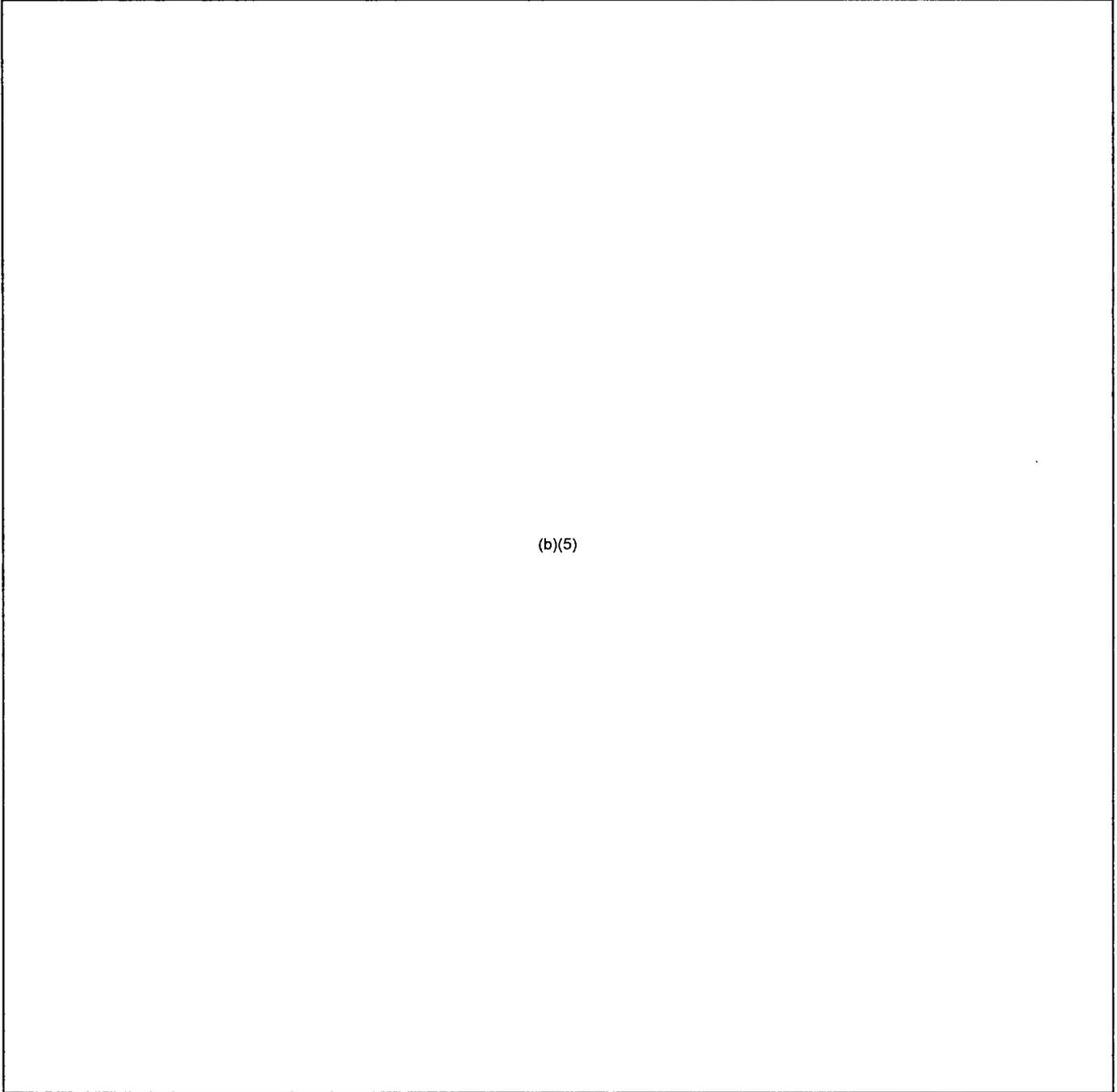
---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:17 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot; Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** draft oped

Josh ... 725 words...probably right for the Post, possibly a little long for USA today.

If you like it, I can try to place it with one of the papers ... but I would need to move sooner rather than later.

**DE**



(b)(5)

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: draft oped

Eliot:

(b)(5)

I'll send you a word doc with changes suggested. 10 min turnaround.

S.

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:17 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot; Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** draft oped

Josh ... 725 words...probably right for the Post, possibly a little long for USA today.

If you like it, I can try to place it with one of the papers ... but I would need to move sooner rather than later.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

~~NOT FOR~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:40 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: draft oped

(b)(6)

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:25 PM  
**To:** Loyd, Susan; Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: draft oped

Take your time. (b)(6)

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: draft oped

Eliot:  
(b)(5)  
I'll send you a word doc with changes suggested. 10 min turnaround.

S.  
Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:17 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot; Loyd, Susan; Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** draft oped

Josh ... 725 words...probably right for the Post, possibly a little long for USA today.

If you like it, I can try to place it with one of the papers ... but I would need to move sooner rather than later.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

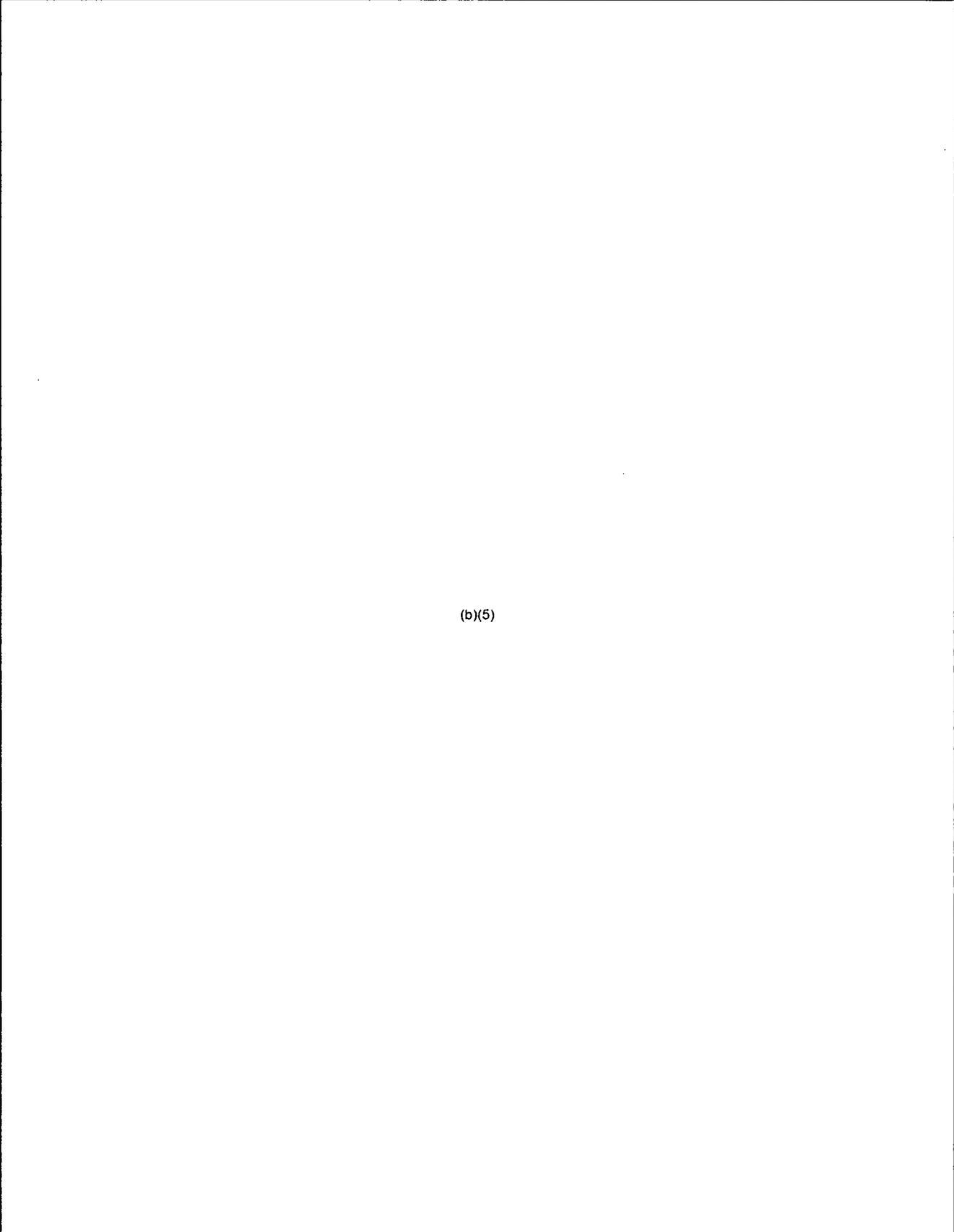
---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** OpEd Draft  
**Attachments:** (b)(5)

Eliot: Here are some suggested edits.  
S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



(b)(5)

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Darius Dixon [ddixon@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:46 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: fun and games

Ha. I'd rather be doing A LOT of other things this weekend.

We're running something else tomorrow with Dale Klein's comments (since we can't get the Gang of Four to shed any light on this). I got responses from Markey's office on some of the comments and I've added info from the very helpful docs you sent on Friday.

He mentioned how nuclear safety culture (and the nrc) doesn't tolerate aggressive behavior at nuclear plants so if you'd like to add anything about that beyond the Chairman's letter and the fact sheet, let me know soon.

Thanks for reaching out. I want my weekend back.

~Darius

On Dec 11, 2011, at 2:05 PM, "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)> wrote:

Ooops....why can't politico have standard email addresses!

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:05 PM  
**To:** 'darius.dixon@politico.com'  
**Subject:** fun and games

Wouldn't you rather be out doing some holiday stuff?

Are you writing anything for tomorrow? Is there anything we can help you with if necessary?

Eliot

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** ddixon@politico.com  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Contact

Darius – I just left you a VM but I understand from Eliot that you are working on another NRC piece. Could I commend Peter Bradford, former NRC Commissioner and current Union of Concerned Scientists Board Member, to you to provide some balance to the perspective on Chairman Jaczko's leadership that you may have gotten from his immediate predecessor? Peter Bradford is willing to go on the record and is reachable now at (b)(6).

Thank you,  
Josh

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:59 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Politico has not called Bradford yet...

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Shannon, Valerie**

---

**From:** HRMSBulletin Resource  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 21, 2011 10:17 AM  
**To:** HRMSBulletin Resource  
**Subject:** Reminder: Pay Period 01/12 Closes at Noon on Friday, December 30, 2011

Reminder: Early Pay Period Closeout for PP 01/12:

Due to the New Year's Day Holiday Observance on Monday, January 2, 2012, all time must be approved by noon (EST) on Friday, December 30, 2011.

Thanks for your cooperation

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 5:16 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: OpEd Draft

Yes, I know some aren't necessary, but seems like that's what is done around here (NRC), and trying to be consistent.

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:10 PM  
**To:** Loyd, Susan  
**Subject:** RE: OpEd Draft

Thanks. I see you keep a big pile of capital letters around. I don't use them where wire service style dictates lower case, but what the hell.

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** OpEd Draft

Eliot: Here are some suggested edits.  
S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 5:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: OpEd Draft  
**Attachments:** [redacted] (b)(5)

Hey [redacted] (b)(5)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 5:05 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Fw: OpEd Draft

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
[redacted] (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

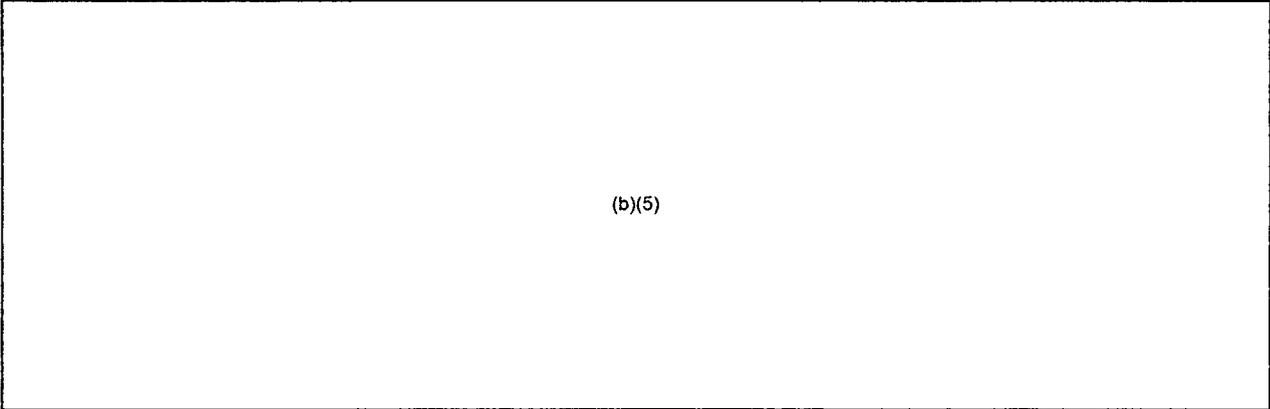
**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 15:56:25 2011  
**Subject:** OpEd Draft

Eliot: Here are some suggested edits.  
S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** McIntyre, David  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 6:05 PM  
**To:** 'bwingfield3@bloomberg.net'; Burnell, Scott  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: request for comment

Brian - I believe Eliot will be handling this if he hasn't already gotten back to you.

David McIntyre  
NRC Office of Public Affairs

(b)(6)

(mobile)

301-415-8200 (office)

Sent from my BlackBerry, which is wholly respnsble for all typos.

----- Original Message -----

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM

<[bwingfield3@bloomberg.net](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)>

To: Burnell, Scott; McIntyre, David

Cc: Brenner, Eliot

Sent: Sun Dec 11 13:21:17 2011

Subject: request for comment

Hi all,

I'm placing a general request to speak with any of the commissioners about the letters that were made public on Friday. (The four commissioners' letter to Daley, and Chairman Jaczko's Dec. 7 letter to Daley.)

For the Chairman, I'd like to ask if he can comment as to how this dispute may affect safety at US plants, whether it threatens to delay any pending regs, licensing or other policy.

I have the same questions for the other commissioners, but I'd also like to ask Commissioner Apostolakis and Commissioner Magwood to comment on their letter. At least one source has said the fact that two Democratic commissioners have complained about a Democratic chairman puts the White House in an awkward spot.

I'm also reaching out to the other commissioners individually. Am writing for Monday morning.

Thanks much,

Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** eliot brenner (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 9:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** susan.loyd@nr4c.gov  
**Subject:**

(b)(5)

**Attachments:**

I did a little nip-tuck and it's down to 650 words and a tad crisper. I have no clue how to remove all that track changes stuff. If you can figure out how to do that, bless you, then show it to the boss and I can start peddling it. We could also try to get it placed for Tuesday and

(b)(5)

eliot

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

(b)(5)

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 11:55 PM  
**To:** (b)(6); Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** 'susan.loyd@nr4c.gov'; Loyd, Susan  
**Subject:** Re: Emailing: [redacted] (b)(5)

Sounds good. Let's show him in the Am. Thanks

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** eliot brenner [redacted] (b)(6)  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** [susan.loyd@nr4c.gov](mailto:susan.loyd@nr4c.gov) <[susan.loyd@nr4c.gov](mailto:susan.loyd@nr4c.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Dec 11 21:30:56 2011  
**Subject:** Emailing: [redacted] (b)(5)

I did a little nip-tuck and it's down to 650 words and a tad crisper. I have no clue how to remove all that track changes stuff. If you can figure out how to do that, bless you, then show it to the boss and I can start peddling it. We could also try to get it placed for Tuesday and [redacted] (b)(5)

eliot

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

[redacted] (b)(5)

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Harrington, Holly  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:42 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** FW: Hearing next week

Will you/did you respond?

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [mailto:**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 12:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Harrington, Holly  
**Subject:** Hearing next week

Hi Eliot and Holly,

Can you tell me if the chairman will be attending the House hearing next week on NRC leadership on Dec. 14?

I know all other members of the commission are attending but wanted to see if the chairman would be there.

There's also a Senate hearing on Dec. 15 and I wanted to ask who from the commission would be attending -- no witnesses have been announced.

Thanks very much, Hannah

--

**Hannab M. Northey**  
Energy Reporter  
Greenwire  
122 C Street NW, Suite 722  
Washington, DC  
(o) 202-446-0468

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** melanie reffes (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 9:17 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a supportive statement

Greets Eliot,

Not only will I remind you of what fun you are having (you are hilarious !) but I can -with all due respect -one-up you on the fun factor here on M. Street ( read: IOWA debate this past weekend in Des Moines !)

Yes, we have this Thursday hearing on our schedule for this week !

\*\* and can I give you a quick call this morning ?  
I need to run something very quickly by you in real time !

let me know if there is a convenient time and/or give a holla ( 202 828 5180 or cell (b)(6) )  
Melanie

---

**From:** [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)  
**To:** [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)  
**Date:** Sat, 10 Dec 2011 17:42:05 -0500  
**Subject:** a supportive statement

I wanted to pass along something Sen. Boxer put out, which is below. If you have not read the Markey report already, I suggest you wade through it. It's quite a read. [http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory\\_meltdown\\_12.09.11.pdf](http://markey.house.gov/docs/regulatory_meltdown_12.09.11.pdf)

Also, in preparing for Wednesday's hearing. I recommend to you the language of the 1980 reorganization act as it pertains to the responsibilities of commissioners v the responsibilities of the chairman.

If any of you have not already received copies of that act, the chairman's letter and other documents we have, please let me know and I'll ship them along.

Remind me what fun I am having.

Eliot

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Kerr or Kate Gilman:

202-224-8832 December 10, 2011  
[kate\\_gilman@epw.senate.gov](mailto:kate_gilman@epw.senate.gov)

[mary\\_kerr@epw.senate.gov](mailto:mary_kerr@epw.senate.gov) or

U.S. Senate Committee on

Environment and Public Works

Boxer Calls on NRC to Focus on Lessons of Fukushima and Safety

Washington, D.C. – Today, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, issued a statement on a letter sent to the White House from four of the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners regarding the Chairman of the Commission, Gregory Jaczko. All five of the commissioners are scheduled to testify before the

Environment and Public Works Committee on Thursday, December 15 at 10 am ET for a hearing to review the Commission's actions related to the Task Force recommendations following the nuclear emergency in Japan.

Senator Boxer said:

"Instead of applauding the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for his swift and effective response to Fukushima, his fellow commissioners are attacking him. We must move away from the 'do nothing' culture of the NRC and support Chairman Jaczko as he translates the lessons of Fukushima into an action plan that will make America's nuclear plants the safest in the world."

###

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Darren Goode [dgoode@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 9:57 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Darius Dixon  
**Subject:** RE: NRC stuff

Thanks, Eliot. I'm sure we'll be all over the hearings this week, etc.

Darren Goode  
Staff Writer  
POLITICO  
Twitter: @DarrenGoode

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Sun 12/11/2011 2:38 PM  
**To:** Darren Goode  
**Subject:** NRC stuff

That was a very nice, balanced piece you and Darius put together yesterday, or maybe it was Friday ... I am losing track! Please be sure to check in with me if you're doing anything further.

Thanks.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
NRC

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:04 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd  
**Attachments:** OpEd draft (3).docx

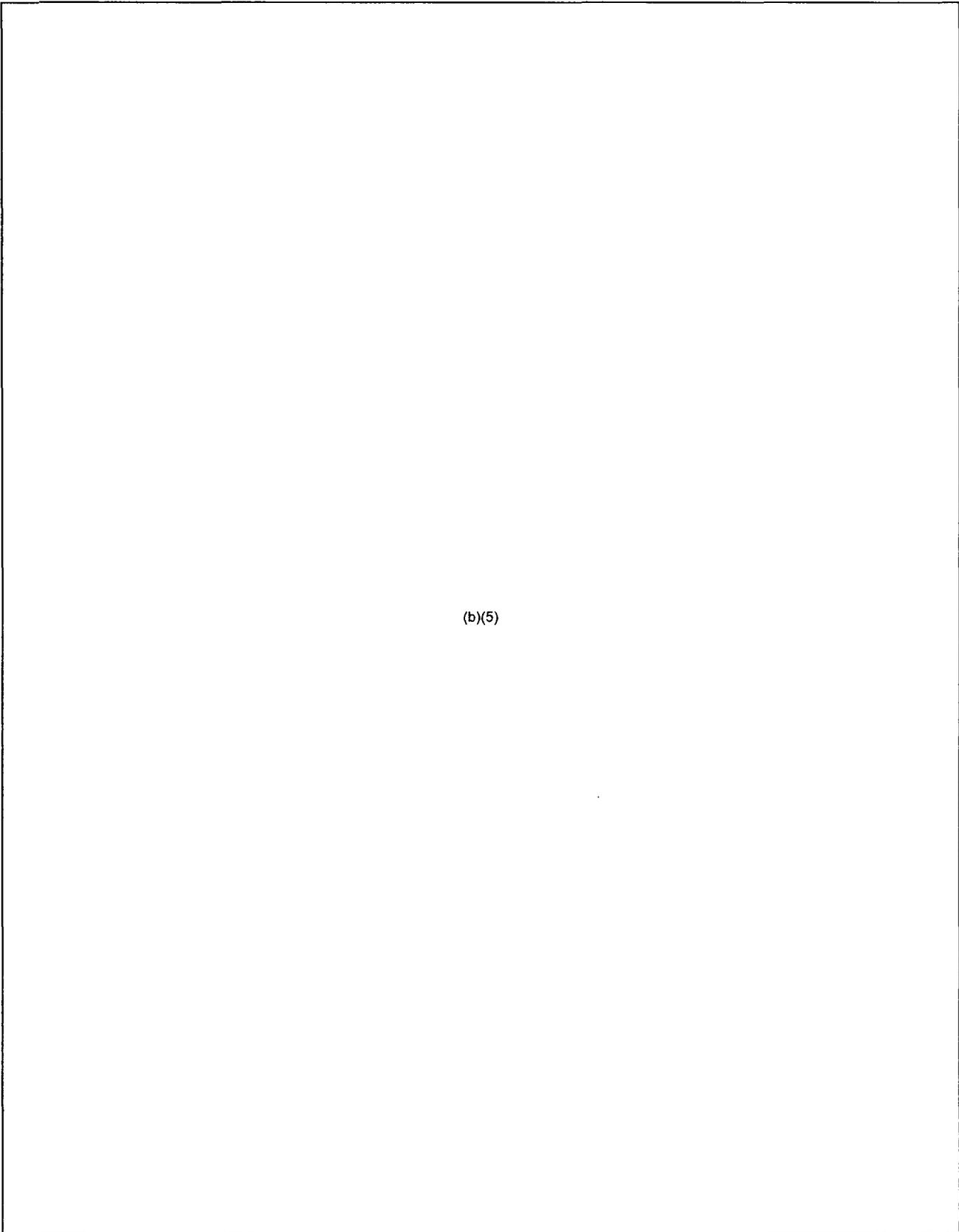
Eliot:

I am attaching a clean copy of the version I am sending in to the Chairman for review.

(b)(5)

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



(b)(5)

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:08 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006

202-862-0363  
cell:   
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** West, Stephanie on behalf of OPA Resource  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:16 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** FW: reuters seeking comment

Forwarded from OPA Resource from Stephanie West.

---

**From:** [scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com) [mailto:[scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 9:57 AM  
**To:** [scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com)  
**Subject:** reuters seeking comment

Morning all,

It's been a while since I sent a note – last time I was looking for thoughts on Fukushima

Now we're wondering about the NRC Commissioners

Several commissioners over the weekend said they were having problems working with Chairman Jaczko – that is somewhat of an understatement

Just a few questions,

Why do you think this is happening?

Is it the way Jaczko does things (style) or what he's doing (substance) that's the issue?

Can he possibly stay in the job now that the others have said he's impossible to work with? What are the odds he'll stay or go?

What would be the impact of him leaving on Fukushima reforms?

Who would take his place as chairman if he left?

Any color on what Jaczko is like or anyone know of the INPO meeting where he made the "logjam" comments, even if it's provided "on background"

Thanks and have a great week,

Scott

Scott DiSavino  
Correspondent

Thomson Reuters

Phone: 1 646 223 6072

Mobile: (b)(6)

Email - [scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com)

Reuters (Instant) Messaging - [scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net](mailto:scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net)

thomsonreuters.com

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

I've got an 11 AM conference call on a different subject. And tomorrow is somewhat complicated but I can cancel if I know in advance when your event is, so pls advise when ready. Thanks.

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-862-0363  
cell:   
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:36 AM  
**To:** Wald, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

No. transcripts are delayed.

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mailto:mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-862-0363  
cell:   
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:41 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

Ok, thanks.

I'll be off next week. I think I'm going to have to skip the coal plant and come to the Issa hearing Wednesday, though.

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-862-0363  
cell: (b)(6)  
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:40 AM  
**To:** Wald, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

I have a feeling the transcripts are going to slip into next week.

There is a commission meeting tomorrow on NFPA 805, the fire safety thing. Might prove an interesting look at safety (Laczko) vs the others.

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [mailto:mattwald@nytimes.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

I've got an 11 AM conference call on a different subject. And tomorrow is somewhat complicated but I can cancel if I know in advance when your event is, so pls advise when ready. Thanks.

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-862-0363  
cell: (b)(6)  
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>

twitter: mattwaldnyt

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:36 AM  
**To:** Wald, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

No. transcripts are delayed.

---

**From:** Wald, Matthew [<mailto:mattwald@nytimes.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:08 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Eliot, you doing a phone conference this morning?

Matthew L. Wald  
Washington Bureau  
The New York Times  
1627 Eye St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006

202-862-0363  
cell:   
fax: 202-318-0057

<http://www.nytimes.com/info/nuclear-energy/>  
twitter: mattwaldnyt

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:08 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: your questions

Thanks Eliot,

Let me leave it for now and if needed we can get back to you – you and scott Burnell have long been attached to my nuclear analysts contacts file – so when I query the group you get a note too – I leave you in – in case you want to send a response,

Thanks,

Scott

Scott DiSavino  
Correspondent

Thomson Reuters

Phone: 1 646 223 6072  
Mobile:

Email - [scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com)  
Reuters (Instant) Messaging - [scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net](mailto:scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net)

[thomsonreuters.com](http://thomsonreuters.com)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:56 AM  
**To:** DiSavino, Scott P. (M Edit Ops)  
**Subject:** your questions

Scott: These are all questions I cannot answer, at least on the record. if I have time I might be able to talk to you absolutely off the record.

There is a commission meeting tomorrow on fire safety at which differences in individual commissioners approaches to safety questions may show up. That might be worth attending. Then, there is a House hearing Wednesday that will air all the various grievances, and one by Senate Environment and public works on Thursday that will be interesting as well. I suggest you get Robert to cover those.

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C:

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Solomon, Deborah [Deborah.Solomon@wsj.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:18 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** checking in

Standing down on story till I hear from you that it's a go. Any idea if it's still on for this week? I assume you're waiting till after the fun on Wednesday.

D

\*\*\*\*\*

*Deborah Solomon  
Energy & Environmental Policy Correspondent  
The Wall Street Journal  
1025 Connecticut Ave., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-862-9289  
twitter.com/deborah\_solomon*

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:25 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd  
**Attachments:** OpEd draft (4).docx

Eliot:

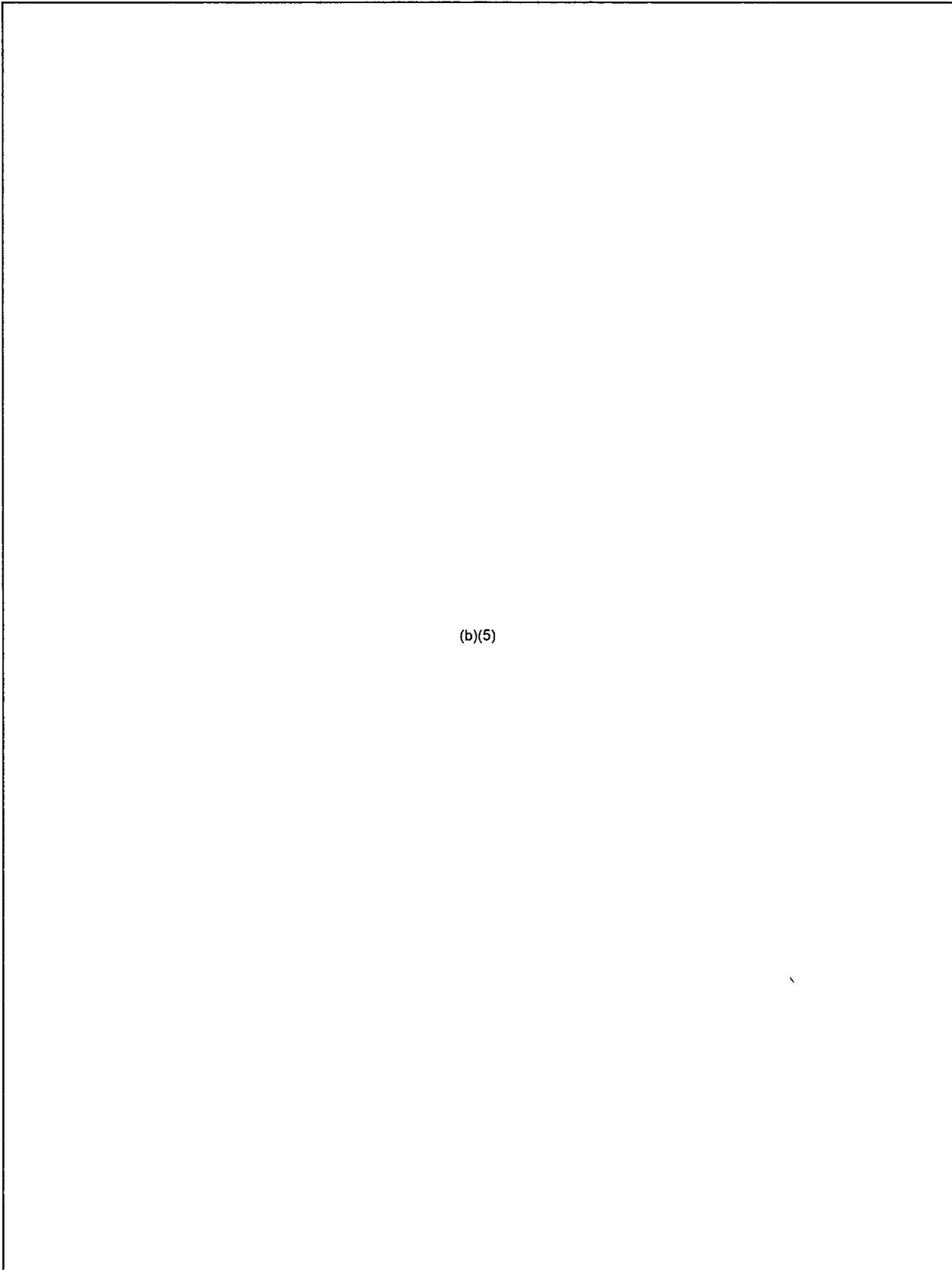
Here is the clean copy,

(b)(5)

Thanks!

S  
Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



(b)(5)

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Solomon, Deborah [Deborah.Solomon@wsj.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:33 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: checking in

OK. I'm here until the week of Dec. 26, then I'm off for a week.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Deborah Solomon  
Energy & Environmental Policy Correspondent  
The Wall Street Journal  
1025 Connecticut Ave., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-862-9289  
twitter.com/deborah\_solomon*

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:22 AM  
**To:** Solomon, Deborah  
**Subject:** Re: checking in

I think this will be next week, but not sure. Will keep you posted  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
(b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Solomon, Deborah <Deborah.Solomon@wsj.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 11:17:48 2011  
**Subject:** checking in

Standing down on story till I hear from you that it's a go. Any idea if it's still on for this week? I assume you're waiting till after the fun on Wednesday.

D

\*\*\*\*\*

*Deborah Solomon  
Energy & Environmental Policy Correspondent  
The Wall Street Journal  
1025 Connecticut Ave., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-862-9289  
twitter.com/deborah\_solomon*

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Yes, Houston. It's a go.

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:24 PM  
**To:** Loyd, Susan  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Please confirm I am free to place this now, right?

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:25 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd

Eliot:  
Here is the clean copy,

(b)(5)

Thanks!

S  
Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Greenwire inquiry

Hi Eliot,

I wrote a story about the NEI's statement, asking the White House and Congress to end the dispute at the NRC. I included all of my earlier references and explanations of what happened but wanted to take the extra step of asking if you wanted to add anything.

This is for the Greenwire edition that runs around 1pm, so if you could get back to me soon, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks, Hannah

**Hannah M. Northey**  
Reporter  
[hnorthey@eenews.net](mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net)  
202-446-0468 (p)  
202-737-5299 (f)

(c)

---

**Environment & Energy Publishing, LLC**  
122 C Street, NW, Suite 722, Washington, DC 20001  
[www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net) • [www.eenews.tv](http://www.eenews.tv)  
ClimateWire, E&E Daily, Greenwire, E&ENews PM, E&ETV, Lind Letter

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Reuters / double-checking Chairman's age

Hello – I have it as 41. Can you confirm?  
Best thanks / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile:   
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:13 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Powell, Amy; Schmidt, Rebecca; Coggins, Angela; Loyd, Susan; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** turn on MSNBC now

Markey and Issa talking about us after the break

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Stuckle, Elizabeth  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:16 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot

**Importance:** High

Josh called and said to tell you – Markey and Issa will be on right after the commercial break.

Elizabeth M. Stuckle  
OPA  
301-415-2169  
[elizabeth.stuckle@nrc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.stuckle@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Stone, Daniel [Daniel.Stone@newsweekdailybeast.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:37 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** intvu

Hey Eliot--

Wanted to gauge your interest in a response interview with the chairman. Happy to discuss questioning, but would love to let him to respond beyond the rebuttal letter you all sent.

Dan

-----  
Daniel Stone  
Newsweek  
202-626-2075  
[daniel.stone@newsweek.com](mailto:daniel.stone@newsweek.com)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:44 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Greenwire inquiry

Sure.. On its way.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 01:42 PM  
**To:** Hannah Northey  
**Subject:** RE: Greenwire inquiry

Can you send me the NEI statement?

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Greenwire inquiry

Hi Eliot,

I wrote a story about the NEI's statement, asking the White House and Congress to end the dispute at the NRC. I included all of my earlier references and explanations of what happened but wanted to take the extra step of asking if you wanted to add anything.

This is for the Greenwire edition that runs around 1pm, so if you could get back to me soon, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks, Hannah

**Hannah M. Northey**  
Reporter  
[hnorthey@eenews.net](mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net)  
202-446-0468 (p)  
202-737-5299 (f)  
(b)(6) (c)

---

Environment & Energy Publishing, LLC  
122 C Street, NW, Suite 722, Washington, DC 20001  
[www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net) • [www.eenews.tv](http://www.eenews.tv)  
ClimateWire, E&E Daily, Greenwire, E&ENews PM, E&ETV, Land Letter

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Stone, Daniel [Daniel.Stone@newsweekdailybeast.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: intvu

Actually no, would you mind shooting over?

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**To:** Stone, Daniel  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 13:41:18 2011  
**Subject:** RE: intvu

We're letting the documents speak for themselves. Do you have all the goodies we out? (4 items)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Stone, Daniel [mailto:Daniel.Stone@newsweekdailybeast.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:37 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** intvu

Hey Eliot--

Wanted to gauge your interest in a response interview with the chairman. Happy to discuss questioning, but would love to let him to respond beyond the rebuttal letter you all sent.

Dan

-----  
Daniel Stone  
Newsweek  
202-626-2075  
[daniel.stone@newsweek.com](mailto:daniel.stone@newsweek.com)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Peter Behr [pbehr@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:54 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questions for the chairman on the status of EDO Bill Borchardt

Dear Eliot:

I would like to ask the chairman to respond to particulars of several situations I'm reporting for tomorrow. One concerns an alleged incident with Commissioner Svinicki. The other concerns reports that he sought in October to replace Bill Borchardt as EDO.

I am working from home - (b)(6), or (b)(6) and the work email is good - pbehr@eenews.net.

I have been told that at some point in the past year, there was a situation where the chairman went to Commissioner Svinicki's office after closing time and knocked or banged on her door saying he wanted to see her, but she refused to admit him. I'm informed that this was overheard by staff that do not work for her.

Is this true?

And if so, did Commissioner Svinicki bring this up with the chairman, and if she did, what did he tell her his reasons were?

The situation involving the EDO is this, as I understand it. Would the chairman comment on the following, please?

1. In August, perhaps on Aug. 29, the chairman called a meeting of commissioners at which he mentioned his desire to replace Borchardt, saying that to carry out his day-to-day responsibilities at the NRC, he needed to have effective communication with the EDO, and that wasn't the case with Borchardt.
2. A majority of the commission said they hadn't seen anything that would warrant the EDO's replacement.
3. The chairman mentioned that Borchardt was eligible for retirement in February.
4. A majority of the commission (including the chairman) agreed that if Borchardt intended to retire in February, the chairman could proceed to replace him.
5. The issue came up on Oct. 11, when the commission was holding a morning meeting with stakeholders and an afternoon meeting with Borchardt and other senior staff on the Fukushima recommendations.
6. The chairman expected to tell Borchardt at the end of that day that he would be replaced.
7. But at the break between the morning and afternoon sessions on the 11th, Commissioner Ostendorff told the chairman that he understood Borchardt did not plan to retire (among other reasons, the EDO was planning on attending the Convention on Nuclear Safety meeting late in 2012), and therefore Ostendorff would no longer support a decision to replace Borchardt.
8. Commissioner Ostendorff's decision meant that the chairman did not have a majority, as he had thought, to proceed with Borchardt's replacement.
9. The chairman became very angry at Ostendorff.
10. And the chairman did not attend the afternoon session on the 11th, in part because of his frustration that his plan had been blocked.
11. This is described to me on one hand as an example of policy disagreements among the chairman and the commissioners over the chairman's role under the Reorganization Plan (as the chairman has noted himself) and in another context, as an example of the chairman's alleged blowups at his colleagues.

Kind regards,  
Pete

Peter Behr  
ClimateWire  
122 C St. NW Suite 722  
Washington, DC 20001

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:04 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters / double-checking Chairman's age

Thanks on 41 and thanks on commission meeting.  
I smiled wryly when I saw your "am I having fun" msg btw.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:43 PM  
**To:** Rampton, Roberta (M Edit Ops)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters / double-checking Chairman's age

Yep. Turned 41 at the end of October. By the way, there is a commission meeting on fire safety tomorrow. might be interesting.

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Reuters / double-checking Chairman's age

Hello – I have it as 41. Can you confirm?  
Best thanks / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile: (b)(6)

[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Greenwire inquiry

<http://www.nei.org/newsandevents/newsreleases/effective-regulation-of-nuclear-energy-important-for-public-confidence-in-nrc/>

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:42 PM  
**To:** Hannah Northey  
**Subject:** RE: Greenwire inquiry

Can you send me the NEI statement?

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 12:42 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Greenwire inquiry

Hi Eliot,

I wrote a story about the NEI's statement, asking the White House and Congress to end the dispute at the NRC. I included all of my earlier references and explanations of what happened but wanted to take the extra step of asking if you wanted to add anything.

This is for the Greenwire edition that runs around 1pm, so if you could get back to me soon, I'd appreciate it. Thanks, Hannah

**Hannah M. Northey**  
Reporter  
[hnorthey@eenews.net](mailto:hnorthey@eenews.net)  
202-446-0468 (p)  
202-737-5299 (f)  
(b)(6) (c)

---

**Environment & Energy Publishing, LLC**  
122 C Street, NW, Suite 722, Washington, DC 20001  
[www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net) • [www.eenews.tv](http://www.eenews.tv)  
ClimateWire, E&E Daily, Greenwire, E&ENews PM, E&ETV, Land Letter

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:15 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC meeting tomorrow

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NFPA 805). I'm not sure who will say what about what topics, but all commissioners should be in one place at one time and I think the chairman will say he thinks the issue should be resolved sooner rather than later. He has argued that the transition to NFPA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. At the moment the chairman has no plans to speak beyond whatever he says at the start of the meeting and his questions to the staff.

The meeting runs from 9-noon in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.

O: 301-415-8200

C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Wayne Barber [wbarber@snl.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:15 PM  
**To:** prvs=320bca72f=Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov  
**Subject:** FYI: Re: NRC meeting tomorrow

I am no longer with SNL. For generation news issues please contact either Matt Bandyk ([mbandyk@snl.com](mailto:mbandyk@snl.com)) or Andrew Engblom ([aengblom@snl.com](mailto:aengblom@snl.com)), or Michael Lustig ([mlustig@snl.com](mailto:mlustig@snl.com)).

Thanks.  
Wayne Barber

--

\*

---

\*\*Wayne Barber\*  
Generation Markets Week Editor  
SNL Energy  
703-373-0160\* p\*  
703-373-0159\* \*\*f\*  
[wbarber@snl.com](mailto:wbarber@snl.com)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:17 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: NRC meeting tomorrow

"the issue should be resolved sooner rather than later".....by this, I assume you mean the issue of fire protection, rather than the current issues in the news regarding his chairmanship?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:15 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC meeting tomorrow

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NFPA 805). I'm not sure who will say what about what topics, but all commissioners should be in one place at one time and I think the chairman will say he thinks the issue should be resolved sooner rather than later. He has argued that the transition to NPFA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. At the moment the chairman has no plans to speak beyond whatever he says at the start of the meeting and his questions to the staff.

The meeting runs from 9-noon in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [hnorthey@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a little clarification

Hi Eliot,  
Can you please send me the original statement that you sent out?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C:

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Edward Felker [efelker@washingtonguardian.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:25 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** chairman's statement/letter related to Friday's news

Eliot, I saw it mentioned by AP and others...can you send or is it posted? Or direct me?

Also – if the chairman is going to do interviews before the hearing on Wednesday, we'd like to participate.

.thanks Ed

Edward Felker  
Energy Guardian  
phone:   
email: [efelker@washingtonguardian.net](mailto:efelker@washingtonguardian.net)  
site: <http://www.energyguardian.net>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: NRC meeting tomorrow

Thanks Eliot,

I'll be sure to forward this note to Russ Blinch, our commodities and energy editor in Washington – not sure if they plan to staff that or not

Have a great day,

Scott

Scott DiSavino  
Correspondent

Thomson Reuters

Phone: 1 646 223 6072

Mobile: (b)(6)

Email - [scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino@thomsonreuters.com)

Reuters (Instant) Messaging - [scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.com](mailto:scott.disavino.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.com)

thomsonreuters.com

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]

**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:15 PM

**To:** Brenner, Eliot

**Subject:** NRC meeting tomorrow

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NFPA 805). I'm not sure who will say what about what topics, but all commissioners should be in one place at one time and I think the chairman will say he thinks the issue should be resolved sooner rather than later. He has argued that the transition to NPFA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. At the moment the chairman has no plans to speak beyond whatever he says at the start of the meeting and his questions to the staff.

The meeting runs from 9-noon in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:26 PM  
**To:** Schmidt, Rebecca; Brenner, Eliot; Loyd, Susan  
**Cc:** Coggins, Angela  
**Subject:** FW: Votes listing  
**Attachments:** minority safety record ahb.docx

---

**From:** Bradford, Anna  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:24 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Coggins, Angela  
**Cc:** Morninger, John  
**Subject:** Votes listing

Attached.

Anna Bradford  
Policy Advisor for Nuclear Materials  
Office of Chairman Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
301-415-1827

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Summary of Safety-Related Voting Matters**

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Ahlers, Mike [Mike.Ahlers@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:26 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a little clarification

Got it. Thank you. – Mike Ahlers, CNN

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing “the issue” to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman’s view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:27 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a little clarification

In what note?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200. Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C:

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Darius Dixon [ddixon@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a little clarification

Eliot, I don't think I got the original note you're referring to.

Darius Dixon  
Energy reporter  
POLITICO

BB [redacted] (b)(6)

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 14:22:00 2011  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.

O: 301-415-8200

C: [redacted] (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Solomon, Deborah [Deborah.Solomon@wsj.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:40 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: a little clarification

Hmmm. Did u send an earlier email? I do not see one.

\*\*\*\*\*

Deborah Solomon  
Energy & Environmental Policy Staff Writer  
The Wall Street Journal  
202-862-9289

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 02:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie <Stephanie.West@nrc.gov>  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Stone, Daniel [Daniel.Stone@newsweekdailybeast.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:44 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Materials

Any word if he's planning on breaking news at the meeting? Or just to diligently discuss...fire retardants.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 1:45 PM  
**To:** Stone, Daniel  
**Subject:** FW: Materials

There is, by the way, a commission meeting tomorrow. might be interesting. It will be webcast.

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Materials

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:46 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a little clarification

I don't think I got the earlier note?

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

---

~~The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient, and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient~~

~~of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.~~

---

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:18 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: a little clarification

Thanks Eliot,

Any idea who from NRC besides the commissioners is testifying Wednesday? Issa says there's a "scientist" on a 2<sup>nd</sup> panel at about the 5:15 mark of this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJdkvd0Nf4g&feature=plcp&context=C2e380UDOEgsToPDskJ1KyP3k074mJN4zNKz>  
Epw

- Ryan

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" to be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a TV camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.  
Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:25 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC meeting

My apologies to all. I sent a note and only got a few names into the BCC address line. Herewith is what I sent, updated to reflect current events.

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NPFA 805). The chairman has argued that the transition to NPFA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. The chairman will not be available to the media afterwards. .

The meeting runs from 9-noon in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** melanie reffes (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:41 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: NRC meeting

harness up the dogs ? You should be writing copy for Comedy Central !

Pls keep me posted re: Chairman/your schedule to JAPAN later this week and whether (or not ) we can do any kind of embed with him ( Chairman, not you ! ) while he's at Fukushima next Monday, 19th December !

best.....stay warm !

---

**From:** [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)  
**To:** [Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)  
**Date:** Mon, 12 Dec 2011 15:25:02 -0500  
**Subject:** NRC meeting

My apologies to all. I sent a note and only got a few names into the BCC address line. Herewith is what I sent, updated to reflect current events.

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NFPA 805). The chairman has argued that the transition to NPFA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. The chairman will not be available to the media afterwards. .

The meeting runs from 9:00 am in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Edward Felker [efelker@washingtonguardian.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

thx

I'll be checking back in with you when the WH makes any comment or responds to Issa and/or chairman's and commissioners letters.

Ed

Edward Felker  
Energy Guardian  
phone: (b)(6)  
email: [efelker@washingtonguardian.net](mailto:efelker@washingtonguardian.net)  
site: <http://www.energyguardian.net>

On Dec 12, 2011, at 3:27 PM, Brenner, Eliot wrote:

> No interviews on the hearing. There is a commission meeting tomorrow, but he will not be taking media questions afterwards.  
>  
> From: Pace, Patti  
> Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 5:51 PM  
> To: Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
> Subject: Materials  
>  
>  
> <Letter to William M Daley (12-7-11).pdf><Facts about issues raised.pdf><Transmittal ltrs & Reorg Plan No 1 of 1980.pdf><Agency accomplishments slides.pdf>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Couret, Ivonne  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:12 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** SL Reporter Cathy Hart

**Importance:** High

Cathy wants to know if Chairman has responded to the letter the four Commissioners wrote in Oct. and has other similar questions deadline today. Her direct phone number is 703-373-0165. Ivonne

Ivonne L. Couret  
Public Affairs Officer  
Office of Public Affairs  
(301) 415-8205  
[ivonne.couret@nrc.gov](mailto:ivonne.couret@nrc.gov)

STAY CONNECTED | [Blog](#) | [RSS](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Web](#) | [YouTube](#) |

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@lrs.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:53 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: NRC meeting

Can I assume you are saying nothing about the commissioners' back and forth, the letters, the Markey report etc? Im doing kind of a roundup, so let me know if you want to say anything.

Jeff 703 236 2405

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:25 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC meeting

My apologies to all. I sent a note and only got a few names into the BCC address line. Herewith is what I sent, updated to reflect current events.

Just fyi, there will be a Commission meeting tomorrow on fire protection (NFPA 805). The chairman has argued that the transition to NFPA 805 should be mandatory, although the commission made it voluntary. The chairman will not be available to the media afterwards. .

The meeting runs from 9-noon in the commission hearing room. It will be webcast as well for those of you who don't want to harness up the dogs and sled all the way out to Rockville.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8800  
C: (b)(6)

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Garland, Stephanie  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:07 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Cc:** Akstulewicz, Brenda; Taylor, Renee  
**Subject:** FYI - Phone Call from Bloomberg News

Brian Wingfield from Bloomberg News called to speak with Bill Borchartd earlier today re: what is going on with NRC right now. I informed him that Bill was out of the office. He asked me to take a message for Bill to return his call. His number is 202-654-7318.

*Stephanie*

*Stephanie Garland*

Administrative Assistant for Darren Ash, DEDCM/CIO

Office of the Executive Director for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

☎ (301) +15-8704 | 📠 (301) +15-2700 | 📠 016-E15 | 📧 [Stephanie.Garland@nrc.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Garland@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Fred Hiatt [hiattf@washpost.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: NRC dustup  
**Attachments:** OpEd draft (4).docx

Eliot, We'll pass--thanks very much for the look.  
Fred

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**To:** Fred Hiatt <hiattf@washpost.com>  
**Date:** 12/12/2011 12:30 PM  
**Subject:** NRC dustup

---

Fred: As you may have noticed our Chairman is in a shooting match with his four colleagues on the commission – a very public and bitter dispute. I have an oped from him that I want to offer for use Wednesday morning as it references a public meeting we will have tomorrow in advance of a congressional hearing Wednesday. I'm fine with it running tomorrow if you want it, but I would have to rephrase the graf referring to tomorrow's commission meeting.

Please let me know ASAP if you are interested in this for tomorrow or Wednesday. If not, I will need to move on quickly.

Thanks.

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Peter Behr [pbehr@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:43 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** my questions

Hello Eliot - Any word on my list of questions?  
Regards,  
Pete

Peter Behr  
ClimateWire  
122 C St. NW Suite 722  
Washington, DC 20001  
703-533-0951 (H)

(b)(6) (c)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Mon 12/12/2011 2:22 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** West, Stephanie  
**Subject:** a little clarification

In the note I just sent, I referred to the chairman wishing "the issue" be resolved sooner rather than later. Without commenting on the chairman's view of the current back and forth between commissioners, my comment was intended to refer to his view about NFPA 805.

So much for clarity in communications!

If anyone has thoughts of bringing a 1.3 camera, we will need to know what organization, and have the names of those bringing the equipment to give to our security folks. Please provide that information to Stephanie West at 301-415-8200.

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.

O: 301-415-8200

C: (b)(6)

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:50 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Fw: Sen. Carper Statement on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

---

**From:** Haynes, Laura (Carper) <Laura\_Haynes@carper.senate.gov>  
**To:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 15:37:10 2011  
**Subject:** FW: Sen. Carper Statement on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

FYI



FOR RELEASE: Dec. 12, 2011  
CONTACT: Emily Spain (202) 224-2441 or [emily\\_spain@carper.senate.gov](mailto:emily_spain@carper.senate.gov)

### Sen. Carper Statement on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

WASHINGTON – *Today Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), released the following statement after media reports of discord among the NRC Commission.*

"For over a decade, as a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I have worked closely with the men and women who have served on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. As Chairman of the subcommittee responsible for nuclear safety, I have been particularly interested in the effective operation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. During the past year, I have sought to improve the tenor of relationships among the five current commissioners of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. While I am discouraged that those efforts have not been as successful as I would have hoped, I am confident that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will continue its critical mission – ensuring the safety and reliability of our nation's nuclear reactors now and in the future. Recent disagreements among commissioners, while significant, have not impacted nuclear safety, nor should they. While I am disappointed that the five commissioners – each talented and capable in their own right – have been unable to come together as a cohesive body, I also understand that when issues as important as those facing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are being considered, differences of opinion will emerge. I fully expect that the commissioners will continue to carry out their duties. Moving forward, I will continue to encourage cooperation and collegiality among the commission members and most importantly, that Congress provides the tools and resources the commission needs to carry out its mission of protecting public safety through responsible nuclear regulation."

###

Connect with Senator Carper:



[Sign up for Senator Carper's e-newsletter](#)

*This email was sent from an unmonitored account.  
For inquiries, please contact the name(s) provided at the top of this release.*

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:51 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Usatoday

Never heard back this morning, will check voicemail shortly...

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:45 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** Usatoday

Please give me your contact info on george hagar at usatoday,  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:54 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Carper has a statement

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [<mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:54 PM  
**To:** Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** Carper has a statement

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:57 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Usatoday

703-854-3651

I'm calling him now.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:45 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** Usatoday

Please give me your contact info on george hagar at usatoday.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Andrew Restuccia [arestuccia@thehill.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:59 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Carper has a statement

Thanks Eliot. We've got it and will roll it into our next story.

On Mon, Dec 12, 2011 at 4:57 PM, Brenner, Eliot <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)> wrote:

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

--  
Andrew Restuccia  
Staff Writer  
The Hill  
[arestuccia@thehill.com](mailto:arestuccia@thehill.com)  
Office: 202-407-8012  
Cell: (b)(6) (best way to reach me)

Follow me on Twitter: @AndrewRestuccia  
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman (Google+) [noreply-a9fe7816@plus.google.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:04 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC's Jaczko presses his case for 2012 budget...

Dan Yurman shared a post with you on Google+. Google+ makes sharing on the web more like sharing in real life. Learn more.

[Join Google+](#)



**NRC's Jaczko presses his case for 2012 budget**

In an end of year meeting with reporters the Chairman explains what the agency plans to do next year (Note to readers - this blog post h...

[View or comment on Dan Yurman's post »](#)

You received this message because Dan Yurman shared it with [eliot.brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:eliot.brenner@nrc.gov). [Unsubscribe](#) from these emails.

Google+

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman (Google+) [noreply-a9fe7816@plus.google.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:04 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** NRC's man in Japan opens up about Fukushima...

Dan Yurman shared a post with you on Google+. Google+ makes sharing on the web more like sharing in real life. Learn more.

[Join Google+](#)



**NRC's man in Japan opens up about Fukushima**

It sheds new light on the high profile statement of NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko about the condition of spent fuel pool #4 The Associated...

[View or comment on Dan Yurman's post »](#)

You received this message because Dan Yurman shared it with [eliot.brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:eliot.brenner@nrc.gov). [Unsubscribe](#) from these emails.

Google+

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman (Google+) [noreply-a9fe7816@plus.google.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:04 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Bad blood boils over at the NRC

Dan Yurman shared a post with you on Google+. Google+ makes sharing on the web more like sharing in real life. Learn more.

[Join Google+](#)



**Bad blood boils over at the NRC**

Four commissioners write to the House Oversight Committee blaming Chairman Gregory Jaczko about a toxic atmosphere Next Wednesday Decemb...

[View or comment on Dan Yurman's post »](#)

You received this message because Dan Yurman shared it with [eliot.brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:eliot.brenner@nrc.gov). [Unsubscribe from these emails.](#)

Google+

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:09 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Usatoday

E-mail to come for USAToday ed desk to provide submission.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:59 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** Re: Usatoday

Tell hoi oi have an oped I want to place for wednesday. 650 words, first chairman commenteent beyond his letters.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 16:56:47 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Usatoday

703-854-3651

I'm calling him now.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 4:45 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** Usatoday

Please give me your contact info on george hagar at usatoday.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:24 PM  
**To:** 'ghager@usatoday.com'; 'jsiniff@usatoday.com'; 'gnishimu@usatoday.com'; Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: from the USA TODAY editorial page

John, Glen;

My boss, Eliot Brenner, would like to discuss an op-ed submission. Thanks.

Scott Burnell  
Public Affairs Officer  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

---

**From:** Hager, George <ghager@usatoday.com>  
**To:** Siniff, John <jsiniff@usatoday.com>; Nishimura, Glen <gnishimu@usatoday.com>; Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 17:20:55 2011  
**Subject:** RE: from the USA TODAY editorial page

Resending. Sorry, Scott -- got your email address wrong non the first try.

---

**From:** Hager, George  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:13 PM  
**To:** 'scott.burnelle@nrc.gov'; Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** from the USA TODAY editorial page

Scott --

Looping you in with John and Glen so you can talk to them about the chairman's op-ed for our Forum page.

-- George

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Siniff, John [jsiniff@usatoday.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:38 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** RE: from the USA TODAY editorial page

Sure. Just go ahead and send it. Thanks.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:35 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Hager, George; Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** Re: from the USA TODAY editorial page

Gents. I have an oped I want to offer for wednesday. It is 650 words and lacks a byline I can add via blackberry. Can I forward it to you by forwarding the item attached to an email to me?

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**To:** 'ghager@usatoday.com' <ghager@usatoday.com>; 'jsiniff@usatoday.com' <jsiniff@usatoday.com>; 'gnishimu@usatoday.com' <gnishimu@usatoday.com>; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 17:24:25 2011  
**Subject:** Re: from the USA TODAY editorial page

John, Glen;

My boss, Eliot Brenner, would like to discuss an op-ed submission. Thanks.

Scott Burnell  
Public Affairs Officer  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Sent from an NRC Blackberry

Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

---

**From:** Hager, George <ghager@usatoday.com>  
**To:** Siniff, John <jsiniff@usatoday.com>; Nishimura, Glen <gnishimu@usatoday.com>; Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 17:20:55 2011  
**Subject:** RE: from the USA TODAY editorial page

Resending. Sorry, Scott -- got your email address wrong non the first try.

---

**From:** Hager, George  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:13 PM

**To:** 'scott.burnelle@nrc.gov'; Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** from the USA TODAY editorial page

Scott --

Looping you in with John and Glen so you can talk to them about the chairman's op-ed for our Forum page.

-- George

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Siniff, John [jsiniff@usatoday.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:59 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Eliot,

As written, this is just terribly inside baseball. I think you guys have to assume that very few people have been paying attention to this issue outside of the Beltway, and start there. What's going on. Why this is important. What it means for the average American.

I think the comments are interesting, but the piece goes so far into the weeds that I can't imagine our readers sticking with it. If you guys want to take another whack at it, I'll be glad to reconsider tomorrow morning.

Best,

John

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:44 PM  
**To:** Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft OpEd

The document should be attached. Thanks for looking it over.

Eliot  
Eliot Brehner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 B200  
[redacted] (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 11:21:43 2011  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd

Eliot:  
Here is the clean copy, [redacted]

(b)(5)

Thanks!

S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Siniff, John [jsiniff@usatoday.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 6:05 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Great. Thanks.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 6:03 PM  
**To:** Siniff, John  
**Subject:** Re: Draft OpEd

Thanks. I'll see if, among all the other things I have cooking, I can retool it. If so, you'll hear from me tomorrow.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Siniff, John <jsiniff@usatoday.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 17:59:19 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Eliot,

As written, this is just terribly inside baseball. I think you guys have to assume that very few people have been paying attention to this issue outside of the Beltway, and start there. What's going on. Why this is important. What it means for the average American.

I think the comments are interesting, but the piece goes so far into the weeds that I can't imagine our readers sticking with it. If you guys want to take another whack at it, I'll be glad to reconsider tomorrow morning.

Best,

John

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:44 PM  
**To:** Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft OpEd

The document should be attached. Thanks for looking it over.

Eliot  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
C (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 11:24:43 2011  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd

Eliot:

Here is the clean copy,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thanks!

S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 7:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** response to White House statement?

Eliot,

We're hearing from the White House that they won't participate in the hearing Wednesday and that they don't believe differences at the NRC are impairing the commission.

Does the Chairman have a comment/response?

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Steve Tetreault [redacted] (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 7:29 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Roundtable date is Tuesday, Dec. 6, not 7th

Eliot, sorry I missed this press avail with the chairman. If you could please change me in your email directory to [STetreault@stephensmedia.com](mailto:STetreault@stephensmedia.com), that would be great. I rarely check this gmail account -- the other one is my primary address. I saw the news accounts of his meeting with reporters, definitely would have made it if I had known.

I am out of town this week but following the latest drama. Hang in there!  
Steve

On Thu, Dec 1, 2011 at 4:22 PM, Brenner, Eliot <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)> wrote:

Can't take this old guy anywhere! Mea culpa.

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.

O: [301-415-8200](tel:301-415-8200)

C: [redacted] (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 7:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Fwd:Daley Says Dispute at NRC Isn't Impairing Commission's  
**Attachments:** x-rimdevice-bloomberg-news-nlrt.blp

--- Original Sender: NLRT ALERT, BLOOMBERG/ 731 LEXIN ---

Here's our story on the Daley letter to Issa.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 7:56 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: response to White House statement?

Will see if I can get you the story and the letter. I'm being challenged by technology.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Eliot Brenner <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/12 19:54:09

Brian: I have not seen the statement. Let me check for any response. Just got home.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[\[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net\]](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 7:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** response to White House statement?

Eliot,

We're hearing from the White House that they won't participate in the hearing Wednesday and that they don't believe differences at the NRC are impairing the commission.

Does the Chairman have a comment/response?

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** letter and story  
**Attachments:** 20111212\_daley letter to nrc commissioners.pdf

Here's the story I tried to send. PDF of the letter from Daley attached.

By Kate Andersen Brower

Dec. 12 (Bloomberg) -- White House Chief of Staff William Daley said a dispute over management at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission hasn't impaired its work and stems from the way the panel is structured.

Daley, in a letter to the Republican chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said the White House won't send a witness to testify at a hearing this week on complaints made by NRC commissioners against Chairman Gregory Jaczko.

"We have concluded that while there are tensions and disagreements among the commissioners, these management differences have not impaired the commission's ability to fulfill its mission," Daley wrote in the letter released tonight by the White House.

Oversight committee Chairman Darrell Issa of California was seeking a White House representative to appear at a Dec. 14 hearing on allegations made by the four other NRC commissioners against Jaczko, who was appointed by President Barack Obama.

The four other commissioners, two Democratic and two Republican appointees, complained to Daley in October that Jaczko is causing "serious damage" to the agency. Jaczko responded to Daley that a commission majority "loosened the agency's safety standards" over his objections.

The agency is responsible for regulating the 104 commercial reactors in the U.S. and is considering applications for a new generation of power plants.

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: response to White House statement?

(b)(5)

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** 'BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:'  
<[bwingfield3@bloomberg.net](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)>  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 19:54:06 2011  
**Subject:** RE: response to White House statement?

Brian: I have not seen the statement. Let me check for any response. Just got home.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[<mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** response to White House statement?

Eliot,

We're hearing from the White House that they won't participate in the hearing Wednesday and that they don't believe differences at the NRC are impairing the commission.

Does the Chairman have a comment/response?

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News

1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:14 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: letter and story

Ok. thanks.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Eliot Brenner <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/12 20:12:10

Brian: Thanks for sharing. We'll let the White House speak for itself and won't comment on Mr. Daley's communication.

Eliot

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:  
[\[mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net\]](mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** letter and story

Here's the story I tried to send. PDF of the letter from Daley attached.

By Kate Andersen Browe

Dec. 12 (Bloomberg) — White House Chief of Staff William Daley said a dispute over management at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission hasn't impaired its work and stems from the way the panel is structured.

Daley, in a letter to the Republican chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said the White House won't send a witness to testify at a hearing this week on complaints made by NRC commissioners against Chairman Gregory J. Jaczko.

"We have concluded that while there are tensions and disagreements among the commissioners, these management differences have not impaired the commission's ability to fulfill its mission," Daley wrote in the letter released tonight by the White House.

Oversight committee Chairman Darrell Issa of California was seeking a White House representative to appear at a Dec. 14 hearing on allegations made by the four other NRC commissioners against Jaczko, who was appointed by President Barack Obama,

The four other commissioners, two Democratic and two Republican appointees, complained to Daley in October that Jaczko is causing "serious damage" to the agency. Jaczko responded to Daley that a commission majority "loosened the agency's safety standards" over his objections.

The agency is responsible for regulating the 104 commercial reactors in the U.S. and is considering applications for a new generation of power plants.

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Jaczko, Gregory  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:43 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re: Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

(b)(5) | Let's chat tomorrow

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Jaczko, Gregory; Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 20:37:33 2011  
**Subject:** FW: Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

(b)(5)

Eliot

---

**From:** Google Alerts [<mailto:googlealerts-noreply@google.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

**News**

1 new result for Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Editorial: Japan's nuke meltdown shouldn't close US plants

USA Today

Reassuringly, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been focusing on the electricity problem. Plants now typically have just four hours of backup power (although some have ways to keep electricity going for 14 to 16 hours).



USA Today

...  
[See all stories on this topic »](#)

---

This as-it-happens Google Alert is brought to you by Google.

[Delete](#) this alert.  
[Create](#) another alert.  
[Manage](#) your alerts.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:43 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

(b)(5)

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Jaczko, Gregory; Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 20:37:33 2011  
**Subject:** FW: Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

(b)(5)

Eliot

---

**From:** Google Alerts [<mailto:googlealerts-noreply@google.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 8:24 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Nuclear Regulatory Commission

News

1 new result for **Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

[Editorial: Japan's nuke meltdown shouldn't close US plants](#)

USA Today

Reassuringly, the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** has been focusing on the electricity problem. Plants now typically have just four hours of backup power (although some have ways to keep electricity going for 14 to 16 hours).



...  
[See all stories on this topic »](#)

This as-it-happens Google Alert is brought to you by Google.

[Delete this alert.](#)  
[Create another alert.](#)  
[Manage your alerts.](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 9:33 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Got your message

I don't love the Jaczko apologizes Politico headline

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 20:56:53 2011  
**Subject:** Got your message

I see bloomberg has me not commenting already

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Edward Felker [efelker@washingtonguardian.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** following up on the Daley letters to Issa and commission

Any comment from the chairman and/or the commission, please forward. Sorry for the late email.

thanks,  
Ed

Edward Felker  
Energy Guardian  
phone:   
email: [efelker@washingtonguardian.net](mailto:efelker@washingtonguardian.net)  
site: <http://www.energyguardian.net>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Let's chat

First thing in the AM. Heard bloomberg and reuters working on gbj profiles for wed. morning...

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman (Google+) [noreply-a9fe7816@plus.google.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 11:10 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** White House issues apology by Jaczko

Dan Yurman shared a post with you on Google+. Google+ makes sharing on the web more like sharing in real life. Learn more.

[Join Google+](#)



**White House issues apology by Jaczko**

Chief of Staff Bill Daley breaks White House silence over escalating conflicts about the NRC The shouting may be over in the long simmer...

[View or comment on Dan Yurman's post »](#)

You received this message because Dan Yurman shared it with [eliot.brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:eliot.brenner@nrc.gov). Unsubscribe from these emails.

Google+

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Steven Dolley (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:36 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** White House letters to NRC, Rep. Issa

Good morning, could you please provide copies if you've received them? seeking from WH also but they always slow to reply to press. thanks

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:04 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** More than I expected

Bloomberg, Reuters, Natl Journal, Greenwire, Platts...

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 8:26 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth; Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** Rtrs - security desk pls

Hi there - I forgot to arrange this yesterday - could you add my name to your list for this morning at the front desk?  
Best thanks / Roberta

Roberta Rampton  
Mobile: (b)(6) [roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:14 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Josh was looking for you

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:00 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** U downstairs?

Coming to find you

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:02 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: U downstairs?

By side door

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 13 09:01:18 2011  
**Subject:** RE: U downstairs?

Yep

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:00 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** U downstairs?

Coming to find you

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:03 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: U downstairs?

Oh. Ok coming back up to you now

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 13 09:01:53 2011  
**Subject:** RE: U downstairs?

As in I am in my office

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:03 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** U downstairs?

Coming to find you

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:14 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** testimony

Eliot--will the chairman's office release embargoed testimony ahead of tomorrow's hearing?

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** West, Stephanie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:27 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** I have your CD's at my desk

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:34 AM  
**To:** AV-PHOTO Resource  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Webcast on DVD?

Is it possible to transfer the archived footage from today's Commission briefing to DVD? We have a camera crew interested in the footage. No need to do anything above and beyond the call of duty. Thanks.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dan Yurman [dan.yurman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djysrv.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile:   
Blog: [Idaho Samizdat](#) [Google+](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** West, Stephanie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Please call Josh at 415-1826

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:53 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Peter Bradford's contact info  
**Attachments:** Peter Bradford

Feel free to distribute

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**Full Name:** Peter Bradford  
**Last Name:** Bradford  
**First Name:** Peter  
**Job Title:** Vice Chair  
**Company:** UCS Board

**Business:** (802) 430-4085  
**Home 2:** (b)(6)  
**Mobile:** (b)(6) primary

**E-mail:** (b)(6)  
**E-mail Display As:** Peter Bradford (b)(6)

"Peter A. Bradford (*Vice-Chair*) advises and teaches on utility regulation and energy policy in the United States and overseas. A former member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and former chair of the New York and Maine utility commissions, he has advised many states on utility restructuring issues. He has taught energy law and policy at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the Vermont Law School. He served on a panel advising the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development on how best to replace the remaining Chernobyl nuclear plants. He was also part of an expert panel advising the Austrian Institute for Risk Reduction on issues associated with the opening of the Mochovce nuclear power plant in Slovakia. He is the author of *Fragile Structures: A Story of Oil Refineries, National Security and the Coast of Maine.*"

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:07 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** A rumor...

I heard that the reason this big news broke on Fri night was that the NRC gave the chairman's letter to the WH to at least one reporter – is that true ?

---

**Roberta Rampton**  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

So what was the "right thing" and yes I'm asking nicely.

Best, Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "Dan Yurman" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 09:47

It came from the white house. It is not mine to give out ... but if you ask nicely I can see that you get the material....

I saw your piece this morning. my personal observation is you focused on the wrong thing, but that's just me.

-----  
**From:** Dan Yurman [<mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djsy.v.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
Blog: [Idaho Samizdat](#) [Google+](#)

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:12 AM  
**To:** AV-PHOTO Resource  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Webcast on DVD?

Excellent, if you could burn an extra copy for the filmmaker that would be great. OPA can mail it from there.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Demo, Dennis  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 13 10:10:28 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Webcast on DVD?

Scott,

It is currently being recorded on DVD. At the conclusion of the briefing a copy will be handed to SECY also we maintain a copy for archive.

Dennis Demo  
Project Manager  
AV Photo Support Contractor  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Cell Phone - (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:34 AM  
**To:** AV-PHOTO Resource  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Webcast on DVD?

Is it possible to transfer the archived footage from today's Commission briefing to DVD? We have a camera crew interested in the footage. No need to do anything above and beyond the call of duty. Thanks.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Ed O'Keefe [ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:18 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Interview requests

Eliot:

I hope you're doing well.

My editors and I are eager to speak with Chairman Jaczko and the commissioners regarding the disagreements that have been aired by the House Oversight Committee.

In advance of tomorrow's hearing, would the chairman and/or any of the commissioners be available to speak about their disagreements and concerns? And are you the appropriate person to ask or do each of the commissioners have aides or spokespeople who handle individual requests?

Many thanks in advance. I'm reachable at  if you prefer to speak by voice.

Ed O'Keefe  
The Washington Post / The Federal Eye  
 / [twitter.com/edatpost](https://twitter.com/edatpost)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:18 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: A rumor...

Chrs / see ya tmw

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:16 AM  
**To:** Rampton, Roberta (M Edit Ops)  
**Subject:** RE: A rumor...

the sequence of events from where I sat was seeing a flurry of activity over the release of the commissioners' letter, followed by us providing our material. I am unaware of anything as you describe. Doesn't mean it didn't happen, just that I did not do that.

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:07 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** A rumor...

I heard that the reason this big news broke on Fri night was that the NRC gave the chairman's letter to the WH to at least one reporter – is that true ?

---

Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Reuters

Phone: 202 898 8390

Mobile: (b)(6)

[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

RSS feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:27 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** jaczko profiles

Some of you may be writing profiles of the chairman, or at least that's the rumor that reaches me. If so, you may want to check in with Peter Bradford, an ex commissioner. 802-430-4085 at work, or a cell at , or by email at

eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C:

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Ed O'Keefe [ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:29 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Interview requests

I'll reach out to them individually, many thanks. And glad you liked the article, an extended version is posted in my blog:

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/dispute-between-nuclear-regulatory-commission-members-about-organizational-issues-white-house-says/2011/12/12/q1QAw0qeqO\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/dispute-between-nuclear-regulatory-commission-members-about-organizational-issues-white-house-says/2011/12/12/q1QAw0qeqO_blog.html)

**Ed O'Keefe**

The Federal Eye  
[www.washingtonpost.com/federaleye](http://www.washingtonpost.com/federaleye)  
[ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com](mailto:ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com)  
202-334-5546 (o) | [redacted] (b)(6) (c)  
Twitter: @edatpost | Story archive: <http://wapo.st/iXxUdl>

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:20 AM  
**To:** Ed O'Keefe  
**Subject:** RE: Interview requests

Ed: The chairman will not be speaking about this issue today, but rather will hold his counsel until the hearing tomorrow. I cannot speak for the other commissioners inasmuch as I work for the chairman. Each has a chief of staff you could contact. That information is on their individual websites, I believe.

By the way, that was a nice balanced piece in the paper this morning.

Eliot

---

**From:** Ed O'Keefe [mailto:ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:18 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Interview requests

Eliot:

I hope you're doing well.

My editors and I are eager to speak with Chairman Jaczko and the commissioners regarding the disagreements that have been aired by the House Oversight Committee.

In advance of tomorrow's hearing, would the chairman and/or any of the commissioners be available to speak about their disagreements and concerns? And are you the appropriate person to ask or do each of the commissioners have aides or spokespeople who handle individual requests?

Many thanks in advance. I'm reachable at [redacted] (b)(6) if you prefer to speak by voice.

Ed O'Keefe  
The Washington Post / The Federal Eye

(b)(6) / [twitter.com/edatpost](https://twitter.com/edatpost)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:34 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Oh I agree on both counts. that's a good topic for a blog post. Thanks.

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:24

That this discord is a result of the way the commission is structured, it has been this way for quite some time, and despite that this commission has gotten a remarkable amount of work done.

-----  
**From:** [dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net) [<mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

So what was the "right thing" and yes I'm asking nicely.

Best, Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "Dan Yurman" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 09:47

It came from the white house. It is not mine to give out ... but if you ask nicely I can see that you get the material....

I saw your piece this morning. my personal observation is you focused on the wrong thing, but that's just me.

---

**From:** Dan Yurman [mailto:[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djysrv.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

---

Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
Blog: [Idaho Samizdat](#) [Google+](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Siniff, John [jsiniff@usatoday.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:41 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

I figured as much when I read the WP account. Thanks, Eliot, for giving us a look. And if you're looking to place an op-ed down the road, I'm your guy.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:50 AM  
**To:** Siniff, John  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

John: With the White House letter of last night we're going to let this issue lie. Placing an op-ed would fan the flames a little too much. Thanks for at least considering our initial offering. I am sure over time we will be doing more business!

Eliot

---

**From:** Siniff, John [mailto:jsiniff@usatoday.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 6:05 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Great. Thanks.

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 6:13 PM  
**To:** Siniff, John  
**Subject:** Re: Draft OpEd

Thanks. I'll see if, among all the other things I have cooking, I can retool it. If so, you'll hear from me tomorrow.  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
C (b)(6)  
Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Siniff, John <jsiniff@usatoday.com>  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot -  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 17:59:19 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Draft OpEd

Eliot,

As written, this is just terribly inside baseball. I think you guys have to assume that very few people have been paying attention to this issue outside of the Beltway, and start there. What's going on. Why this is important. What it means for the average American.

I think the comments are interesting, but the piece goes so far into the weeds that I can't imagine our readers sticking with it. If you guys want to take another whack at it, I'll be glad to reconsider tomorrow morning.

Best,

John

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 5:44 PM  
**To:** Siniff, John; Nishimura, Glen  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft OpEd

The document should be attached. Thanks for looking it over.

Eliot  
Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200  
(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 12 11:24:43 2011  
**Subject:** Draft OpEd

Eliot:

Here is the clean copy, incorporating Chairman's edits. Since this refers to tomorrow's Commission meeting, guess you'll have to tweak as necessary for publication date. Thanks!

S

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1338  
[Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov](mailto:Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov)

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:46 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Thanks. Will read.

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile:

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:31

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/dispute-between-nuclear-regulatory-commission-members-about-organizational-issues-white-house-says/2011/12/12/gIQAaw0geqO\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/post/dispute-between-nuclear-regulatory-commission-members-about-organizational-issues-white-house-says/2011/12/12/gIQAaw0geqO_blog.html)

Dan: This is a longer version of what ran in the Post this morning. I thought it was a pretty straightforward piece.

Eliot

---

**From:** [dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net) [mailto:[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

So what was the "right thing" and yes I'm asking nicely.

Best, Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile:

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "Dan Yurman" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>

Subject: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2011 09:47

It came from the white house. It is not mine to give out ... but if you ask nicely I can see that you get the material....

I saw your piece this morning. my personal observation is you focused on the wrong thing, but that's just me.

---

**From:** Dan Yurman [mailto:[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djsrv.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
Blog: [Idaho Samizdat](#) [Google+](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:47 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Thanks also. Will review.

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile:

----- Reply message -----  
From: "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
To: "[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
Subject: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:38

Underlying point is that someone has to be chairman and keep the trains running, and the role of a commissioner is different. Take a look at the 1980 reorganization act which gives commissioners policy-making roles and an adjudicator role, and very clearly puts the chairman in charge as the primary executive and person to run the show in an emergency.

I'm attaching a scanned copy of the act. It was changed in 1980, at President Carter's request, to create a stronger executive because of the problems of TMI – where no one was in charge because everyone was in charge.

Eliot

-----  
**From:** [dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net) [<mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:34 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Oh I agree on both counts. that's a good topic for a blog post. Thanks.

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile:

----- Reply message -----  
From: "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
To: "[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>

Subject: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:24

That this discord is a result of the way the commission is structured, it has been this way for quite some time, and despite that this commission has gotten a remarkable amount of work done.

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net [mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

So what was the "right thing" and yes I'm asking nicely.

Best, Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
dan.yurman@usa.net  
Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**To:** "Dan Yurman" <dan.yurman@usa.net>  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 09:47

It came from the white house. It is not fine to give out ... but if you ask nicely I can see that you get the material.

I saw your piece this morning. my personal observation is you focused on the wrong thing, but that's just me.

---

**From:** Dan Yurman [mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djysrv.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

-----  
Dan Yurman  
dan.yurman@usa.net  
Mobile: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:59 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Some confusion  
  
**Importance:** High

Over whether Chairman would have any "letter" remarks, as well as a member of the public sitting in Svinicki's seat and talking to chairman during break... Don't know who lady was.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

Photo Gallery Scrubbing Procedures

- Compare Photo Contact Sheets in Filename order with the spreadsheet(G:\Social Media\Flickr\Gallery Spreadsheet\Flickr\_copy of gallery.xls)
  - Compare to see if the image reflect the long description/caption and that there are no spelling or grammatical errors
  - Use consistent descriptors and titles of items
  - Is there anything missing (add names, more info URL address or other details)
  - Tags should be equal to the sets and subsets use we should always include "NRC and Nuclear"
  - Identify sets (use the categories)
  - Make titles clear
- Can we eliminate duplications of images? Highlight possible deletions
- Identify, what is missing?

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:02 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Some confusion

Chairman was OK with it, had to usher the TV camera out of the well -- don't know if "citizen" was with Gunter et al

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 13 10:59:52 2011  
**Subject:** RE: Some confusion

Whoa!!!!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:59 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Some confusion  
**Importance:** High

Over whether Chairman would have any "letter" remarks, as well as a member of the public sitting in Svinicki's seat and talking to chairman during break... Don't know who lady was.

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:03 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: more reading

Eliot. It may take a bit to absorb all this. Will get to it though. Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)

Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <[Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov](mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov)>  
**To:** "[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)" <[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)>  
**Subject:** more reading  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:55

Dan: this is both the act, and the transmittal letter from Carter. The letter is very instructive.

Also, don't forget there was a 1999 IG report that chronicled issues among commissioners largely attributable to their different roles. I believe it was referenced both in Jaczko's letter and in the White House letter.

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:05 AM  
**To:** Grobe, Jack  
**Cc:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Interview request

Hi Jack;

The Greenwire news service (specifically Pete Behr) has requested an interview before you head out the door. Any time available? Thanks.

Scott

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Daly, Matthew [MDaly@ap.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: jaczko profiles

What does Daley mean by "trusted third party" to promote a better dialogue?  
Is that a counselor, group therapist or what?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:27 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** jaczko profiles

Some of you may be writing profiles of the chairman, or at least that's the rumor that reaches me. If so, you may want to check in with Peter Bradford, an ex commissioner. 802-430-4085 at work, or a cell at (b)(6), or by email at (b)(6)

eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

~~The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not an intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1898 and delete this email. Thank you.~~

[IP\_US\_DI:C]nsk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Daly, Matthew [MDaly@ap.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:26 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: jaczko profiles

Seriously. What is he suggesting?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:24 AM  
**To:** Daly, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: jaczko profiles

I'm not touching that!

---

**From:** Daly, Matthew [mailto:MDaly@ap.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: jaczko profiles

What does Daley mean by "trusted third party" to promote a better dialogue?  
Is that a counselor, group therapist or what?

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:27 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** jaczko profiles

Some of you may be writing profiles on the chairman, or at least that's the rumor that reaches me. If so, you may want to check in with Peter Bradford, an ex commissioner. 802-430-4085 at work, or a cell at (b)(6), or by email at (b)(6)

eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8700  
C: (b)(6)

~~The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please~~

~~notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1898  
and delete this email. Thank you.~~

~~[IP\_US\_DISC]msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938~~

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Where are you?

(b)(6)

I'll metro

Sent from an NRC Blackberry  
Scott Burnell

(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 13 12:32:32 2011  
**Subject:** Where are you?

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Protecting People and the Environment  
301 415 8200

(b)(6)

Sent from my Blackberry

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:40 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: story

### NRC commissioners fight over who controls staff

Peter Behr, E&E reporter

Published: Tuesday, December 13, 2011

- email [email](#)
  - print [print](#)
  - Return to index [Return to index](#)
  - Customize edition [Customize edition](#)
- Advertisement

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko attempted this fall to replace the agency's top staff executive over disagreements in handling the recommendations of NRC's Fukushima task force, according to people familiar with the dispute.

He was rebuffed by three of the commissioners in a confrontation that illustrates the personal acrimony and policy disputes at the top of the commission, the sources said.

Gregory Jaczko, chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Photo courtesy of the NRC. According to these accounts, Jaczko told his four fellow commissioners in August that he wanted to replace agency veteran William Borchardt as NRC's executive director for operations (EDO).

Jaczko told the commissioners that his day-to-day executive responsibility for NRC's direction required close communication with Borchardt, who, as EDO is the principal operations officer for the commission, subject to the chairman's supervision.

Jaczko said his communications with Borchardt were not satisfactory, according to accounts of the dispute. Jaczko's office said it would not comment, and attempts to reach Borchardt for comment were not successful.

Jaczko was pressing his colleagues to act promptly and favorably on the recommendations for added safety features at U.S. nuclear plants that came down in July from NRC's Near Term Task Force investigating the Japanese nuclear disaster at Fukushima.

#### Attempts to remove staff chief thwarted

"I believe the task force found that the status quo of our existing regulatory framework is no longer acceptable -- calling for changes to the regulations that we have long relied on for adequate protection," including safeguards to protect reactors from earthquakes, flooding and extended loss of outside power and emergency preparedness measures, Jaczko said.

But Borchardt had publicly resisted the chairman's fast-track proposal, saying that before the commission acted, the task force proposals should be vetted by NRC's senior staff, and more opportunity should be allowed for comment by the nuclear industry and interest groups.

Borchardt attached a five-page memo to the task force prior to its release in July, saying "before deciding on the path forward and the specific recommendations in the Task Force's report, the Commission may wish to solicit external stakeholder input." Jaczko removed that memo, and the report was released July 12.

Jaczko's plan in August to replace Borchardt lacked two other commissioners' votes -- which, added to his, would be a majority on the five-member commission. Other commissioners said that nothing in Borchardt's performance warranted his removal, sources said. But the possibility that Borchardt might choose to retire in February 2012 entered the conversation.

Some commissioners told Jaczko that if the EDO was intending to step down, then Jaczko could proceed to propose a replacement, according to several accounts by people who would not be quoted by name, citing the sensitivity of the controversy.

In fact, Borchardt, who has served 28 years at the commission, was not intending to retire in February, in part because of his role in a major international nuclear power conference later next year, sources said.

### Dispute over staff access began over Yucca Mountain

According to reports, Jaczko intended to tell Borchardt that he wanted to replace him following an Oct. 17 meeting of the commission to discuss the Fukushima recommendations. But before he could do that, he received a note from Commissioner William Ostendorff, who said he would not support an effort to remove Borchardt or pressure him to resign, according to accounts of the events.

That made three commission votes -- Ostendorff's and those of Commissioners Kristina Sviracki and William Magwood IV -- on Borchardt's side. According to statute, the chairman proposes an EDO, but a appointment or removal requires a commission majority.

Jaczko did not attend the commission's afternoon session, which featured hearings by Borchardt and several other senior NRC staff members.

Behind the dispute is an even more fundamental issue, some sources say. As the relationship between Jaczko and the other commissioners deteriorated, following his decision in 2010 to halt the agency's safety review of the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, the commissioners became more insistent on their right to hear directly from staff on key matters and not have Jaczko decide when they and their staffs should have that opportunity.

In an investigative report last June, NRC Inspector General Hubert Bell reported that "senior officials, managers and staff provided examples that they believed illustrated the chairman's failure to share with his fellow commissioners information needed to support their fully informed decision making." They also reported instances of "unprofessional or manipulative" conduct -- charges Jaczko has denied.

The IG report quotes Borchardt saying Jaczko told him he wanted to control the flow of policy issues to the commissioners "to enable them to more efficient and effective by not overloading them so they could focus on certain issues." Borchardt told the IG that "one of his primary responsibilities" was to keep the entire commission informed.

In the end, a majority of the commission wanted to keep Borchardt on the job to help protect their access to information and strengthen their positions in the ongoing power struggle with Jaczko, these sources said.

---

**From:** Brenner, Elliot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:28 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** story

I have asked Pete Behr if he filed anything and, if so, can I see it. I cannot get into the E&E system. It alleges I need a subscription. How free market of them!

Elliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs

Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** pbehr@eenews.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:45 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** From ClimateWire -- REGULATION: NRC commissioners fight over who controls staff

This ClimateWire story was sent to you by: pbehr@eenews.net

**Personal message:** Here is the story. You'll see I left out parts of my query. Any change in the chairman's availability this afternoon?  
Cheers

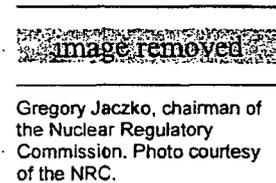


### **REGULATION: NRC commissioners fight over who controls staff** (Tuesday, December 13, 2011)

**Peter Behr, E&E reporter**

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko attempted this fall to replace the agency's top staff executive over disagreements in handling the recommendations of NRC's Fukushima task force, according to people familiar with the dispute.

He was rebuffed by three of the commissioners in a confrontation that illustrates the personal acrimony and policy disputes at the top of the commission, the sources said.



According to these accounts, Jaczko told his four fellow commissioners in August that he wanted to replace agency veteran William Borchardt as NRC's executive director for operations (EDO).

Jaczko told the commissioners that his day-to-day executive responsibility for NRC's direction required close communication with Borchardt, who, as EDO, is the principal operations officer for the commission, subject to the chairman's supervision.

Jaczko said his communications with Borchardt were not satisfactory, according to accounts of the dispute. Jaczko's office said it would not comment, and attempts to reach Borchardt for comment were not successful.

Jaczko was pressing his colleagues to act promptly and favorably on the recommendations for added safety features at U.S. nuclear plants that came down in July from NRC's Near Term Task Force investigating the Japanese nuclear disaster at Fukushima.

#### **Attempts to remove staff chief thwarted**

"I believe the task force found that the status quo of our existing regulatory framework is no longer

acceptable -- calling for changes to the regulations that we have long relied on for adequate protection," including safeguards to protect reactors from earthquakes, flooding and extended loss of outside power and emergency preparedness measures, Jaczko said.

But Borchardt had publicly resisted the chairman's fast-track proposal, saying that before the commission acted, the task force proposals should be vetted by NRC's senior staff, and more opportunity should be allowed for comment by the nuclear industry and interest groups.

Borchardt attached a five-page memo to the task force prior to its release in July, saying "before deciding on the path forward and the specific recommendations in the Task Force's report, the Commission may wish to solicit external stakeholder input." Jaczko removed that memo, and the report was released July 12.

Jaczko's plan in August to replace Borchardt lacked two other commissioners' votes -- which, added to his, would be a majority on the five-member commission. Other commissioners said that nothing in Borchardt's performance warranted his removal, sources said. But the possibility that Borchardt might choose to retire in February 2012 entered the conversation.

Some commissioners told Jaczko that if the EDO was intending to step down, then Jaczko could proceed to propose a replacement, according to several accounts by people who would not be quoted by name, citing the sensitivity of the controversy.

In fact, Borchardt, who has served 28 years at the commission, was not intending to retire in February, in part because of his role in a major international nuclear power conference later next year, sources said.

#### **Dispute over staff access began over Yucca Mountain**

According to reports, Jaczko intended to tell Borchardt that he wanted to replace him following an Oct. 11 meeting of the commission to discuss the Fukushima recommendations. But before he could do that, he received a note from Commissioner William Ostendorff, who said he would not support an effort to remove Borchardt or pressure him to resign, according to accounts of the events.

That made three commissioner votes -- Ostendorff's and those of Commissioners Kristine Svinicki and William Magwood IV -- on Borchardt's side. According to statute, the chairman proposes an EDO, but appointment or removal requires a commission majority.

Jaczko did not attend the commission's afternoon session, which featured briefings by Borchardt and several other senior NRC staff members.

Behind the dispute is an even more fundamental issue, some sources say. As the relationship between Jaczko and the other commissioners deteriorated, following his decision in 2010 to halt the agency's safety review of the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, the commissioners became more insistent on their right to hear directly from staff on key matters and not have Jaczko decide when they and their staffs should have that opportunity.

In an investigative report last June, NRC Inspector General Hubert Bell reported that "senior officials, managers and staff provided examples that they believed illustrated the chairman's failure

to share with his fellow commissioners information needed to support their fully informed decisionmaking." They also reported instances of "unprofessional or manipulative" conduct -- charges Jaczko has denied.

The IG report quotes Borchardt saying Jaczko told him he wanted to control the flow of policy issues to the commissioners "to enable them to more efficient and effective by not overloading them so they could focus on certain issues." Borchardt told the IG that "one of his primary responsibilities" was to keep the entire commission informed.

In the end, a majority of the commission wanted to keep Borchardt on the job to help protect their access to information and strengthen their positions in the ongoing power struggle with Jaczko, these sources said.

---

**Want to read more stories like this?**

[Click here](#) to start a free trial to E&E -- the best way to track policy and markets.

---

#### **ABOUT CLIMATEWIRE**

ClimateWire is written and produced by the staff of E&E Publishing, LLC. It is designed to provide comprehensive, daily coverage of all aspects of climate change issues. From international agreements on carbon emissions to alternative energy technologies to state and federal GHG programs, ClimateWire plugs readers into the information they need to stay abreast of this sprawling, complex issue.



E&E Publishing, LLC  
122 G Street, N.W., Wash., D.C. 20001.  
Phone: 202-638-6500. Fax: 202-737-5299.  
[www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net)

---

All content is copyrighted and may not be reproduced or retransmitted without the express consent of E&E Publishing, LLC. [Click here](#) to view our privacy policy.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Stone, Daniel [Daniel.Stone@newsweekdailybeast.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:52 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** question

Hey Eliot--you've got a quick sec to talk. I've got a Jaczko anecdote we're including in our piece for tomorrow I want to run by you. Am working in NY - (b)(6) - or let me know when/how best to reach you.

Dan

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Loyd, Susan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:46 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: japan release

Ok – Angela has it; I've seen it already. Will round her up.

Susan K. Loyd  
Communications Director  
Office of the Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Tele: 301-415-1838  
Susan.Loyd@nrc.gov

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:44 PM  
**To:** Loyd, Susan  
**Cc:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** japan release

(b)(5)

Eliot

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200

C:

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Steven Dolley (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:59 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: White House letters to NRC, Rep. Issa

thank you kindly

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** West, Stephanie on behalf of OPA Resource  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:53 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** FW: Letters to the White House

Forwarded from OPA Resource by Stephanie West.

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [[mailto:bilski\\_wdc@nikkei.com](mailto:bilski_wdc@nikkei.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:31 PM  
**To:** OPA Resource  
**Subject:** Letters to the White House

Hi.

I'd like to get a copy of the four commissioners' letter to the White House and Chairman Jaczko regarding Chairman Jaczko's leadership, as well as Chairman Jaczko's response, please.

Thank you.

Christina Bilski  
Washington DC Bureau  
Nikkei Newspaper  
Main: 202-393-1388  
Fax: 202-737-0170  
BlackBerry:

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Ed O'Keefe [ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:06 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Interview requests

Eliot:

Any chance of you guys slipping me a copy of the chairman's testimony in advance of his appearance tomorrow? Would love to write on that in advance, if possible.

Thanks,

**Ed O'Keefe**

The Federal Eye  
[www.washingtonpost.com/federaleye](http://www.washingtonpost.com/federaleye)  
[ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com](mailto:ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com)  
202-334-5546 (o) [redacted] (b)(6) (c)  
Twitter: @edatpost | Story archive: <http://wapo.st/iXxUdl>

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:20 AM  
**To:** Ed O'Keefe  
**Subject:** RE: Interview requests

Ed: The chairman will not be speaking about this issue today, but rather will hold his counsel until the hearing tomorrow. I cannot speak for the other commissioners inasmuch as I work for the chairman. Each has a chief of staff you could contact. That information is on their individual websites I believe.

By the way, that was a nice balanced piece in the paper this morning.

Eliot

---

**From:** Ed O'Keefe [mailto:ed.okeefe@washingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:18 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Interview requests

Eliot:

I hope you're doing well.

My editors and I are eager to speak with Chairman Jaczko and the commissioners regarding the disagreements that have been aired by the House Oversight Committee.

In advance of tomorrow's hearing, would the chairman and/or any of the commissioners be available to speak about their disagreements and concerns? And are you the appropriate person to ask or do each of the commissioners have aides or spokespeople who handle individual requests?

Many thanks in advance. I'm reachable at [redacted] (b)(6) if you prefer to speak by voice.

Ed O'Keefe  
The Washington Post / The Federal Eye  
(b)(6) / [twitter.com/edatpost](https://twitter.com/edatpost)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Kenneth Fletcher [fletcher@exchangemonitor.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:11 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Daley Letters

Eliot,

Hope everything is going OK preparing for the hearings... Wanted to check in and see if you could send me a copy of the letters William Daley sent out yesterday.

Thanks,

Kenny Fletcher  
Reporter, Weapons Complex Monitor  
Exchange Monitor Publications  
(202) 296-2814 x108

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Tracy, Ryan [Ryan.Tracy@dowjones.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:31 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Issa  
**Attachments:** 12-13-11\_Issa\_NRC Report Final.pdf

--  
Ryan Tracy | Reporter  
Dow Jones Newswires | The Wall Street Journal  
office 202.862.9245 | cell (b)(6) | [ryan.tracy@dowjones.com](mailto:ryan.tracy@dowjones.com)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
Darrell Issa, Chairman**



---

**A Crisis of Leadership**

*How the Actions of Chairman Gregory Jaczko  
Are Damaging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission*

---

Majority Staff Report  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
112<sup>th</sup> Congress

December 13, 2011

## Table of Contents

I. Table of Names.....	3
II. Executive Summary .....	4
III. Findings.....	6
IV. The History and Evolution of the NRC .....	8
A. Creation of the NRC.....	8
B. Organization of the NRC.....	8
1. Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 .....	8
2. Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980 .....	10
V. The Significance of the Commission Structure .....	13
A. Congress and the White House rejected the single administrator model.....	13
B. Chairman Jaczko’s management style resembles the single administrator model.....	14
1. The Chairman compromised the independence of the NRC. ....	15
2. The Chairman has failed to provide consistent regulation .....	20
3. The Chairman has undermined the collegial process for deliberation. ....	26
VI. The Ultimate Authority of the Commission .....	32
A. Chairman Jaczko strategically interprets policy.....	33
1. The Chairman undermined the Commission’s intent to deliberate about how best to implement the recommendations of the near-term task force.....	34
2. The Chairman undermines the Commission and mires them in process through his insistence on formal votes for any disagreements with his interpretation of Commission policy.....	37
VII. Supervision of and Influence over the Staff.....	38
A. The Office of the Executive Director for Operations and NRC Technical Staff.....	39
1. Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to withdraw the SECY paper and to provide him with an advance copy.....	40
B. Commission Level Offices.....	46
1. Chairman Jaczko has expanded his supervisory authority to staff that report to the Commission .....	46
2. Chairman Jaczko urged staff who reported to the Commission to support his policy agenda when they communicated with other Commissioners. ....	47
3. Chairman Jaczko has chilled the lines of communication between staff and his colleagues on the Commission.....	48
VIII. Information Flow .....	51
A. Chairman Jaczko withheld his intent from his colleagues to gain their support.....	52

B. Chairman Jaczko withheld staff input from his colleagues to influence their votes..... 54

1. The Internal Commission Procedures require full and prompt disclosure of information..... 55

2. Chairman Jaczko instructed staff to always speak with him before communicating about policy matters with other Commissioners..... 57

IX. The Commission Responds ..... 58

X. Conclusion ..... 60

## **I. Table of Names**

### **The Commission**

**Gregory B. Jaczko**  
Chairman

**George E. Apostolakis**  
Commissioner

**William D. Magwood IV**  
Commissioner

**William C. Ostendorff**  
Commissioner

**Kristine L. Svinicki**  
Commissioner

### **The Chiefs of Staff**

**Joshua C. Batkin**  
Chief of Staff to Chairman Jaczko

**Belkys Sosa**  
Chief of Staff to Commissioner Apostolakis

**Patrice M. Bubar**  
Chief of Staff to Commissioner Magwood

**Ho Nieh**  
Chief of Staff to Commissioner Ostendorff

**Jeffry M. Sharkey**  
Chief of Staff to Commissioner Svinicki

### **Others**

**Annette L. Vietti-Cook**  
Secretary of the Commission

**William Borchardt**  
Executive Director for Operations

**Martin J. Virgilio**  
Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs

## II. Executive Summary

Congress never intended that commercial nuclear power be regulated by a single individual. On the contrary, Congress designed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as an independent agency with a five person, bipartisan panel of Commissioners at its helm. The American people need to have confidence that the actions of the NRC are not in support of just one individual's agenda but, rather, singularly in support of the agency's mission. That mission is to enable the nation to safely use radioactive materials for beneficial civilian purposes while protecting people and the environment. The leadership of Chairman Gregory Jaczko has undermined Commissioners, staff, and the public confidence that the NRC can continue to remain focused on its vital mission.

The Committee's investigation initially focused on the Commission's actions during three series of events: the termination of the NRC's technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application, the emergency response to the reactor accidents in Japan in March 2011, and the evaluation of lessons learned from the Japanese accident. Each of these examples warrants separate examination and clarification. Understanding why and how certain actions were taken both important and informative. This report, however, is not meant to be an exhaustive account of each of these events or a judgment on the prudence of any decisions made.

In the course of the Committee's investigation, it became apparent that the controversy surrounding these events was symptomatic of a more pervasive problem at the NRC. The Committee reviewed tens-of-thousands of pages of documents and conducted 15 transcribed interviews with the following NRC employees:

- Joshua Batkin – Chief of Staff, Chairman Jaczko
- Jeffrey Sharkey – Chief of Staff, Commissioner Svinicki
- Patrice Bubar – Chief of Staff, Commissioner Magwood
- Ho Nieh – Chief of Staff, Commissioner Ostendorff
- Belkys Sosa – Chief of Staff, Commissioner Apostolakis
- R. William Borchardt – Executive Director for Operations
- Martin Virgilio – Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs
- Michael Weber – Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal and Compliance Programs
- Stephen Burns – General Counsel
- James Dyer – Chief Financial Officer
- Annette Vietti-Cook – Secretary of the Commission
- Catherine Haney – Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
- Lawrence Kokakjo – Acting Deputy Office Director, NMSS (Prior)
- Aby Mohseni – Acting Director, Division of High Level Waste Repository Safety, NMSS (Prior)
- Daniel Graser – License Support Network Administrator

Documents and witness testimony revealed that as the Chairman's interpretation of his authority evolved to closely resemble that of a single administrator - his management style and

aggressive behavior simultaneously eroded the collegial structure and values inherent in the NRC.

Chairman Jaczko broadly interprets the authority granted to the NRC Chairman under existing statute, most notably the Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980. This interpretation has been his justification for centralizing power within his office, limiting the role of the other four commissioners and exerting greater control over the NRC staff. His actions undermine the Commission structure and demonstrate a blatant disregard for decades of established practice at the NRC. What began as a lack of trust and collegiality at the Commission level has become a battle of wills – the will of the Chairman versus the will of the majority. It is a battle that plays out on an almost daily basis, in everything from apparent minutia to substantive policy debates. However, even seemingly obscure disagreements over internal process carry significant implications for the safety and efficiency of the American nuclear industry.

When faced with opposition from a majority of his colleagues, the Chairman has sought new and unprecedented ways to impose his agenda. He has leveraged his position as the principle executive officer to pressure career NRC staff to support his policy positions, goals, and priorities. In some cases, even when a majority of the Commission supports a specific position or action, career staff are made to believe that they cannot execute that action without approval from the Chairman. This tactic leaves NRC staff to decide between following the Chairman's orders to the dismay of the majority of the Commission or disobeying the Chairman and incurring his wrath.

The Committee's investigation found that the dysfunction created by this situation is having a corrosive effect on the NRC's ability to remain focused on its important work. Thus far, the staff's commitment to uphold the NRC's values and reputation has prevented the agency from reaching a point that compromises safety. But the current situation is not sustainable and Chairman Jaczko continues to make it worse.

### III. Findings

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko and his staff used political considerations to try to intimidate and influence other Democratic Commissioners' votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko's Chief of Staff suggested that Commissioner Magwood, a Democrat appointed by President Obama, should be concerned that his vote in favor of an Action Memorandum that would have continued work on Yucca Mountain might leak and be viewed as a lack of support for the Administration.

**FINDING:** When Chairman Jaczko did not get the support of his fellow Commissioners for a post-Fukushima review roadmap proposal, he stormed out of an agenda planning meeting and announced his plan at a speech at the National Press Club.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko strategically withheld information to gain the support of his Democratic colleagues for his plan to end the staff's technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application. His actions undermined the trust of his fellow Commissioners.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko's aggressive behavior and attempts to threaten or intimidate his colleagues prevents constructive discussion among Commissioners and undermines the NRC's deliberative process.

**FINDING:** Rather than trying to working with his colleagues to improve communications and restore a constructive relationship, Chairman Jaczko became increasingly defiant and exposed more of the NRC staff to the toxic environment present at the Commission level.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko's tendency to game the system has forced his colleagues to rely on formal votes to move the NRC on matters that traditionally were handled informally. The need to use the formal voting process to play defense against the Chairman has made it difficult for the Commission to carry out its basic functions.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko has sought to leverage his supervisory authority over the staff to pressure them to support his policy objectives.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko became "shaking angry" and accused the Deputy Executive Director for Operations of being dishonest when a vote paper delivered to the

Commission did not conform to his desires, interests, or views. Staff had already significantly altered the paper to conform to the Chairman's vision.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko used his supervisory authority to berate and compel staff to withdraw a voting paper that – although consistent with the expectations of his colleagues – included a suggestion, not even a recommendation, that was contrary to his preferred course of action. His actions deprived his colleagues, and the public, of information that would help inform the Commission's consideration of the task force recommendations.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko demanded that career NRC staff support his positions when discussing policy matters with his fellow Commissioners. Staff no longer felt that they could provide independent, unbiased advice to the other Commissioners.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko stated an expectation that he should see voting papers before they are shared with his colleagues. Having prior access to voting papers would allow the Chairman to pressure staff to pull back or otherwise edit papers contrary to his policy priorities. This instruction represented a "defining moment" for the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to support his policy priorities in order to gain leverage over his colleagues on the Commission.

**FINDING:** Four Commissioners wrote a letter to the White House explaining their concerns about Chairman Jaczko's leadership. They told the White House that he has "intimidated and bullied career staff," created a "chilled work environment," undermined and disrespected the Commission, and created a situation that "will adversely affect the NRC's essential mission to protect the health, safety and security of the American people."

## IV. The History and Evolution of the NRC

### A. Creation of the NRC

Congress has favored the Commission structure since the United States first began regulating the use of nuclear power. The first nuclear regulator, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), was established under the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 to monitor the application of nuclear power for defense purposes. Eight years later, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 permitted the development of commercial nuclear power. The Act directed the AEC to perform two occasionally competing functions: encourage the use of nuclear power and regulate its safety.

Recognizing this conflict, Congress divided these functions between two different agencies in the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974. The Energy Reorganization Act abolished the AEC and divided its regulatory and promotional responsibilities between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Energy Research and Development Administration (which soon became the Department of Energy), respectively. The NRC began operating as an independent entity on January 19, 1975.<sup>1</sup>

### B. Organization of the NRC

Two pieces of legislation dictate the current organization of the NRC, including the roles and responsibilities of both commissioners and certain senior staff: the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, which created the NRC, and a law passed shortly after the accident at Three Mile Island, the Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980. They are codified and supplemented within the NRC in the Internal Commission Procedures.

#### 1. Energy Reorganization Act of 1974

The Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 laid the foundation for the structure and functions of the newly established NRC. It created a five member commission, with one commissioner selected by the President to serve as chairman. The Act also defined the roles and responsibilities of each commissioner:

Each member of the Commission, including the Chairman, shall have **equal responsibility and authority** in all decisions and actions of the Commission, shall have **full access to all information** relating to the performance of his duties or responsibilities, and shall have **one vote**. Action of the Commission shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission website, "History," available at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/history.html> (last visited Dec. 7, 2011).

<sup>2</sup>42 U.S.C. § 5841 (2006) (emphasis added).

The Act also addressed the unique responsibilities of the Chairman, such as speaking on behalf of the Commission and executing the policies and decisions of the Commission:

The Chairman (or Acting Chairman in the absence of the Chairman) shall be the **official spokesman** of the Commission in its relations with the Congress, Government agencies, persons, or the public, and on behalf of the Commission, shall see to the **faithful execution of the policies and decisions of the Commission** ....<sup>3</sup>

In addition, the Chairman has certain administrative duties:

[The Chairman] shall be the principal executive officer of the Commission, and he shall **exercise all of the executive and administrative functions of the Commission**, including functions of the commission with respect to (a) the appointment and supervision of personnel employed under the Commission ..., (b) the distribution of business among such personnel and among administrative units of the Commission, and (c) the use and expenditure of funds.<sup>4</sup>

While the Chairman is charged with exercising functions related to “the use and expenditure of funds,”<sup>5</sup> some funds-related functions remained with the Commission:

There are hereby reserved to the Commission its functions with respect to revising budget estimates and with respect to **determining upon the distribution of appropriated funds according to major programs and purposes**.<sup>6</sup>

Congress took care to establish that in carrying out any of these functions, the Chairman is still bound by the will of the Commission:

**[The Chairman] shall be governed by general policies of the Commission** and by such regulatory decisions, findings, and determinations as the Commission may by law be authorized to make.<sup>7</sup>

The Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 also created several offices within the NRC and specified the relationship between the directors of those offices and the Commission. The Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, for example, was to be appointed by the Commission, report directly to the Commission, and serve at the pleasure of the Commission.<sup>8</sup> The same is true for the Directors of the Office of Nuclear Material and Safeguards and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.<sup>9</sup> The Act also provides for the appointment of an

---

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added)

<sup>7</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 5841 (2006).

<sup>8</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 5843 (2007).

<sup>9</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 5844-5845 (2007).

Executive Director, by the Commission, to perform such functions as the Commission may direct.

## 2. Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980

Within five years of the establishment of the NRC, management challenges were already evident at the Commission. Three studies of NRC operations,<sup>10</sup> in concert with lessons learned from the accident at Three Mile Island, demonstrated that “the current diffused management structure of the Commission has contributed to the failure by the NRC to adequately address safety issues.”<sup>11</sup> Further, the reports emphasized that “no one is accountable for running the agency.”<sup>12</sup>

*President Carter proposed an expansion of the Chairman's authority.*

To address these and other concerns, President Carter submitted his Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980 (Reorganization Plan) to Congress on March 27, 1980.<sup>13</sup> In a message to Congress, President Carter explained:

The need for more effective management of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has been amply demonstrated over the past year. The accident at Three Mile Island one year ago revealed serious shortcomings in the agency's ability to respond effectively during a crisis. The lessons learned from that accident go beyond crisis management, however. They provide the impetus for improving the effectiveness of all aspects of the government regulation of nuclear energy.<sup>14</sup>

To accomplish the stated objective of improving the NRC's overall effectiveness, the President's plan was designed to clarify the role of the Commission while strengthening the authority of the Chairman to act as the principle executive officer responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the NRC and the Commission's response to an emergency. It reaffirmed that “the Commission, acting on majority vote, represents the ultimate authority of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and sets the framework within which the Chairman operates.”<sup>15</sup>

In addition, President Carter's plan strengthened the role of the Executive Director of Operations (EDO) by moving the position under the supervision of the Chairman and making the EDO responsible for executing the day-to-day operations of the NRC. The President summarized his intent when the plan was delivered to Congress:

---

<sup>10</sup> These studies included a report by a commission requested by the President (the “Kemeny Commission”), a study conducted at the NRC's request (the “Rogovin Report”), and a GAO report (“The Nuclear Regulatory Commission: More Aggressive Leadership Needed”).

<sup>11</sup> H.R. Rep. No. 896-1043 (1980) at 3 [hereinafter House Report].

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> PL 98-614.

<sup>14</sup> House Report at App. 1, 16.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

[The Plan would] permit the Commission and the American people to hold one individual—the Chairman—accountable for implementation of the Commission’s policies through effective management of the Commission staff. Freed of management and administrative details, the Commission could then concentrate on the purpose for which that collegial body was created – to deliberate on the formulation of policy and rules to govern nuclear safety and to decide or oversee disposition of individual cases.<sup>16</sup>

*Stakeholders expressed concerns about the Chairman’s expanded authority.*

As Congress considered President Carter’s plan, Commissioners, Members of Congress, and external stakeholders expressed concerns about the proposed changes. Many questioned how a more powerful Chairman would affect the Commission’s ability to function as a collegial body. One Commissioner testified that:

[The Reorganization Plan] will lead to friction and distrust within the Commission and may well direct the Commission’s attention away from nuclear safety and enmesh the Commission in time-consuming debates about the prerogatives of the Chairman and the full Commission, and the right of individual members to have access to information to which the Chairman has access. Under the plan, the Chairman’s role will no longer depend on the acceptance of the other members; his preeminent powers will often enable him to act without regard to their wishes.<sup>17</sup>

The robust debate triggered by President’s Carter’s plan focused on whether the Chairman’s expanded powers would negatively affect his interactions with his fellow Commissioners to the detriment of the NRC’s mission. The concerns of Congress, NRC Commissioners and other stakeholders contemplated the scenario in which a rogue Chairman would use his preeminent powers to force his personal agenda on the Commission. Specifically, concerns about expanding the Chairman’s authority centered on four potential areas of abuse:

- **Information flow.** Equal access to information among Commissioners with equal voting rights was considered fundamental. The Reorganization Plan positioned the Chairman to withhold and otherwise manipulate information meant to inform the Commission’s decisions. There was concern that a rogue Chairman could control information flow to enforce his own prerogatives.
- **Influence over the staff.** The Reorganization Plan expanded the Chairman’s supervisory and reporting authority over the staff of the agency. This would have allowed the Chairman to control the early stage of policy development by the staff, in addition to the

---

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

<sup>17</sup> Hearing Testimony before the S. Comm. on Gov’t Affairs, “Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, to Strengthen Management of the NRC, Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 903,” 96th Cong. (April 17, 18, and 29, 1980) at 130 [hereinafter S. Hearings (1980)].

later stage of policy execution and enforcement. It was feared that a Chairman with a policy agenda would use his role to hinder, rather than foster, increased Commission involvement in nuclear safety policy.

- **Opportunity to undermine the will of the Commission.** The Reorganization Plan opened the door for a rogue Chairman to undermine the will of the Commission through his expanded authority. Especially in cases where the majority of the Commission opposes the Chairman, the management efficiencies sought by the Reorganization Plan would be lost if the Commission was forced to constantly defend the majority will against a Chairman bent on implementing a personal agenda.
- **Collegiality.** A powerful Chairman threatened to undermine the collegial structure of the Commission. The preservation of a collegial body was intended to safeguard against over-politicization of the agency and abrupt change in regulatory decisions. A powerful Chairman could compromise the independence of the NRC and integrity of an open, deliberative collegial process.

*President Carter's Reorganization Plan was amended to address stakeholder concerns about a rogue Chairman.*

In response to these and other concerns, the President submitted an amended version of his plan to Congress. The House Report summarized the plan's key changes:<sup>18</sup>

- (1) The Commission will have a greater role in the selection of key program officers. Four additional positions are included in the list of appointments initiated by the Chairman for the Commission's advice and consent. In addition appointments to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards can be initiated by any one of the Commissioners or by the Chairman.
- (2) The duty of the Chairman and Executive Director of Operations to keep the Commission fully and currently informed is made explicit.
- (3) The Chairman is charged with responsibility for planning the development of policy for consideration and approval by the Commission.
- (4) The Chairman is required to delegate to the Executive Director of Operations responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the Agency.

Over the past three decades, the Reorganization Plan, as amended, has mostly served the NRC well. Previous Chairmen, with one notable exception, have generally adhered to the collegial spirit and intent of the Reorganization Plan.<sup>19</sup> Chairman Gregory Jaczko, however, has strong views on the authorities granted to the Chairman and, unlike his predecessors, relies on

<sup>18</sup> House Report, at 2.

<sup>19</sup> The notable exception is the tenure of former Chairman Shirley Jackson. For a discussion of the controversy that surrounded her leadership, see *infra* section V.B.

his unique interpretation of the Reorganization Plan to control the operations of the NRC. Documents and witness testimony show that Chairman Jaczko has used the authority and responsibilities entrusted to him in ways that make those who first raised concerns in 1980 seem prescient.

## V. The Significance of the Commission Structure

The various reviews completed prior to the submission of the Reorganization Plan concluded that the NRC could resolve its management challenges if it were transformed into an agency led by a single administrator. At the time, the NRC suffered from a diffuse management structure with no clear lines of authority. Staff were forced to treat requests from individual commissioners equally. This burdened the staff as they attempted to wade through hundreds of duplicative requests with no clear direction or prioritization. It was therefore concluded that a single administrator would be better positioned to provide the staff with clear direction while providing a source of accountability for the execution of the NRC's mission.

### A. Congress and the White House rejected the single administrator model

President Carter and Congress both rejected the notion of a single administrator in favor of preserving the NRC's traditional structure as an independent and collegial body. The Senate report provided four justifications for preserving that structure:

Decisions will be insulated from partisan political considerations and will be made, to as great an extent as possible, on the merits after full and fair consideration .... [C]ommission decisions shall not, either directly or indirectly, be subject to Executive Branch review or approval.<sup>20</sup>

\* \* \*

A multi-member body – whose members serve for set terms expiring at staggered intervals – provides stability for regulatory policy, an assurance that major directions will evolve over time. Decisions by agencies such as the NRC have a direct, often critically important impact on the industry and on the public welfare. In an area as sensitive as regulation of nuclear power, it is important to guarantee against abrupt change. . . .<sup>21</sup>

\* \* \*

A collegial setting positively contributes to well-reasoned, carefully deliberated decisions.<sup>22</sup>

---

<sup>20</sup> S. Rep. No. 96-790 (1980) at 5.

<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> *Id.* at 6.

\* \* \*

The NRC – like every other independent regulatory commission – has a unique relationship with Congress. The heart of the agency’s jurisdiction is the exercise of what is legislative authority to protect the public welfare through the regulation of interstate commerce. Independent status is suggested by that delegation.<sup>23</sup>

In order to address the concerns surrounding diffuse leadership and lack of accountability within the commission structure, the Reorganization Plan strengthened the role of the Chairman as the principle executive officer and the role of the Executive Director of Operations, through the Chairman, to execute the Commission’s policy direction and manage the day-to-day operations of the agency. Supporters of the Reorganization Plan believed that:

Establishing a strong chairman will enable the Congress and the public, as well as the other Commissioners, to finally have someone who can be held accountable if the agency does not function well in implementing the policies established by the Congress and the full Commission.<sup>24</sup>

Others, however, warned that the authorities granted to the Chairman went too far and would open the door for that person to undermine the intent of the collegial structure by pushing a policy agenda. Representative Anthony “Toby” Moffett, a well-known critic of nuclear power at the time, recognized the critical importance of maintaining a collegial environment at the NRC. In testimony before the House Committee on Government Operations, Rep. Moffett warned that:

To some people collegiality is an abstraction. To those familiar with the workings of this and other regulatory agencies, it is a very, very tangible asset. It is an important guarantee against policymaking by any one individual who is not adequately accountable to the Congress and to the public.<sup>25</sup>

#### **B. Chairman Jaczko's management style resembles the single administrator model**

Until Chairman Jaczko’s tenure, there had been little controversy over a Chairman’s interpretation of the authority granted under the Reorganization Plan. In fact, in the past 30 years, only one other Chairman has challenged the interpretation of the Reorganization Plan. In the late 1990’s, Chairman Shirley Anne Jackson held a similar view of her authorities as does Chairman Jaczko. Chairman Jackson’s interpretation of her authority created friction with her colleagues on the Commission. Current NRC Deputy Executive Director of Operations Martin Virgilio served as Chairman Jackson’s Chief of Staff. He stated:

---

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 95.

<sup>25</sup> *Id.* at 15.

Okay I have worked for the agency for 34 years. I've worked in a number of different capacities. I've worked in the commission offices. I was chief of staff to Chairman Shirley Jackson. That would have been in the 1996/1997 time frame. **Chairman Jackson took a strict interpretation of the reorganization plan of 1980; I would say not to the degree that Chairman Jaczko has taken it.** But she believed that that was the way the organization should be run, that the Chairman ought to be responsible for presenting policy to the commission, that the Chairman ought to be responsible for ensuring that the staff is following the commission's policy.

**It caused a lot of, I think, friction between her and the other Commissioners at the time. And likewise, I see the same kind of friction today,** maybe to a different degree, maybe to a whole different level than what I experienced in the 1997 time frame working for Chairman Jackson.<sup>26</sup>

In the wake of Chairman Jackson's tenure, in December of 1999 the NRC's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued a report that found, "Commission members, from time to time, have different interpretations of the [Reorganization Plan], which can adversely affect the Commission's collegiality."<sup>27</sup>

Chairman Jaczko's interpretation of the scope of his authorities far exceeds that of his predecessors and more closely aligns with the concept of a single administrator. An evaluation of his actions in light of Congress's clear preference for a Commission structure illustrates the extent to which Chairman Jaczko has betrayed the public trust. His actions have undermined congressional and presidential intent with regard to the NRC's independence, its responsibility to provide consistent regulation of the nuclear industry, and its ability to function as a collegial body.

#### 1. The Chairman compromised the independence of the NRC.

The NRC was designed to function as an independent regulatory agency, sheltered from political considerations. During congressional hearings about the Reorganization Plan in 1980, witnesses testified that the proposed reorganization of the NRC risked compromising the independence of the Commission. A senior scientist for the Natural Resources Defense Council, Thomas Cochran, observed, "This proposed plan, if enacted, would greatly exacerbate [the Department of Energy's control over NRC appointments and policy] and would allow essentially the Department of Energy to run the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provided the Department of Energy had the ear of the President."<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> Transcribed Interview of NRC Deputy Exec. Dir. of Operations Martin Virgilio by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Staff, Aug. 11, 2011, Transcript at 6. (emphasis added) [hereinafter Virgilio Tr.]

<sup>27</sup> NRC Office of the Inspector General Report No. OIG/99E-09, "Special Evaluation of the Role and Structure of the NRC's Commission" (Dec. 23, 1999) at i.

<sup>28</sup> S. Hearings (1980), at 74.

At the time, Commissioner Victor Gilinsky also noted the importance of a Chairman's ability to preserve the independence of the NRC. He testified:

We sometimes get put in a position where we have to take a position opposed to that of some other departments of Government. We regulate activities of the Department of Energy. There are some tough decisions ahead and he has to be comfortable playing the role of independent safety regulator.<sup>29</sup>

Over the past three decades, the NRC has largely avoided the concerns raised by Mr. Cochran and Commissioner Gilinsky. While not immune to controversy, the agency has certainly developed a reputation as an independent regulator. One Chief of Staff explained: **"I've been with the agency for 15 years, and I view the NRC as being a bunch of apolitical nerds outside the beltway doing nuclear issues."**<sup>30</sup>

President Obama's designation of then-Commissioner Jaczko as Chairman of the NRC in May of 2009 raised concerns about the NRC's ability to preserve its independence. Individuals both inside and outside the NRC perceived this a political favor to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid – Chairman Jaczko's former boss and a long-time opponent of the proposed nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada.<sup>31</sup> At the time of his designation, the Obama Administration had started the process of winding down the Yucca Mountain Program at the Department of Energy. Within months of assuming his new position, the administration announced plans to terminate the DOE program and withdraw the license application from the NRC.<sup>32</sup>

Over the course of the following year, despite the fact that the license application remained active before the NRC, through subtle actions and interpretations of his authority, Chairman Jaczko succeeded in terminating the NRC staff's technical review of the license application.<sup>33</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> S. Hearings (1980), at 169.

<sup>30</sup> Transcribed Interview of Ho Nieh, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Ostendorff, by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Staff, Aug. 9, 2011, Transcript at 29 (emphasis added) [hereinafter Nieh Tr.].

<sup>31</sup> In 1987, Congress amended the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA), designating Yucca Mountain in Nevada as the only site available for consideration by the Department of Energy (DOE), to site, construct and operate a permanent geologic repository for the Nation's spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high level waste (HLW). In 2002, Congress and the President approved Yucca Mountain as the site for the proposed repository. After nearly two decades of research, debate, and preparation, in June 2008, DOE submitted a license application to construct and operate the proposed repository to the NRC for its review. For more information on Yucca Mountain, see GAO Report, "Commercial Nuclear Waste: Effects of a Termination of the Yucca Mountain Repository Program and Lessons Learned" Report No., GAO-11-229 (April 8, 2011) available at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11229.pdf>.

<sup>32</sup> Peter Behr, E&E News, "Regulation: NRC commissioner says Obama's closure of Yucca Mountain distorts science and agency's role", (March 10, 2010) available at <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2010/03/10/6>

<sup>33</sup> For a more thorough evaluation of the events leading up to the Chairman's direction that the staff stop work on the technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application, see NRC OIG Report, "NRC Chairman's Unilateral Decision to Terminate NRC's Review of DOE Yucca Mountain Repository License Application," Report No. 11-05 (Jun. 6, 2011). [hereinafter 2011 OIG Report]

*The Chairman inappropriately pressured fellow Democrats to support his position on Yucca Mountain.*

Documents and witness testimony obtained by the Committee show that doubts about Chairman Jaczko's interest in preserving the independence of the NRC were not unfounded. The Committee learned through documents and witness testimony that Chairman Jaczko and his staff repeatedly inserted politics into discussions with other Commissioners or their staff about Yucca Mountain.

Following the Chairman's direction to the staff to halt work on the Yucca Mountain license application, a majority of the Commissioners believed that the change in program direction was a policy decision that was appropriate for the consideration of the full Commission. In order to provide the staff with clear policy direction, the Commission began voting on an Action Memorandum (COM) initiated by Commissioner Ostendorff.<sup>34</sup>

Commissioners Magwood and Apostolakis supported Ostendorff's COM, but they had reservations about some of the details. These two offices worked together to come to agreement on a middle ground. Prior to submitting their votes on the COM, they shared their position with Chairman Jaczko. In written testimony produced to the NRC OIG, Commissioner William Magwood stated:

I met with Chairman Jaczko that afternoon and found him very agitated. He indicated that he didn't believe that this was a matter the Commission should engage and stated that what we were doing would undermine him as Chairman. He said that he would call the White House or members of the Congress to discuss the matter, which I didn't take seriously.<sup>35</sup>

Staff from Commissioner Magwood's and Apostolakis's offices testified that during negotiations related to the Ostendorff COM, the Chairman's Chief of Staff suggested that the Democrats needed to "stick together."<sup>36</sup> Patrice Bubar, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Magwood, stated:

Well, I think that Commissioner Ostendorff and Commissioner Svinicki were philosophically lining up, not necessarily because they were Republicans, but I think they were philosophically aligned. I think . . .

---

<sup>34</sup> Action Memoranda (COMs) are written exchanges between Commissioners on matters before the agency or that a Commissioner wants to bring to the attention of their colleagues. Certain senior staff may also use this process to seek guidance from the Commission however Action Memoranda drafted by the staff are labeled COMSECY. A Commissioner or Commissioners will provide this in writing to their colleagues. It then goes through a formal written voting process. Once all votes are in, the SECY drafts a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM), which is then subject to additional review and approval by a majority of the Commissioner before it is finalized. For the easiest of COMs, the process is quite involved and time-consuming. For more contentious COMs, the process becomes lengthy and burdensome. For more on COMs and NRC Decision Documents, see Chapter II, Internal Commission Procedures, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, *available at* <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/policy-making/internal.html>.

<sup>35</sup> Written Statement of Commissioner William Magwood to the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Nov. 19, 2010).

<sup>36</sup> Transcribed Interview of Patrice Bubar, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Magwood, by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Staff, Jul. 26, 2011, Transcript at 180 [hereinafter Bubar Tr.].

that there was some discussions that the three Democrats should try to stick together.<sup>37</sup>

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko and his staff used political considerations to try to influence other Democratic Commissioners' votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain.**

Belkys Sosa, Chief of Staff to Commissioner George Apostolakis, testified that the fracturing along political lines triggered by the Chairman's Office was not limited to the Commissioners' level:

The Ostendorff COM had to do with the discussion about . . . what they want, and . . . what the Republicans want versus what Democrats want. It was a conversation going along those lines. Again, this is at our level, not anything that..necessarily got sent to my boss. It's just conversation between us at this level.<sup>38</sup>

Other witnesses interviewed by the Committee testified that Commissioner Magwood's decision to vote "Not Participating" on the Ostendorff COM was prompted by political pressure from the Chairman. Ho Nieh stated:

[O]ne Commissioner stated to Commissioner Ostendorff - and his staff confirmed this with me as well - that I couldn't support it because there was too much political pressure . . . that the chairman was holding over me for that. And that was Commissioner Magwood. Again, Commissioner Magwood did not say this to me, but I was informed of that through a discussion with my principal, Commissioner Ostendorff. And Commissioner Magwood's chief of staff also provided me that same type of communication.<sup>39</sup>

\*\*\*

Commissioner Ostendorff, he told me that - he said, yeah, I got a call from Bill Magwood. I'm not able to participate . . . Greg is putting too much political pressure on me on this one. I don't feel that came out in the [IG] report.<sup>40</sup>

*The Chairman's Chief of Staff suggested that a Democratic Commissioner should be concerned that his vote on a matter related to Yucca Mountain might leak and be viewed as not supporting the Administration.*

---

<sup>37</sup> Bubar Tr. at 180.

<sup>38</sup> Transcribed Interview of Belkys Sosa, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Apostolakis, by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Staff, Aug. 4, 2011, Transcript at 149 [hereinafter Sosa Tr.].

<sup>39</sup> Nieh Tr. at 8.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.* at 11.

Following the failure of the Ostendorff COM, Commissioner Magwood issued a similar COM in a renewed attempt to provide the staff with clear policy direction from the Commission.<sup>41</sup> In January of 2011, two months after Commissioner Magwood had circulated the COM to his colleagues, the Commission had started voting on a draft Staff Requirements Memorandum. Commissioner Magwood, in the interest of collegiality, instructed his staff to share a draft of his vote with the Chairman's Office.<sup>42</sup>

In an email to Commissioner Magwood's legal counsel, his Chief of Staff, Patrice Bubar, described the reaction she received from the Chairman's Chief of Staff, Josh Batkin. Ms. Bubar wrote that Josh was "angry and disappointed."<sup>43</sup> Batkin further pointed out that Commissioner Magwood, a Democrat, may want to consider his vote might be seen as unsupportive of the administration if it were leaked.<sup>44</sup>

**From:** Bubar, Patrice  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:58 AM  
**To:** Ammon, Bernice  
**Subject:** Fw: CR SRM  
**Attachments:** comwdm-10-0001 srm-wdm comments.docx

Attached is the Commissioners proposed vote on the COM. I shared and discussed with the Chairmans office. Josh of course was angry and disappointed. His feedback ranged from concern that the staff is confused to questioning if WDM would be concerned that his vote might be leak and he would be seen as not supporting the administration. KLS office asked what our vote would be. I told them I should have some substantive information to share today. No one beside the Chairman has voted. KLS office advised that 18th floor is looking to WDM to vote in a way that is "non partisan" so to speak.

**FINDING:** Chairman Jaczko's Chief of Staff suggested that Commissioner Magwood, a Democrat appointed by President Obama, should be concerned that his vote in favor of an Action Memorandum (COM) that would have continued work on Yucca Mountain might leak and be viewed as a lack of support for the Administration.

Despite multiple examples where other offices noted examples of political influence from the Chairman's office, the Chairman's Chief of Staff told the Committee that partisanship had no place in NRC proceedings:

The Commission is not – should not be political in the sense of looking to parties for how to do their jobs and for the decisions that they make. . . . I don't think that your vote should be partisan, your actions should be

<sup>41</sup> Action Memorandum, COMWDM-10-0001, "Commission Policy Formulation – Staff Activities Related to the Continuing Resolution and Follow-on Congressional Guidance," (Nov. 12, 2010).

<sup>42</sup> It is common practice for Commissioners to share draft votes in an effort to work with their colleagues to find a consensus.

<sup>43</sup> E-mail from Patrice Bubar to Bernice Ammon (Jan. 4, 2011).

<sup>44</sup> *Id.*

partisan at the Commission level. . . . I don't think that partisan political politics should be part of a Commissioner's decision making process.<sup>45</sup>

The actions of the Chairman and his staff during negotiations on the COMs related to Yucca Mountain appear to contradict the testimony of his Chief of Staff.

Whether or not these actions by the Chairman's office influenced the other Commissioners' votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain, this type of behavior further undermines the public's ability to trust that the Chairman's actions are those of an independent safety regulator.

## 2. The Chairman has failed to provide consistent regulation

One of the purposes of the Commission's structure is to provide consistent regulation of the nuclear industry to "guarantee against abrupt change."<sup>46</sup> In an area as important and complex as nuclear power, it is important that regulatory decisions evolve over time and consider the potentially significant influence these decisions can have on industry and the public welfare.<sup>47</sup>

Documents and testimony show that Chairman Jaczko has, at times, disregarded this purpose. His decision to terminate the NRC's technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application is a well-publicized example of that disregard. By unilaterally terminating the technical review of the license application, the Chairman created confusion, both internally and externally, and raised questions about the independence of the NRC's actions.<sup>48</sup>

An equally contentious and important example emerged following the accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant (Fukushima) in March of 2011.

*The Chairman ignored senior NRC staff and his colleagues to force action on the recommendations of the near-term task force report.*

On March 11, 2011, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake that originated off the coast of Honshu Island, 231 miles northeast of Tokyo, struck Japan. The earthquake triggered a massive tsunami that overwhelmed the coast of Japan within minutes. This tandem of natural disasters inflicted tremendous physical, emotional, and economic damage on the nation and precipitated what would become one of the worst nuclear accidents in history.

In response to the tragic events in Japan and resulting crisis at Fukushima, the NRC took steps to examine the potential need for improvements to the United States regulatory framework.

---

<sup>45</sup> Transcribed Interview of Joshua Batkin, Chief of Staff to Chairman Gregory Jaczko, by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Staff, Aug. 10, 2011, Transcript at 162-163 [hereinafter Batkin Tr.].

<sup>46</sup> S. Rep. No. 96-790 (1980) at 5.

<sup>47</sup> *Id.*

<sup>48</sup> The other Commissioners had ample opportunity – for example through votes on the COMs issued by Commissioner Ostendorff and Commissioner Magwood – to disagree with the Chairman's direction and provide new policy direction to the staff. Their failure to act on these COMs only added to the confusion and, through inaction, allowed the Chairman's decision to remain the policy of the Commission.

In a March 23, 2011, tasking memorandum to the Executive Director of Operations, the Commission instructed:

The staff should establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of our processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction.<sup>49</sup>

The memorandum directed the staff to conduct both a near-term and longer-term review. For the near term review, the staff was instructed to evaluate available information from the events in Japan and “identify potential or preliminary near term/immediate operational or regulatory issues affecting domestic operating reactors of all designs.”<sup>50</sup> The near-term task force was to provide their recommendations in a report to the Commission within 90 days. This near term effort would be followed by a more robust longer-term review, resulting in a report to the Commission within six months.<sup>51</sup>

As the individuals responsible for establishing and supervising the task force, the Deputy Executive Director for Operations, Martin Virgilio, and Executive Director for Operations, William Borchardt, received drafts of the report in early July as well as an early draft of the paper that would transmit the report to the Commission as a voting matter.<sup>52</sup> While they had no influence over the contents of the report, they were responsible for delivering it to the Commission for a vote.<sup>53</sup>

After reviewing the report and the draft paper that would deliver the report to the Commission for consideration, both the Mr. Virgilio and Mr. Borchardt believed that the NRC should solicit input from a broader range of internal and external stakeholders prior to taking action on any of the recommendations in the report.<sup>54</sup> Several factors influenced their view. The most important consideration was a critical conclusion of the task force regarding current safety of U.S. plants:

The current regulatory approach, and more importantly, the resultant plant capabilities allow the Task Force to conclude that a sequence of events like the Fukushima accident is unlikely to occur in the United States and some appropriate mitigation measures have been implemented, reducing the likelihood of core damage and radiological releases. Therefore,

---

<sup>49</sup> Tasking Memorandum from Chairman Gregory Jaczko to Exec. Dir. of Operations William Borchardt, COMGBJ-11-0002 “NRC Actions Following the Events in Japan” (Mar. 23, 2011), available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/comm-secy/2011/2011-0002comgbj-srm.pdf>.

<sup>50</sup> *Id.*

<sup>51</sup> *Id.*

<sup>52</sup> Consistent with the Commission direction in the March 23, 2011 tasking memorandum.

<sup>53</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 12.

<sup>54</sup> *Id.* at 13. See also, Transcribed Interview of NRC Exec. Dir. for Operations William Borchardt by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov’t Reform Staff, Jul. 27, 2011, Transcript at 87. [hereinafter Borchardt Tr.]

continued operation and continued licensing activities do not pose an imminent risk to public health and safety.<sup>55</sup>

In light of this conclusion, Mr. Virgilio and Mr. Borchardt considered the breadth of the recommendations included in the report and the fact that the near-term report was the independent product of just seven individuals at the NRC. It had not undergone a formal review by the NRC technical staff. Also, consistent with the direction in the March 23 tasking memorandum, external stakeholders did not have the opportunity to contribute or provide input to the task force.<sup>56</sup> Executive Director for Operations William Borchardt stated:

When the task force had prepared an initial draft of the transmittal memo from me to the Commission, after we looked at it, after Marty and I looked at it, it missed what I thought was an important element, which was my feeling that, before the agency went forward with implementing any of these recommendations, it would be worthwhile to get a wide range of stakeholder input as to whether these were good ideas, bad ideas, what the cost would be. . . many different factors.<sup>57</sup>

\* \* \*

Timeliness was very important early on. But before we impose requirements, change regulations, I think that it is valuable to get input on had we missed something. Are there people who think there ought to be recommendation 13 and 14 in addition to the 12 the group came up with? And, conversely, are there recommendations that are overly ambitious or. . . have gone to an area that is overkill for the issue that we are trying to fix? And that it is worthwhile getting that input now before the Commission makes the policy decisions about which issues to move forward on.<sup>58</sup>

Deputy Executive Director for Operations Martin Virgilio, who was responsible for supervising the task force, testified that he “wanted to see a thoughtful approach to proceeding forward.”<sup>59</sup> Specifically, he believed that the agency needed to consider portions of what he referred to as the “cumulative effects of regulation.”<sup>60</sup> Virgilio stated:

[We recently submitted another voting paper] to the commission that spoke to this notion of cumulative effects of regulation . . . we're

---

<sup>55</sup> Dr. Charles Miller, et al. “Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Accident” (July 12, 2011) *available at*, <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1118/ML111861807.pdf>.

<sup>56</sup> Tasking Memorandum from Chairman Gregory Jaczko to Exec. Dir. of Operations William Borchardt, COMGBJ-11-0002 “NRC Actions Following the Events in Japan” (Mar. 23, 2011), *available at* <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/comm-secy/2011/2011-0002comgbj-srm.pdf>.

<sup>57</sup> Borchardt Tr. at 87.

<sup>58</sup> *Id.* at 102.

<sup>59</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 13.

<sup>60</sup> *Id.*

recommending that as we move forward in time, we look at the collective body of requirements that we are imposing on the industry and we try to work in a way that helps prioritize those requirements at any given point in time as industry implements new requirements and that as we develop the requirements, we work very closely with all the stakeholders, the public and the industry, to make sure that their interests are included in the requirements that we promulgate.<sup>61</sup>

Initially, Chairman Jaczko shared the staff's opinion that the Commission would benefit from greater stakeholder participation. In a July 9, 2011 email, Mr. Virgilio summarized an agreement that had been reached with the Chairman the day before:<sup>62</sup>

<b>From:</b>	Virgilio, Martin
<b>Sent:</b>	Saturday, July 09, 2011 1:27 PM
<b>To:</b>	Vlatti-Cook, Annette
<b>Cc:</b>	Laufer, Richard; Bovol, Rochelle; Coggins, Angela; Batkin, Joshua; Bowman, Gregory
<b>Subject:</b>	The near term Task Force Report

Annette

On Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, Bill and I met with the Chairman on path forward related to the near term task force report. It was agreed that staff will begin developing a road map and more detailed action plan to implement the recommendations contained in the report in parallel with the voting process. We will provide the report to the Commission on the 19<sup>th</sup> for their review and approval (notation vote). We will provide the roadmap to the Commission via memo on the 15<sup>th</sup> and supplement the SECY forwarding the Report with a series of (4 or more) memos to the Commission with the staff's proposed approach for implementation, that would follow the roadmap and be based on stakeholder input and staff analysis. Note that there are 24 near term actions being recommended. We will attempt to logically group them into manageable chunks and address implementation for the group in these (4 or more) supplemental memos. The timing for these additional memos would depend on the availability of resources to do the work.

In your view, what would be the best way to proceed in a way that ties this altogether and facilitates early Commission decision and direction?

Marty

By the following week, however, the Chairman had withdrawn his support for the opinion shared by the agency's two most experienced employees and was actively working against their recommendation for greater stakeholder involvement. On July 12, 2011, he forced the staff to withdraw a signed copy of the SECY paper that delivered the near-term task force report to the Commission for consideration because it included staff's suggestion that the NRC consider obtaining broader stakeholder input before acting on the recommendations of the report.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>61</sup> *Id.*

<sup>62</sup> Email from Martin Virgilio to Gregory Jaczko, Chairman, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (July 9, 2011).

<sup>63</sup> It is important to note that the staff, based on their discussions with the Chairman, had specifically excluded this suggestion from the "Recommendations" section of the SECY paper. The only Recommendation included in the SECY paper was "The EDO recommends that the Commission review the Task Force report and provide direction on specific Task Force recommendations."

On July 15, 2011, despite the fact that the Commission had requested that staff provide a proposed “roadmap” to guide the review of the recommendations of the task force report, the Chairman forced staff to present his alternative plan. The Chairman’s plan included a 90-day review and limited stakeholder involvement in a series of Commission meetings.<sup>64</sup> This was in stark contrast to what Commissioners expected. Based on their conversations with staff following the staff’s July 8 meeting with the Chairman, the Commissioners anticipated a roadmap that included a more fulsome review of the task force recommendations. Jeffrey Sharkey, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Kristine Svinicki, stated:

My understanding was a staff-developed road map was going to be provided to the Commission that would lay out a process where the recommendations in the report would be provided to the steering committee for the longer term review for a more fulsome stakeholder engagement process, and by stakeholders, that means internal and external stakeholders, because the NRC staff, technical staff, what we call the line organization, didn't actually review the report. They were a resource available to the task force, but they didn't review the report.<sup>65</sup>

*The Chairman presented a post-Fukushima review plan publicly that had been rejected by his fellow Commissioners.*

During an agenda planning meeting on July 18, 2011, the other Commissioners informed the Chairman that they could not support his proposed road map. The Chairman gaveled down a fellow Commissioner in mid-sentence, stormed out of the meeting with his colleagues and released his plan to the public that afternoon during a scheduled appearance at the National Press Club.<sup>66</sup> When his colleagues’ votes on the near-term task force report reflected a desire for greater stakeholder involvement – consistent with the recommendations of experienced NRC staff – Chairman Jaczko accused them of stalling by focusing on process rather than the recommendations of the report.

At an August 2nd hearing before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, he once again highlighted his plan for a 90-day review, reinforcing the impression that his colleagues were the ones delaying action on the Task Force recommendations through their focus on process:

Sen. Sanders: Chairman Jaczko, is the process now ready to go? Where is the confusion then? What am I missing here?

---

<sup>64</sup> Agenda Planning Materials, “Roadmap for Commission Decision Making and Obtaining Stakeholder Input on the Near-Term Task Force’s Recommendations.” (July 15, 2011).

<sup>65</sup> Transcribed Interview of Jeffrey Sharkey, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Svinicki, by H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov’t Reform Staff (Aug. 5, 2011) Transcript at 24 [hereinafter Sharkey Tr.].

<sup>66</sup> For a more detailed description of these events, see *infra*.

Chairman Jaczko: Well I think there's a bit of a – we're kind of stuck I think on developing the process rather than just moving forward to actually begin the discussion and the dialogue on the recommendations.

Right now what we're talking about is the process to have that discussion and unfortunately. . . . certainly with the exception of Commissioner Ostendorff most of my colleagues have weighed in about the process and not about specific. . . .

Sen. Sanders: And what are the differences of opinion with regard to process, is that how. . . ?

Chairman Jaczko: Well I think I – they're not severe. I think they're minor but I think a big difference is setting an expectation for when we can get completed.<sup>67</sup>

It is worth noting that at the time of Chairman Jaczko's testimony before the Senate, he was able to provide this perspective because all of his colleagues had voted.<sup>68</sup> Despite his calls to move quickly on the recommendations, he did not submit his vote until August 9, 2011 – only after his colleagues had denied his request for an extension.<sup>69</sup>

When he did vote on August 9, he once again criticized his colleagues' focus on process:

Rather than voting directly on the Task Force's recommendations, my colleagues have instead elected to vote proposals outlining their own approach to managing the process. As I have indicated on many prior occasions, I believe this is a result of a flawed voting system that encourages the Commission to sidestep the actual substantive policy issues presented, and this current situation is just one more example.<sup>70</sup>

**FINDING: When Chairman Jaczko did not get the support of his fellow Commissioners for a post-Fukushima review roadmap proposal, he stormed out of an agenda planning meeting and announced his plan at a speech at the National Press Club.**

<sup>67</sup> *Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Nuclear Reactor Safety Report Before the S. Subcomm. On Clean Air and Nuclear Safety and the S. Comm. on Env't and Public Works*, 112th Cong. 32 (2011).

<sup>68</sup> Commission Voting Record, SECY-11-0093, "NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN" (Aug. 19, 2011), available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/cvr/2011/2011-0093vtr.pdf>.

<sup>69</sup> Nieh Tr. at 122.

<sup>70</sup> Commission Voting Record, SECY-11-0093, "NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN" (Aug. 19, 2011), available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/cvr/2011/2011-0093vtr.pdf>.

The Chairman's colleagues were forced to vote on process because of his insistence on controlling the information that staff shared with his colleagues, the development of the SECY paper and roadmap, and his refusal to engage in collegial discussion at agenda planning.

The events at Fukushima certainly heighten the need for the NRC to carefully consider improvements that may be necessary to ensure the continued protection of the American public. The task force, however, noted that the continued operation and licensing of NRC-regulated facilities does not pose an imminent risk to public health and safety. In light of the circumstances, it would appear prudent that the recommendations of the task force, which reflect the opinions of a limited number of dedicated and experienced NRC employees, receive the benefit of broader internal and external stakeholder review to ensure they are both appropriate and adequate.

Chairman Jaczko's repeated attempts to limit the NRC's thorough evaluation of the task force recommendations in favor of a relatively quick Commission vote on the substance of the task force report are difficult to understand. During a transcribed interview, the Deputy Executive Director for Operations described his confusion about the Chairman's actions. Martin Virgilio stated:

Q. Why do you think he's so eager to get to a vote on the substance?

A. It defies me. It really does. **I wish I could understand what's going through his mind right now as to why he feels so strongly that we need to move forward without the advice of our stakeholders. That is very contrary to the way that we've operated this agency, especially with such significant decisions that are being made here.**<sup>71</sup>

### 3. The Chairman has undermined the collegial process for deliberation.

A collegial setting encourages the development of thoughtful, deliberate, and well-reasoned decisions. The importance of collegiality at the NRC cannot be understated. It extends well beyond interactions between members of the Commission to the core of the agency's operations, organizational values, and commitment to an open and collaborative work environment for all NRC employees.

Chairman Jaczko's leadership and management style undermines the NRC's longstanding commitment to maintain a collegial environment at all levels of the organization. What began as a lack of trust has devolved into a complete breakdown in collegiality between the Chairman and his colleagues on the Commission.

*The Chairman deceived his colleagues when the Commission addressed the C.R. Budget Guidance.*

---

<sup>71</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 120. (emphasis added).

The Chairman's actions with respect to Yucca Mountain, particularly the October 4, 2010 Continuing Resolution Budget Guidance Memorandum (C.R. Memorandum), eroded the trust of his colleagues on the Commission. As noted in the June 6, 2011 report by the OIG, the Chairman strategically shared varying levels of information with his colleagues in an effort to secure support for the language in the C.R. Memorandum.<sup>72</sup>

Initially, the Chairman's outreach was limited to Commissioners Apostolakis and Magwood. Chairman Jaczko shared the memo language and his intended direction to proceed with orderly closure of the NRC's technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application, but neither Commissioner had a clear understanding or knowledge of the practical implications of Chairman Jaczko's interpretation of "orderly closure."<sup>73</sup> Only after securing support from these two offices, and therefore a majority, did the Chairman's Office share the C.R. Memorandum language with Commissioner Ostendorff's office, along with a more thorough explanation of the Chairman's plans to instruct staff to stop work on the Yucca Mountain license application.

Patrice Bubar, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Magwood, explained that when she and her colleagues learned that other offices had received different information, they realized "oh, my gosh, we have been set up."<sup>74</sup> Bubar stated:

[W]e were kind of still new on the Commission and working where we trusted that the chairman was providing the information that should have been provided to allow for good decision making . . . we were trusting that these were good-faith negotiations.<sup>75</sup>

Bubar further testified that she and her colleagues on Commissioner Magwood's staff "were looking at it probably more innocently than maybe in retrospect we should have."<sup>76</sup> Bubar elaborated that this experience jaded her perception of interactions with the Chairman's office and served as a "lesson in understanding people and how and when to trust people."<sup>77</sup>

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko strategically withheld information to gain the support of his Democratic colleagues for his plan to end the staff's technical review of the Yucca Mountain license application. His actions undermined the trust of his fellow Commissioners.**

*The Chairman's gamesmanship eroded trust and collegiality among the Commissioners.*

<sup>72</sup> For more background on the Chairman's actions associated with the CR Memorandum, see the 2011 OIG Report.

<sup>73</sup> 2011 OIG Report at 15-17.

<sup>74</sup> Bubar Tr. at 24.

<sup>75</sup> *Id.* at 27.

<sup>76</sup> *Id.* at 26.

<sup>77</sup> *Id.* at 24.

Over time, Chairman's tactics resulted in a complete breakdown in trust and collegiality between his Office and his fellow Commissioners. Witnesses interviewed by the Committee testified that the four Commissioners Offices work very well together but there is a complete lack of trust between them and the Chairman's Office. Jeffrey Sharkey, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Svinicki, explained that trust between the Commissioners is important to facilitating effective communication:

[S]peaking as a member of the NRC staff, for communications to be effective, there has to be a trust relationship. We need to be able to deal in an honorable way with other individuals. That trust does not exist with the Chairman's office.<sup>78</sup>

Commissioner Apostolakis's Chief of Staff, Belkys Sosa, also noted that her interactions with the Chairman's Office have forced her to be more cautious:

[U]sually when [the other Commissioners' staffs] say something, [what they actually do] turns out to be what they said they were going to do. And with the chairman's office, that has not always been my experience. I've actually had an exchange with [the Commissioner's Chief of Staff] where . . . I said to him, you know, you're lying, and . . . he tries to explain himself, but at the end day, it was a lie. So . . . I do have to be more careful when I talk to him.<sup>79</sup>

*The Chairman's temper and management style further impeded effective communication with his colleagues.*

Rather than work with his fellow Commissioners in an open, transparent, and collegial manner, the Chairman became increasingly defiant in defending his prerogatives. For example, during an agenda planning session for the Commission's review of the near-term task force report, the Chairman stormed out on his colleagues when they disagreed with the proposal he supported. Martin Virgilio, who was present for that meeting, described the events as follows:

[I]n that meeting there was not an agreement to move forward in the way he wanted to. I think if you go to the other extreme you could find Chairmen that would have said, okay, if my proposal is not going to work let's work together. What is going to work for you all. Let's see if we can find a win in this. **But instead of looking for that win, he slammed the gavel and walked out of the room. The meeting is over. Nobody would agree with him so he slammed the gavel, got up in a huff and walked out of the room.**<sup>80</sup>

Ho Nieh, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Ostendorff, stated:

---

<sup>78</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 79.

<sup>79</sup> Sosa Tr. at 21.

<sup>80</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 118 (emphasis added).

[We] were getting to the point where the chairman was visibly frustrated at the meeting, and Commissioner Ostendorff was trying to . . . communicate what might have been helpful for him to receive, but the chairman gaveled him down at the meeting. He was just about to raise what I thought was a concern about the SECY paper that came up, which only had one paragraph. He was going to say, well, this didn't have the information I felt would have been very helpful, but the chairman just put down the gavel and walked out of the meeting. So I think we all just, kind of, were stunned. I had never seen that one happen before.<sup>81</sup>

Jeffrey Sharkey, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Svinicki, stated:

It was clear to the Chairman that all Commissioners had reservations about his approach, and they weren't supportive of at least the meetings he laid out. He gaveled the meeting closed in mid sentence as one Commissioner was talking. The Commissioner that was talking, Commissioner Ostendorff, was trying to propose what I believe was a constructive comment. The Chairman in his frustration just gaveled the meeting closed and walked out. It's that sort of thing I think that frustrates the ability of the Commission to operate in a collegial way.<sup>82</sup>

Mr. Virgilio noted that he had never seen anything like that in his 34 years at the agency.<sup>83</sup>

The Chairman only made the situation worse when, that same afternoon, he presented his roadmap to the public in a planned appearance at the National Press Club. To his colleagues on the Commission, the Chairman's decision to ignore their objections and release his plan to the public without their support was another example of his disregard for the Commission structure. Commissioner Ostendorff's Chief of Staff stated:

[T]he roadmap is then released out to the public and now it's created a situation where . . . the Commission -- there's the wedge that's put into the Commission right there. It's just put out into the public... to me, that didn't seem like something that fostered collegiality . . . . You didn't agree with my proposal; I'm going public with it.<sup>84</sup>

Jeffrey Sharkey also explained:

The Chairman got clear feedback, but nonetheless he went forward knowing he didn't have the support of his colleagues. So in terms of collegiality, those sorts of things I think create an air of or clouds the air, and it impedes clear communication among Commissioners. So why they

---

<sup>81</sup> Nieh Tr. at 54-55. (emphasis added).

<sup>82</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 96. (emphasis added).

<sup>83</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 119.

<sup>84</sup> Nieh Tr. at 198.

don't do it, I believe in short sometimes the Chairman has selective hearing.<sup>85</sup>

*The Chairman's colleagues avoid interacting with him because of his propensity to threaten and intimidate.*

The Chairman's propensity for angry outbursts and aggressive behavior has further driven a wedge between him and his colleagues on the Commission. Commissioner Magwood's Chief of Staff testified that her boss "does not value his time with the chairman because he doesn't really necessarily think that it results in some outcome that is good for the Commission."<sup>86</sup> Bubar stated:

[S]ometimes the tactics that the Chairman used are threatening and intimidating to some commissioners and they don't like having to have that be the working atmosphere.<sup>87</sup>

In his interview with the Committee, Jeffrey Sharkey described several examples of the Chairman's behavior and its effect on the Commissioners' ability or willingness to engage in constructive discourse. Sharkey testified about an incident in which Commissioner Svinicki asked him to keep watch over a meeting she expected to have with Chairman Jaczko. Sharkey was asked to intervene in case the Chairman became overly agitated. Sharkey stated:

[The Commissioner] was concerned that, since there had been a recent event where he had gotten very agitated or angry and raised his voice and shouted at her, she asked me if I would just keep an ear out, that if things took that same course, would I be available to step in? She was concerned. They had the conversation, it did get out of hand. She opened the door up, she asked him to leave her office. She essentially said, 'This conversation is no longer productive, I think you should leave.' At that point, I am sitting in my office, I can see directly into her office. And I can see the Chairman is very agitated, he is sitting down, but he is clearly very agitated. The door is open for about 2 minutes. There is one other staff in the office with me who witnessed it. After about 2 minutes, the door closes. The Chairman wouldn't leave the office. I think her insistence on the Chairman leaving the office got him to calm down a little bit. But that is the type of engagement that is not constructive among principals.<sup>88</sup>

<b>FINDING:</b> Chairman Jaczko's aggressive behavior and attempts to threaten or intimidate his colleagues prevents constructive discussion among Commissioners and undermines the NRC's deliberative process.
---

<sup>85</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 91.

<sup>86</sup> Bubar Tr. at 164-165.

<sup>87</sup> *Id.*

<sup>88</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 121-122.

*The Chairman's approach to leadership is interfering with the important work of the Commission.*

Sharkey described the breakdown in trust with the Chairman's office as a distraction from the Commission's business. He stated:

We are here to do important business on behalf of the American people. Our charter is to protect the public health and safety, not to bicker among ourselves and add ad hominem attacks.<sup>89</sup>

The lack of collegiality at the Commission level is apparent even among NRC career staff. Virgilio testified that unlike some of his predecessors, the Chairman's approach to leadership does not include consensus-building or consultation. Virgilio stated:

Q: Would you characterize the working environment under Chairman Jaczko's Commission to be collegial?

A: No. My benchmark is if you go back to somebody like Dick Meserve, where Dick Meserve would have various Commissioners responsible for various activities, I mean he would consult with them about votes. He would work to build consensus amongst the Commissioners as they were working on a particular issue. He would compromise clearly in order to get a consensus, to get an agreement to move forward. That is sort of one side of the coin and a model of consensus.

Q: So with that as your benchmark, are we on the complete opposite side of the spectrum at this point?

A: I think so, I really do. Where I think that you have four Commissioners - on this very issue [the recommendations of the near-term task force] I think you have four Commissioners that are working together to try to form a consensus amongst the four of them as to how to move forward and he's on the sidelines on this.<sup>90</sup>

Senior managers have sought to shield the majority of NRC staff from the effects of the breakdown in collegiality at the Commission level. Executive Director of Operations William Borchardt stated:

[W]e've really emphasized the importance of working cooperatively with each other . . . across office lines within the NRC, not being stovepiped or being territorial. And so, it's that cooperative work ethic that I think has made us . . . a particularly effective agency.

---

<sup>89</sup> *Id.* at 120.

<sup>90</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 114-115.

The time period while the IG investigation was going on and as it has continued, you can't really say that same behavior is being modeled at the Commission level.

For a while, it was somewhat invisible to the staff. Those in the office director position, my deputies, we all saw it. And that's what I was referring to as the clay layer . . . I got my management team together and said, look, this is the reality, this is what's going on in the Commission offices, but our job is to make sure that the 4,000 people stay focused on the mission, keep living the values that have been so successful.

But as time goes on and more and more things happen and more gets into the press and other public vehicles, the staff will see it more and more. And I don't think it has caused a significant problem yet, but that's one of the things that I worry about . . . .<sup>91</sup>

The Chairman's inability to work with his fellow commissioners in a constructive, collegial manner has worsened with time. This has had an increasingly negative effect on the NRC staff as the Chairman has attempted to circumvent his colleagues by pressuring career staff to support his policy objectives. Rather than work with his colleagues to restore any semblance of constructive discourse, the Chairman has expanded the problem, exposing a broader range of NRC staff to the toxic environment that had previously been isolated to the NRC's leadership.

**FINDING:** Rather than trying to working with his colleagues to improve communications and restore a constructive relationship, Chairman Jaczko became increasingly defiant and exposed more of the NRC staff to the toxic environment present at the Commission level.

## VI. The Ultimate Authority of the Commission

In addition to preserving the commission structure, the Reorganization Plan reaffirmed that "the Commission remains the ultimate authority of the agency."<sup>92</sup> The changes in management were intended to improve the efficiency of the Commission within that model by making the Chairman and Executive Director of Operations (EDO), through the Chairman, responsible for executing the policies established by the Commission. While this structure sought to remove Commissioners' involvement in the day-to-day operations of the agency, the Plan is clear that "In the event of disagreement as to what constitutes policy or whether the policy is being faithfully executed, **the Commission, by a majority vote, prevails.**"<sup>93</sup>

The concern held by some about the Reorganization Plan was that it would allow a rogue Chairman to game the system by selecting which items on the agenda are matters of policy (and

<sup>91</sup> Borchardt Tr. at 21-22.

<sup>92</sup> S. Rep. No. 96-790 (1980) at 2.

<sup>93</sup> *Id.* at 3. (emphasis added).

thus subject to a vote) and which are not. In 1980, Commissioner Kennedy warned, “when people start drawing lines and saying this is policy and this is not, they usually wind up more like philosophers and less like managers and I think that is exactly where we turn out to be.”<sup>94</sup>

The system by which the Commission makes policy appears straight-forward – the Commission establishes policy, the Chairman and EDO are responsible for executing that policy, and if the Commission disagrees with any action they can vote, as a majority, to provide new direction. Conversely, if the staff believes there is an issue that may require policy direction from the Commission, they provide that information, through the EDO, to the Chairman who presents it to the Commission for consideration. Commissioner Kennedy noted, however, that there are inherent loopholes in such a system, which was noted by Commissioner Kennedy, “if you build in ambiguity, then somebody who doesn’t want to make it work, or for other reasons wants to use those ambiguities to further a particular cause, it can be done.”<sup>95</sup>

By taking advantage of these loopholes to impose his policy preferences – described by OIG staff as “playing checkers” – the Chairman has been able to frustrate the intent of the Commission.<sup>96</sup> The Chairman’s approach to policymaking is precisely what Representative Toby Moffett warned Congress about in 1980:

What about the other situation . . . in which the majority of the Commissioners oppose the Chairman? Isn’t it equally obvious that it will be at that moment that these special powers will be most appealing to the Chairman? Isn’t it clear that if these powers are ever to be needed and utilized at all, it is precisely by a Chairman bent on going against the majority will of the Commissioners? And if that be the case, is this plan not clearly constructed to gut the Commission form of regulation? And would it not be subject to the basest sort of partisan political manipulation?<sup>97</sup>

#### A. Chairman Jaczko strategically interprets policy

A Chairman can undermine Commission policy and impose his agenda by abusing his authority in two ways. First, the Chairman can claim that certain policy issues are in fact administrative issues and, as such, he has authority to act unilaterally to address them. By pulling issues important to his agenda out of the policy realm and into the administrative realm, the Chairman can prevent the full Commission from ever considering them without a majority vote to do so.

In cases where a majority decides that the full Commission should consider an issue, the Chairman may still use selective interpretation of Commission policy decisions to frustrate the

---

<sup>94</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 104.

<sup>95</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 191.

<sup>96</sup> Meeting between the Staff of the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Committee Staff (June 16, 2011).

<sup>97</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 16.

Commission's intent. Documents and witness testimony show that through intimidation and the inherent leverage of his position, the Chairman pressured staff to frame and implement policy issues to favor his preferred outcome.

**1. The Chairman undermined the Commission's intent to deliberate about how best to implement the recommendations of the near-term task force.**

As previously discussed, in response to the events at Fukushima, on March 23, 2011 the Commission initiated a near-term and longer term review of the need for improvements to the United States regulatory framework.

A majority of the Commission voted to have the near-term task force report delivered to the Commission for consideration in the form of a Notation Vote Paper.<sup>98</sup> A Notation Vote Paper is a form of a "SECY Paper," which, under the NRC's internal procedures, is the "primary decision-making tool of the collegial Commission."<sup>99</sup> Through the SECY paper, NRC staff present specific information and recommendations on a particular policy issue so that the Commission can make a well-informed decision. As one Commissioner's Chief of Staff put it, the SECY paper provides "the resource estimates, the pros and the cons, the options, something that the Commission can use to make a decision."<sup>100</sup>

Because they requested a Notation Vote Paper, the Commissioners expected to receive a separate paper that summarized the near-term task force report and provided analysis and recommendations from the NRC's senior technical staff. On July 12, 2011, shortly after receiving the task force report, the Commissioners received a five-page paper that conformed to the format and substance of a normal SECY paper, including staff analysis that the Commissioners expect from this type of paper.

The Secretary of the Commission subsequently informed the Commissioners that Martin Virgilio had requested the paper be withdrawn.<sup>101</sup> The Chairman called each Commissioner to explain "that the paper did not reflect his agreement with the EDO, and that it needed to be corrected, and that corrected paper would be submitted to the Commission."<sup>102</sup> The Commissioners later received a new document that was simply a two-paragraph memorandum transmitting the near-term task force report. The new voting paper no longer contained the staff's analysis, input, or recommendations, including the suggestion for greater stakeholder

---

<sup>98</sup> Under normal circumstances, a Notation Vote Paper would include specific information necessary for the Commission to take action on the paper. The Internal Commission Procedures and existing Management Directives provide the NRC staff with specific guidance on the form and substance of SECY papers, like Notation Vote Papers, presented to the Commission. For example, if a SECY is longer than five pages, the staff is to provide a written summary that includes "the major issues (e.g., technical, policy, legal), the recommendation of the office sending the paper, and a statement concerning dissenting views (if any)."<sup>98</sup> In addition, all SECY papers include discussion of specific issues such as resource implications, schedule for completion, and indication of coordination with CFO and OGC, among other items.

<sup>99</sup> *Id.*, at II-1.

<sup>100</sup> Sosa Tr. at 11.

<sup>101</sup> E-mail from Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary to Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to multiple recipients (July 12, 2011) (on file with the Committee).

<sup>102</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 17.

participation. Most of it had been drafted by the Chairman's staff. Belkys Sosa, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Apostolakis, stated:

When we got the paper, it said it [was] a [SECY paper], but it was a one page couple of paragraph paper with no regular format that a SECY paper used to have, like options and resource estimates and background, discussions and, you know, just a set format called by the procedures that a SECY paper has to follow.<sup>103</sup>

Staff from the other Commissioners' offices testified that based on the Commission's decision to receive a Notation Vote Paper, they expected the near-term task force report to be delivered with the NRC staff's analysis and recommendations. Patrice Bubar testified that receiving a two-paragraph memorandum came as a surprise to the Commission because it was inconsistent with the NRC's internal procedures and deprived Commissioners of valuable information they needed to make a decision. Bubar stated:

So a task force report under normal circumstances and, you know, based on what is in the procedures would not come directly to the Commission, it would come through the management at the NRC. So certainly Commissioner Magwood was expecting that the task force report would have the insight and the evaluation of the Executive Director of Operations and the senior management at NRC. So that was our expectation that we would get something that was kind of the review done by the staff of what the task force had recommended.<sup>104</sup>

Jeffrey Sharkey testified that Commissioner Svinicki's office had the same expectation:

What that means to us is that the task force would develop a report which would be an attachment to a notation vote paper. The task force report itself is not the SECY paper . . . [O]ur expectation was that the Commission would receive the notation vote paper that's described in internal procedures with . . . the format that is established through internal procedures and through Management Directive 3.57 in Handbook 5 for that. And then the Commissioners would vote on it. An important part of that is a recommendation from the staff.<sup>105</sup>

According to the Chairman and his office, the paper was withdrawn because it was inconsistent with what the Commission had requested.<sup>106</sup> In response to a July 15, 2011 request for information from Chairman Issa, Chairman Jaczko stated that the Commission intended to

---

<sup>103</sup> Sosa Tr. at 12.

<sup>104</sup> Bubar Tr. at 10.

<sup>105</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 14-15.

<sup>106</sup> Letter from NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko to H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform Chairman Darrell Issa (Jul. 29, 2011).

vote on the near-term task force report itself, and the initial voting paper did not enable them to do so:<sup>107</sup>

By statute, the Chairman is the principal executive officer of the Commission and the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) reports, for all matters, to the Chairman. Moreover, it is also the Chairman's responsibility to ensure that the EDO and the staff are responsive to the requirements of the Commission. In this case, the Commission unanimously established a senior level agency task force to make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. In doing so, the Commission directed that the Task Force Report would come to the Commission as a Notation Vote Paper.

Instead, the Task Force Report was originally transmitted to the Commission as an attachment to a separate voting paper, rather than the Report itself being the item upon which the Commission would vote. Because this was inconsistent with the Commission's direction, it was my responsibility to correct this error. I personally spoke with each of my Commission colleagues to explain the matter, and none of my colleagues questioned my actions or expressed concerns to me. I did not hear that my colleagues had concerns until after receiving your letter three days later when Commissioners' staff raised this issue with my staff.

Mr. Virgilio, who was responsible for drafting the original voting paper along with the EDO and members of the task force, told the Committee he struggled to understand this explanation:

I look at what we sent to the Commission, and the recommendation is the EDO recommends that the Commission review the task force report and provide direction on specific task force recommendations as desired.

I see a disconnect here. I still don't get it. I'm ashamed to admit that what he's saying here I still don't understand why this isn't this. We asked the Commission to vote on the task force recommendations. We didn't ask the Commission to vote on this paper.<sup>108</sup>

The Chairman's manipulation of his colleagues' intent based on *his* reading of the language of the tasking memorandum exemplifies the challenges created by Chairman Jaczko's expansive view of his own authority. Through his interpretation of the Commission's direction, the Chairman removed the analysis provided by the agency's senior technical staff from the public record, including a suggestion that the Commission consider obtaining greater stakeholder input prior to acting on the recommendations of the near-term task force report. This action not only hinders the Commission's access to the independent advice of NRC technical experts, it limits the public's awareness of alternate options that staff believed the Commission should explore in evaluating the task force report.

---

<sup>107</sup> *Id.*

<sup>108</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 131-132.

2. The Chairman undermines the Commission and mires them in process through his insistence on formal votes for any disagreements with his interpretation of Commission policy.

As previously discussed, the Reorganization Plan made clear that if a majority of the Commission disagreed with the Chairman's interpretation of Commission policy, they can vote to enforce their will. In fact, the Chairman's office argues that the Commission has tools, such as the COM process, to demonstrate the will of the majority quickly and effectively. Josh Batkin, Chief of Staff to Chairman Jaczko, testified that the process for doing so is quite simple:

It can be done as fast as the Commission wants it to be done. The COMs are specifically designed to be, I mean you could – you could grab – and I'm not trying to be facetious, but you could grab someone's business card and write a COM and have five Commissioners sign on to it or three Commissioners signs on to it. It is supposed to be a way to have quick action.<sup>109</sup>

Others hold a different view of the COM process. In the opinion of certain staff, the COM process is burdensome and was not meant to be used for simple matters. Belkys Sosa observed:

[I]f you look at the COMs from historical perspective how that has been historically used in the agency, you can go back to any chairman and figure out or any commissioner, for that matter, and figure out how many COMs did they issue during their tenure there, and you're going to find a few. It's not the way that we do business. As I say, a COM is a proposal by one commissioner to their peers and it gets done. It's one of the things they have available, but it's not done for routine. . . .<sup>110</sup>

The Chairman's constantly evolving interpretation of his authority and tendency to game the system to impose his personal policy preferences have forced his colleagues to closely scrutinize his every action in that context. They are left with few options: If they fail to stand up to the Chairman, it marginalizes the role of the Commission and, in essence, affirms his interpretation of Commission policy or decision. If they are forced to initiate a formal vote, such as a COM, for every disagreement with the Chairman's interpretation of authority or Commission policy, the Chairman is effectively being allowed to influence even the most fundamental Commission business. Witnesses testified to the Committee that the dilemma the Chairman has created is distracting the Commission from its normal business and even runs afoul of common courtesy. Sosa stated:

There is always the opportunity to do a COM, but I know that there would be at least one commissioner who would say I am not doing a COM to basically make sure that what is . . . within my authority to do is being done. So . . . **we don't want to get into the business where we have to**

---

<sup>109</sup> Batkin Tr. at 55.

<sup>110</sup> Sosa Tr. at 118-119.

write a COM to just carry out what should be the normal business of the Commission.<sup>111</sup>

Belkys Sosa stated:

[W]e have been in business for a very, very long time and you cannot have rules about every single exchange of information for everything that comes up . . . So having common courtesy and being able to treat each other equally, I think, is an expectation. You don't need to write it down on a piece of paper but, unfortunately, that's not the way things are being conducted right now.<sup>112</sup>

Sharkey also shared this perspective:

The COM process today . . . the Commission is being forced into the COM process, where in the past simple matters could have been dealt with in a less formal way, and bringing things to closure in most matters, it's not that difficult.<sup>113</sup>

<p><b>FINDING:</b> Chairman Jaczko's tendency to game the system has forced his colleagues to rely on formal votes to move the NRC on matters that traditionally were handled informally. The need to use the formal voting process to play defense against the Chairman has made it difficult for the Commission to carry out its basic functions.</p>
---

## VII. Supervision of and Influence over the Staff

When a majority of the Commission opposes the Chairman, he has turned to another provision of the Reorganization Plan to achieve his objectives – his supervisory responsibility for the staff. The initial Reorganization Plan submitted by President Carter provided the Chairman with broad authority over the appointment and supervision of key members of the NRC staff. At the time, Commissioners strongly objected to the combination of the Chairman's appointment and supervisory authority. Commissioner Gilinsky argued:

The Chairman will be the sole supervisory and reporting authority for the staff, unless he chooses to delegate that authority.

This authority opens a broad avenue for the Chairman to exercise substantial control over nuclear safety policy, in addition to his role as a voting member of the Commission. The Chairman's control will be most evident early in the critical stage of policy development by the staff, and

<sup>111</sup> Bubar Tr. at 58-59. (emphasis added).

<sup>112</sup> Sosa Tr. at 59.

<sup>113</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 11. (emphasis added).

late at the equally critical stage of policy enforcement. This role for the Chairman will hinder, rather than foster, increased Commission involvement in nuclear safety policy.<sup>114</sup>

Thomas Cochran expressed similar concerns. He noted that a powerful Chairman could use his control over the staff to limit the staff's ability to develop diverse views and options. He stated:

...the Chairman could simply say, well, I want you to develop a plan to do it my way, don't come to me with a bunch of options. That will just get us into a lot of debate, and so forth, and the other Commissioners will become involved. So eliminating the collegial aspect in addressing some of these concerns would result, we believe, in the more narrow scoping of options that are developed by the staff.<sup>115</sup>

The President attempted to address these and other concerns associated with the appointment process through his amendments to the Reorganization Plan. Notably, the amendments provided the Commission with "a greater role in the selection of key program officers," removed the Chairman's sole authority to appoint members of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), and moved a number of appointments under the authority of the Executive Director for Operations.<sup>116</sup>

Despite these changes to the Plan, Chairman Jaczko has sought to leverage his supervisory authority over the staff to pressure them to support his policy objectives, even in cases where they do not agree with his perspective. As he has faced increased opposition from his colleagues on the Commission, this strategy has created an uncomfortable dynamic for staff throughout the NRC. Disagreements with his colleagues over his constantly evolving interpretation of his authority have prompted the Chairman to reach deeper into the NRC's organizational chart to control the staff's actions and communications.

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko has sought to leverage his supervisory authority over the staff to pressure them to support his policy objectives.**

#### A. The Office of the Executive Director for Operations and NRC Technical Staff

Based on the changes in the Reorganization Plan, the Executive Director for Operations, under the supervision of the Chairman, is responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of the NRC. In addition to executing the NRC's business in accordance with Commission decisions, the EDO, through the Chairman, is responsible for "keeping the Commission fully and currently informed about matters within its functions."<sup>117</sup>

<sup>114</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 131.

<sup>115</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 75.

<sup>116</sup> House Report at 12.

<sup>117</sup> *Id.*

During Chairman Jaczko's tenure, this reporting relationship has created challenges for the EDO. The current EDO, R. William "Bill" Borchardt, contrasted the environment under Chairman Jaczko with his experience as the EDO under the previous Chairman:

Chairman Jaczko is much more of a direct supervisor, where Chairman Klein was more like the chairman of the board or . . . a member of the board of directors, who was not as interested in being involved in day-to-day details.<sup>118</sup>

Borchardt also testified that Chairman Jaczko's management style has limited his ability to interact with senior NRC managers under the EDO's supervision. Borchardt stated:

As I understood the EDO, all my predecessors in this position, and as I operated under Chairman Klein, there was the ability of the EDO to communicate issues with the rest of the agency, with the technical staff, with the 160 or so SES that reported to organizations under the EDO as the EDO saw fit . . . to raise whatever issues. Chairman Jaczko is much more of the, 'I want you to tell me what you're going to tell them before you tell them.'<sup>119</sup>

1. Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to withdraw the SECY paper and to provide him with an advance copy.

The Chairman's involvement in the development of the SECY paper that delivered the near-term task force report to the Commission for consideration marked a shift in the Chairman's influence over the staff.

As staff developed the SECY paper that would deliver the near-term task force report to the Commission, they were forced to adapt to the Chairman's rapidly evolving vision of how the Commission should proceed with their review of the task force recommendations. For example, on Friday, July 8, the EDO and the Deputy Executive Director for Operations, Martin Virgilio, met with Chairman Jaczko to discuss the path forward on the task force report and requested roadmap. Mr. Virgilio described the meeting:

[EDO] Bill Borchardt and I sat down with the Chairman and we talked about what the [Commission] had asked me to do, and that was to develop this road map. We agreed . . . that in developing this road map, our vision was we would provide a series of supplemental papers to the commission, so there would be this SECY that would transmit the near term task force report and then there would be a series of supplemental papers that we would send to the commission with a staff's analysis of the task force report and the staff's recommendations on how to proceed with that.

---

<sup>118</sup> Borchardt Tr. at 15-16.

<sup>119</sup> *Id.* at 16.

At that point in time, the vision that we agreed to, and I would believe that was Bill Borchardt, the Chairman and myself, the vision that we had was that we would have the staff provide a recommendation to the commission that would include stakeholders' input in the process.<sup>120</sup>

The following Monday, during a regularly scheduled periodic meeting with Chairman Jaczko, Mr. Virgilio learned that the Chairman had changed his mind over the weekend and no longer supported the strategy agreed to in the Friday meeting:

At that meeting, it seemed like to me the Chairman had had a change of heart over the weekend, that he had thought about what we had agreed to on Friday and had a different view on where we should go. And we agreed in that meeting that in implementing this road map, that we would not include a discussion of that road map in the paper that was going to be coming forward to the commission, and that we would not reference resources in the paper that was going to be coming forward to the commission.

He said what he wanted was a very simple SECY paper that would provide the report to the commission, and that resources would be provided to the commission in a separate memo and that he wanted to have . . . another meeting with the Commissioners to talk about what we would do vis-a-vis this road map.<sup>121</sup>

That afternoon, Mr. Virgilio wrote a follow-up email to the Chairman to confirm his understanding of the Chairman's new vision and outline his personal views on the task force report:<sup>122</sup>

**From:** Virgilio, Martin  
**To:** Jaczko, Gregory  
**Cc:** Borchardt, Bill; Coggins, Angela; Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 11 17:51:00 2011  
**Subject:** The Task Force Report

Chairman

As we agreed, the SECY forwarding the Task Force Report will have no EDO analyses or recommendations. It provides the results of the team's independent review. In a separate memo we will provide the resource estimates developed by the Task Force. We have also developed a cover memo for you to use in providing the report to the White House. The

<sup>120</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 14-15.

<sup>121</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 16.

<sup>122</sup> Email from Martin Virgilio to Gregory Jaczko, Chairman, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (July 11, 2011).

purpose of this note is to offer my initial thoughts on the Report, which we will provide to you as early as possible tomorrow.

First, I believe that the line organization should review the report and provide recommendations to you and the Commission on how to move forward. I would have the Steering Committee for the long-term review lead that effort, and involve NRC technical experts and a panel of external stakeholders. I believe the ACRS should weigh in on the report as well.

Second, I believe that orders would not be the best approach for the 11 recommended areas. I believe seismic and flood protection walk downs, ERDS modernization, and new tech specs requiring operability of existing equipment could be accomplished by Order. However, other recommendations such as containment vents, new instrumentation, new power supplies, and multi unit EP would, in my view, best be accomplished by rule making with internal and external stakeholder involvement in developing the detailed success measures.

Finally, we need to align with you and the Commission on what work we proposed to place on hold while we follow-up on the Task Force report. As the team has stated, there is no imminent risk from continued operation and licensing activities. In that light, we need thoughtful choices around what work we will defer.

Marty

OSURE

After receiving this email, the Chairman called Mr. Virgilio into his office. Chairman Jaczko proceeded to describe a new vision about how to proceed forward with the SECY paper and review of the task force report. Mr. Virgilio explained:

**[H]e and I had a conversation about his new vision about how to proceed forward.** In that conversation, he told me clearly his priority was that we would have the commission vote within 90 days. This is the first time, but it was consistent from that point forward, that he had this vision around, let's have the commission vote within 90 days.<sup>123</sup>

The Chairman's latest approach represented a complete change from just a few days earlier. Mr. Virgilio told the Committee that he believed that Chairman Jaczko's thoughts "were continuing to evolve through the day on Monday, because this was a very different conversation than what we had on Monday morning through a whole new paradigm of how he wanted to do that."<sup>124</sup>

That evening, the EDO, who was in South Korea on NRC business, responded to Mr. Virgilio's e-mail to the Chairman. He inquired whether the SECY paper retained the suggestion for greater stakeholder involvement. Mr. Virgilio assured him that the suggestion remained in the body of the SECY.<sup>125</sup>

---

<sup>123</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 17.

<sup>124</sup> *Id.*

<sup>125</sup> E-mail from Martin Virgilio to Bill Borchardt, Exec. Dir. for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (July 11, 2011).

**From:** Virgilio, Martin  
**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2011 6:27 PM  
**To:** Borchardt, Bill  
**Subject:** REPLY: The Task Force Report

Bill

Yes...here is the language:

"While some of the Task Force recommendations or sub recommendations could be treated separately, there may be value in evaluating the entire body of recommendations in a holistic manner. In addition, many stakeholders have devoted considerable effort to similar lessons learned initiatives and there would be benefit to developing alignment on the objectives, approaches and schedules for implementing safety improvements.

Our recommendation is:

"The EDO recommends that the Commission review the Task Force report and provide direction on specific Task Force recommendations, as desired."

It seems that following a weekends worth of reflection the Chairman changed course around our agreed upon plan to have the SECY supplemented by a series of papers providing the staff's recommendations. He is trying to convene an agenda planning session tomorrow to talk with the Commission about next steps.

I expect tomorrow to be "interesting times" here at the NRC.

Marty

---

**From:** Borchardt, Bill  
**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2011 6:06 PM  
**To:** Virgilio, Martin  
**Subject:** Re: The Task Force Report

Hi Marty,  
 Greetings from Korea; the mission is in full swing. Did we retain the suggestion to engage stakeholders in the transmittal SECY?  
 Bill Borchardt  
 Via blackberry

The following morning, July 12, Mr. Virgilio modified the SECY paper pursuant to the Chairman's latest vision for proceeding with the task force recommendations. He removed "a lot of material out of the paper that would have been contradictory to this new direction . . ." <sup>126</sup> He told the Committee that he believed the resulting SECY paper was simple, just as Chairman Jaczko requested, but remained consistent with the long-standing format for SECY papers. <sup>127</sup> The only specific recommendation remaining in the SECY was "The EDO recommends that the Commission review the Task Force report and provide direction on specific Task Force recommendations." <sup>128</sup>

Shortly after the signed SECY paper was delivered to the Commission on July 12, Mr. Virgilio was summoned to the Chairman's office. <sup>129</sup> Virgilio told the Committee that the

<sup>126</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 20.

<sup>127</sup> As previously discussed, the Commission has clear guidelines for the format and substance of SECY papers.

<sup>128</sup> SECY-11-0093, from R.W. Borchardt, Exec. Dir. Of Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to The Commissioners, "Near-Term Report and Recommendations for Agency Actions Following the Events in Japan," (July 12, 2011) (*Advance Copy Policy Notation Vote* provided to the Commission by the Office of the Secretary on the morning of July 12, 2011).

<sup>129</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 19.

Chairman was “red-faced,” “flustered”, and “shaking angry.”<sup>130</sup> Virgilio testified that the Chairman became hostile and accused him of being untruthful. Virgilio stated:

I was called to the chairman's office that afternoon, and he was extremely displeased. He was extremely unhappy with the content of that paper. He felt that I had completely misunderstood his intent, that I did not understand his desires. He questioned my truthfulness, and he questioned my trustworthiness. He still believed that our call for stakeholder involvement, the way I had structured that paper following our conversations, demonstrated a lack of support for the task force, a lack of understanding for his interest and his views.<sup>131</sup>

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko became “shaking angry” and accused the Deputy Executive Director for Operations of being dishonest when a vote paper delivered the Commission did not conform to his desires, interests, or views. Staff had already significantly altered the paper to conform to the Chairman’s vision.**

Though the staff felt strongly about the need for stakeholder involvement, they did not feel they could question the directions from the Chairman on the SECY paper. Executive Director for Operations William Borchardt stated:

Q. So why did you let it be changed, I guess? If that wasn't your view, or whoever was acting for you, how can that be changed and actually go up to the Commission and not be the view of the staff?

A. It comes, in my mind, to the authority that the chairman has as the supervisor of the EDO, executing his supervisory responsibilities to influence what your subordinates do.<sup>132</sup>

The Commissioners also reached out to staff to understand why they had withdrawn the original SECY paper. Ho Nieh, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Ostendorff, testified that a conversation he had with Virgilio led him to believe that Virgilio felt he had no choice but to take direction from the Chairman despite the fact that it was inconsistent with the Commission’s intent:

I said, is this what you wanted to be in the paper? [Virgilio] said, ‘No, the earlier version is what I wanted to be in the paper, and even a few versions before that is what I wanted to be in the paper.’ I said, ‘Well, then why did you sign it? Why did you authorize the signature?’ He said, ‘I had no choice.’

\* \* \*

<sup>130</sup> *Id.* at 25-26.

<sup>131</sup> *Id.* at 19.

<sup>132</sup> Borchardt Tr. at 90-91.

[I]t was clear to me that he felt that the chairman had given him direction as his supervisor and he wasn't in a position to not follow it.<sup>133</sup>

Patrice Bubar had a similar understanding of the direction that the Chairman gave Virgilio. She stated:

[W]hat [Virgilio] explained to me was that the chairman had directed him to withdraw the paper and the chairman said, you know, we are not on the same page here, you need to withdraw the paper. So Marty said he had no choice but to withdraw the paper.<sup>134</sup>

Jeffrey Sharkey similarly understood that Virgilio was made to choose between withdrawing the SECY paper and being subject to discipline. Sharkey stated:

[Virgilio] was directed by the Chairman to do that, and if he didn't do it, he would be guilty of insubordination.<sup>135</sup>

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko used his supervisory authority to berate and compel staff to withdraw a voting paper that – although consistent with the expectations of his colleagues – included a suggestion, not even a recommendation, that was contrary to his preferred course of action. His actions deprived his colleagues, and the public, of information that would help inform the Commission's consideration of the task force recommendations.**

In the wake of the SECY paper, interactions between the Chairman's office and the EDO's office have become increasingly hostile. As the Chairman increased pressure on NRC staff to support his policy objectives, the EDO resisted the Chairman's aggressive management style. During the week of August 29, 2011, the Commission held two closed meetings to discuss the Chairman's desire to remove the EDO.<sup>136</sup> According to information obtained by the Committee, the Chairman informed his colleagues that the EDO had resisted efforts to interact with the Chairman in a constructive manner and that he often lacked the information the Chairman requested.<sup>137</sup> The Commissioners initially suggested that the Chairman consider encouraging him to step down when he became eligible for retirement in the coming months. In subsequent discussions with the EDO, however, the Commissioners learned that there was more to the story.<sup>138</sup>

The EDO told Commissioners that he disagreed with the Chairman's aggressive management style and attempts to force the staff to support his policy objectives.<sup>139</sup> He also noted that he would never step down before Chairman Jaczko's term expired and, if they wanted

<sup>133</sup> Nieh Tr. at 35-36. (emphasis added).

<sup>134</sup> Bubar Tr. at 16.

<sup>135</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 20.

<sup>136</sup> Telephonic Interview of ██████████ by Committee Staff (December 9, 2011).

<sup>137</sup> *Id.*

<sup>138</sup> *Id.*

<sup>139</sup> *Id.*

him to leave, they would have to force him to leave.<sup>140</sup> Based on their conversations with the EDO, the Commissioners realized that Chairman Jaczko simply wanted to replace the EDO with someone who would be more supportive of his unilateral agenda.

Armed with the whole story, the Commissioners each wrote to the Chairman to document their confidence in the EDO and that they would no longer support any effort to have him removed. The Chairman's anger at his colleagues' support for the EDO boiled over when he appeared as an invited guest at an October 5, 2011, meeting hosted by the EDO for the agency's senior career staff leadership.

Through discussions with the staff about the October 5 meeting, Commissioners learned that "his comments reflected contempt for the Commission itself and open disdain for the Internal Commission Procedures, a document that embodies governing principles from the NRC's organic statute . . . ."<sup>141</sup> According to staff present at the meeting, when asked how the staff could work better with the Commission, the Chairman had a visceral response, telling the staff that they need to work better with him to support his policy objectives.<sup>142</sup> His message was later characterized as, "I know what is best for safety so you need to get on my team, support my objectives. The other Commissioners are just getting in the way."<sup>143</sup>

## B. Commission Level Offices

Documents and witness testimony show that the Chairman's influence over the NRC staff is not limited to EDO staff, or offices that fall under the supervision of the Chairman's Office in the NRC organizational chart. Even staff that report to the Commission, most notably the Office of the Secretary and the Office of the General Counsel, have often found themselves at the center of disagreements over the Chairman's authority.

### 1. Chairman Jaczko has expanded his supervisory authority to staff that report to the Commission

The Commission's review and revision of the Internal Commission Procedures brought Commission staff into one such disagreement. From the outset, Chairman Jaczko opposed a number of the changes because he felt they infringed on his authorities as the Chairman.<sup>144</sup> For almost a year, the Commission voted and re-voted, going through multiple drafts of the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM).<sup>145</sup><sup>146</sup> Requests for extensions on votes – most from Chairman Jaczko's office – caused substantial delays, but nearly all were granted.<sup>147</sup> Witnesses

<sup>140</sup> Telephonic Interview of [REDACTED] by Committee staff (Week of October 15, 2011).

<sup>141</sup> Letter from NRC Commissioners Kristine Svinicki, George Apostolakis, William Magwood IV, and William Ostendorff to White House Chief of Staff William L. Daley (Oct. 13, 2011).

<sup>142</sup> Telephonic Interview of [REDACTED] by Committee staff (Week of October 15, 2011).

<sup>143</sup> Telephonic Interview of [REDACTED] by Committee staff (Week of October 15, 2011).

<sup>144</sup> Nieh Tr. at 84.

<sup>145</sup> Once all votes are submitted on a particular matter, the Secretary of the Commission drafts a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM), which is then subject to additional review and approval by a majority of the Commissioners before it is finalized.

<sup>146</sup> Nieh Tr. at 84-85.

<sup>147</sup> *Id.* at 84-85, Bubar Tr. at 73.

expressed frustration over these delays, which they believed were driven by the Chairman's firm objections to any changes that might diminish his authority.<sup>148</sup>

In the final Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) for the revised Internal Commission Procedures, approved in July 2011, the Commission requested that the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) conduct a legal review of the changes approved by the Commission. When these changes were complete, the Commissioners expected that they would receive a red-line strikeout of the final SRM to reflect the opinions of the OGC. After the legal review, however, the Chairman instructed the Secretary of the Commission (SECY), Annette Vietti-Cook, not to send the red-line version of the Internal Procedures to the other Commissioners.

According to testimony received by the Committee, Chairman Jaczko informed Vietti-Cook that the final SRM did not direct this action. He instructed that if the other Commissioners wished to vote on OGC's comments, they could write a COM.<sup>149</sup> Commission staff were outraged. Belkys Sosa, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Apostolakis, stated:

[A]ll four of the commissioners requested SECY to provide the version of the SRM, the internal Commission procedures so that we could move forward, and what we wanted was the red line strike out version of the OGC comments . . . in order for the Commission to vote on that . . . and finalize the procedures. And **SECY was told by the chairman's office not to provide that, that if the commissioner wanted it they needed to write a COM so, again, it falls to another example of what is more efficient. We were outraged, to be honest.**

\* \* \*

So when she was directed by the chairman not to do it . . . she felt that she didn't have any other way to proceed unless the Commission requested it in writing. And I specifically asked her, I said, well, how can you take direction verbally from one office, but yet demand the majority give it to you in writing? Is an email enough, you know, so we sent her emails and that was not enough.

And the chairman's office, I guess, was very upset to learn that we had demanded this of SECY and that's when he called for the meeting.<sup>150</sup>

2. Chairman Jaczko urged staff who reported to the Commission to support his policy agenda when they communicated with other Commissioners.

When the Commissioners instructed Vietti-Cook to provide them with a revised version of the procedures, the Chairman called a meeting of NRC senior managers, including staff from

<sup>148</sup> Nieh Tr. at 85, Sosa Tr. at 52, Bubar Tr. at 73.

<sup>149</sup> Sosa Tr. at 102.

<sup>150</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added).

the Office of the Secretary, the Office of the General Counsel, and other offices that report to the Commission. According to witness testimony, in that meeting the Chairman reminded the staff that he is responsible for interpreting SRMs and Commission policy, and that they are to take direction only from him, and not from the rest of the Commission.<sup>151</sup> He urged the staff present to support his actions rather than accept direction from other Commissioners. Virgilio stated:

A. And in this meeting [the Chairman] went through a number of - he went through a lot of - I'm still not sure I understand today why he did this, but he went through his background of how he became a Commissioner and how he became the chairman. **And it was a pep rally for all of his direct reports to say I need you on my team, I need you to be with me, I need your support as we move forward and make policy.**

\* \* \*

Q. So it sounds like he's asking the offices that, based on the organizational structure, report to the Commission to be on his team?

A. Yeah, absolutely. He was setting out an expectation that I need your help in order to move forward the agenda that I think is right for this Commission, and I want you to be there for me. I want you to work with me. **I want you to support me in your conversations with other Commissioners and all your dealings in the agency.**

Q. **So rather than trying to work with his colleagues, it sounds like it's my way or the highway. Is that what I'm hearing?**

A. **That's the extreme of where we are.**<sup>152</sup>

<b>FINDING:</b> Chairman Jaczko demanded that career NRC staff to support his positions when discussing policy matters with his fellow Commissioners. Staff no longer felt that they could provide independent, unbiased advice to the other Commissioners.
---

3. Chairman Jaczko has chilled the lines of communication between staff and his colleagues on the Commission.

Witnesses testified that staff presently feel pressured to not interact with the Chairman's colleagues to such an extent that the ability of the Commissioners to make decisions is being affected. The Commission model – based on a group of informed individuals making collaborative decisions – has been replaced by an Administrator model in which access to information has been restricted and centralized. Sosa stated:

[I]t's five people... [I]t's what they all think and what the majority decides that provides their action to staff. So **to the extent that additional**

<sup>151</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 125-126.

<sup>152</sup> *Id.* (emphasis added).

information is required for them to make an informed decision, that's what should be done. And the general sense, and what we hear from senior managers, even people in the staff, is that they are not allowed to provide that, that they were . . . they were directed by the chairman's office not to.<sup>153</sup>

Witnesses further testified that the environment created by Chairman Jaczko has made it difficult for NRC staff to perform their jobs. Nieh stated:

I would conclude that he sometimes has, because of his management style, has maybe not treated some staff with respect and has, because of his management style, created an environment where senior staff, managers are just at the point where they're unable or unwilling to provide what they think is the right thing to do.<sup>154</sup>

\* \* \*

[N]ow you have this level of senior management in there that almost is like forced to choose between either the chairman or their staff. So it really I think puts the NRC management in a very difficult situation.<sup>155</sup>

\* \* \*

[I]t was clear to me that [Virgilio] felt that the chairman had given him direction as his supervisor and he wasn't in a position to not follow it. And I think there's probably other examples of that as well, where I think people like [the CFO], some of the deputy EDOs and the secretary, just feel that, despite what they might think is the right thing to do, they're unable to do that.<sup>156</sup>

The work environment at the NRC has further deteriorated because of the disconnect between the values of senior leadership and staff. Sharkey stated:

[The NRC staff] found it very difficult to perform their jobs and to follow the direction from senior leadership where the senior leadership doesn't share the same organizational values that NRC espouses. So to answer your question about a chilled environment, I think that is also an indicator of a chilled environment.<sup>157</sup>

<sup>153</sup> Sosa Tr. at 54. (emphasis added).

<sup>154</sup> Nieh Tr. at 196. (emphasis added).

<sup>155</sup> *Id.* at 27. (emphasis added).

<sup>156</sup> Nieh Tr. at 35-36.

<sup>157</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 162.

\* \* \*

I think the integrity of the policy process at NRC, it's important for the staff to have the ability to provide its perspective to the Commission, whether the Commission agrees to that perspective or not. That's what the voting process is for. So that's really what my concern is.<sup>158</sup>

The toxic culture and erosion of NRC's values are taking their toll on the agency staff. One of the NRC's leaders on the technical staff explained that the atmosphere created by the current Chairman has not only hurt the NRC's public image but also prompted him to consider accelerating his own retirement plans:

Q. You mentioned earlier that you think the problems of the Commission are bleeding into the staff.

A. Oh, yeah.

Q. Can you tell us more about that?

A. I just you know, the staff is very cognizant of the trade press and what's going on. And you can't pick up an edition of Inside NRC without seeing what's going on and the arguments that's going on within the Commission today.

And, again, it goes back to where I was before. People used to call us out as you are the best place to work in the Federal Government. If what's happening to me is happening to the staff, which I can't believe it's not, their friends and neighbors are saying, you work for the NRC, right? What the heck is going on there? Why are we reading all this stuff in the papers about you and the Commissioners? You know, it has to have an impact on the staff.

Q. What do you think that impact is?

A. It is somewhat the impact of having been the best place to work in the Federal Government for three times running is its exhilarating. It makes you want to come to work. It is a great place to work. Yeah, I want to be there. You can't wait to get to work in the morning.

The downside of that is if all of a sudden your neighbors and your friends and your family are saying what are you doing there, why are you there, that's a demotivating factor.

---

<sup>158</sup> *Id.* at 33. (emphasis added).

Q. Will the current atmosphere under the current chairman affect your decision to stay longer at the agency past your retirement?

A. It could. It really could.<sup>159</sup>

## VIII. Information Flow

One of the most controversial aspects of the changes suggested by the Reorganization Plan was their effect on the flow of information at the NRC. As explained in the Senate report, individuals at the NRC were worried that a rogue Chairman might selectively limit access to information:

The question posed by members of the NRC was whether the Chairman, given increased control over the staff and resources of the agency, might be able to stifle the flow of information to other Commissions in order to increase his leverage over policy deliberations, rulemaking proceedings or adjudications.<sup>160</sup>

At the time, OMB Executive Associate Director Harrison Wellford explained that the Carter administration's desire was to create a management system that would reduce the burden placed on the staff.<sup>161</sup> In response to the concerns raised by the Commissioners and others, Wellford offered a statement of principles:

The Commission shall have full access to all information within the Agency, including that in existence that which requires development by staff. The Chairman may not withhold or delay providing information requested by the Commission. Individual members shall also have full access to all information in order to assure diverse views are properly informed.<sup>162</sup>

Wellford further clarified that the administration's intention was for Commissioners to enjoy equal access to information. It was the intent of President Carter:

[T]o ensure a full and free flow of all information needed by the Commission or its members and at the same time to provide for an orderly process with effective use of valuable staff resources. The Commission,

---

<sup>159</sup> [REDACTED]

<sup>160</sup> S. Report at 8.

<sup>161</sup> Mr. Wellford directed President Carter's Reorganization Project, which "prepared and advocated before Congress executive agency reorganization plans for . . . the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and several other agencies." <http://www.lw.com/AboutLatham.aspx?page=RetiredPartnerBio&attno=00481>.

<sup>162</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 10.

not the Chairman, will resolve any issue and set any internal rules in this vital area.<sup>163</sup>

Commissioners objected to the notion that they would have to vote in order to gain access to information the Chairman deemed unnecessary for them to fulfill their responsibilities. Commissioner Richard Kennedy noted:

To get information requires – in some instances, would require – an action by the Commission. Now, causing the Commission to meet and to try to find a majority to request information hardly seems the height of efficiency . . . .

[I]f a man wants information, how does he know whether it is important to policy or not if he can't get it. The answer, of course, is, well, he finds other ways to get it. Let me suggest that that is not the way to build an organization either, if you are causing top people of the organization to go around it.<sup>164</sup>

The Carter administration made changes to the language of the Reorganization Plan to address these concerns. First, the language associated with the application of section 201(a)(1) of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 was revised to ease restrictions on access. In addition, the amended plan clarified that “The Chairman and the Executive Director for Operations, through the Chairman, shall be responsible for insuring that the Commission is fully and currently informed about matters within its functions.”<sup>165</sup>

#### A. Chairman Jaczko withheld his intent from his colleagues to gain their support

The issue of information flow has continued to be a point of disagreement at the Commission. In a June 6, 2011 report, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) found that the Commissioners often feel they are not privy to certain information held by the Chairman in cases in which he has determined something to be an administrative matter. According to the IG:

[Chairman Jaczko] controls information provided to the other Commissioners based on his interpretation of his statutory authority as Chairman versus the authority given to the Commission. Because he acts as the gatekeeper to determine what is a policy matter versus an administrative matter, and manages and controls information available to the other Commissioners, they are uncertain as to whether they are adequately informed of policy matters that should be brought to their attention. Ultimately, however, all Commissioners have the ability to

---

<sup>163</sup> *Id.*

<sup>164</sup> S. Hearings (1980) at 122.

<sup>165</sup> S. Report at 9.

bring what they perceive as policy matters before the Commission by writing a COM and gaining majority Commission support.<sup>166</sup>

While the COM process is available to the Commission, it is not always efficient, nor practical, to ensure that the Commission is informed of policy matters. This is especially true if the Commission is unaware of information or forced to spend their and the staff's time obtaining information through other channels. This issue of "you don't know what you don't know" was explored in the 1980 hearings:

Senator Levin: If one of the members of the Commission feels that information involves a policy question ---

Mr. Ahearne: Then if he can convince two other on the Commission, the decision goes to the Commission.

Senator Levin: But he cant get the information, you just said.

Mr. Ahearne: That is right.

Senator Levin: How can he make out an argument that this involves policy if he cant get the information?

Mr. Ahearne: On something like that, if he does not have some other source of information, he could not.<sup>167</sup>

Chairman Jaczko has argued that he has limited the information that goes to the Commission in an effort to make the Commission more efficient.<sup>168</sup> While there may be some merit to improving how the Commission focuses on policy matters, his failure to involve his colleagues in the process and their inability to trust his actions based experience had the opposite effect.

The EDO also disagreed with the Chairman's strategy and told the Committee that the issue of information flow contributed to a strained relationship with Chairman:

[I]t's basic philosophical differences as to . . . management style and management technique and this open, collaborative work environment.

I didn't see the benefit to not providing these information papers, for example. He had stated that, and I believe, it's his intent to try to make the Commission more efficient in its operation by only giving them information that they need in order to do the policy work that they have before them. But I saw the downsides of not giving them that information

---

<sup>166</sup> 2011 OIG Report at 46.

<sup>167</sup> S. Hearing (1980) at 102.

<sup>168</sup> 2011 OIG Report at 42.

as being more significant than that, than the upside of trying to improve efficiency.<sup>169</sup>

## B. Chairman Jaczko withheld staff input from his colleagues to influence their votes

The Chairman's interference on the SECY paper delivering the near-term task force report associated with the Commission's post-Fukushima review heightened existing concerns that his management style and broad interpretation of his own authority prevented the staff from sharing its expertise with the Commission. The NRC Commissioners rely on the input and recommendations of the NRC technical staff in order to make informed decisions on policy matters. Jeffrey Sharkey, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Svinicki, testified about the importance of the staff's unfiltered opinion being presented to the Commission:

The ability for the staff to bring forward, perhaps in an unadulterated way, the staff recommendation for the Commission to consider, this is the sort of filtering or interference that frustrates the ability of the Commission to make a fully informed decision. In the absence of a staff recommendation on how to proceed, the Commission does not have the full benefit in its policy deliberations on how to move forward.<sup>170</sup>

Access to staff's independent analysis is a crucial component of the Commission's decision-making process. If one Commissioner is able to control what information is shared during this process, the Commission's ability to make educated decisions on policy matters is compromised. Commissioner Magwood's Chief of Staff, Patrice Bubar, stated:

A SECY paper is to be written by the staff and it is to come to all commissioners at the same time . . . [T]he Commission needs the benefit of what the staff is thinking and the Commission doesn't need to hear from any particular individual commissioner. We hear that through the voting process. So, yes . . . I believe it is totally inappropriate to have any particular commissioner to direct the staff what to provide to the Commission.<sup>171</sup>

Ms. Sosa further explained how restricting the information flow not only hinders the Commissioners ability to consider the staff's independent advice, it also reduces transparency and distorts the public record:

Q: So if the Commissioner is frustrated . . . they feel like I only got this two-paragraph paper when what they wanted was the five-page explanation with all options, et cetera; why not just go to the staff and say, hey, I want your recommendations?

---

<sup>169</sup> Borhardt Tr. at 20.

<sup>170</sup> Sharkey Tr. at 19.

<sup>171</sup> Bubar Tr. at 16.

A: That's a good question. A similar question I would say is why not provide it up front the way that we have always done it, because that paper becomes public. And then everyone can see what information they use to base their vote on. That is the transparency and the Agency. That is the way the staff and everyone can explain . . . years later how was this policy decision made?<sup>172</sup>

Virgilio testified that his interaction with the Chairman on July 12, 2011 was a “defining moment” for him.<sup>173</sup> In the course of expressing his displeasure with the contents of the SECY paper that had been sent to the Commission, Chairman Jackzo indicated to Virgilio that he should have provided the Chairman a draft of the SECY paper before it was released to the Commission – something that has not happened since the internal procedures were amended in 1998.<sup>174</sup>

**FINDING: Chairman Jaczko stated an expectation that he should see voting papers before they are shared with his colleagues. Having prior access to voting papers would allow the Chairman to pressure staff to pull back or otherwise edit papers contrary to his policy priorities. This instruction represented a “defining moment” for the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.**

1. The Internal Commission Procedures require full and prompt disclosure of information.

The issue of individual Commissioners influencing the content of SECY papers is not a novel question at the NRC. As discussed previously, in the late 1990’s, the Commissioners were concerned by Chairman Shirley Anne Jackson’s interpretation of her authority. As a result, the Commission made changes to the Internal Commission Procedures. A particular concern at the time was Chairman Jackson’s involvement in the development of SECY papers. To protect the deliberative process from the Chairman’s disproportionate influence, the procedures were revised to state, “The Chairman shall ensure *prompt and full delivery of original information* with any changes thereto, including draft SECYs and COMs, except preliminary information for development of Section 2(b) [of the Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980] proposals and estimates . . . unless expressly requested by the Commission.”<sup>175</sup>

The NRC’s General Counsel at the time conducted a legal review of the approved revisions to the Internal Commission Procedures. In a memorandum dated July 7, 1998, the General Counsel provided her assessment of the simultaneous delivery of draft decision papers to the Commission:

---

<sup>172</sup> Sosa Tr. at 65.

<sup>173</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 28-29.

<sup>174</sup> *Id.*

<sup>175</sup> *Nuclear Regulatory Commission Oversight, S. Hrg. 105-918, Before the S. Subcomm. On Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety and the S. Comm. on Environment and Public Works, 105th Cong. (1998) (answer of Chairman Jackson).*

Taken as a whole, the statutory language, coupled with the legislative history of the Reorganization Plan, lead us to conclude that the balance tips strongly in favor of Commissioners' access to information needed in performance of their functions, rather than the Chairman's ability to restrict or delay information. The documents at issue are all related to the exercise or fulfillment of the Commission's functions and decision-making responsibilities as a collegial body.<sup>176</sup>

In response to a question from the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, then-Commissioner Diaz summarized the importance of this change:

Unless the Commissioners are fully and currently informed, they cannot properly exercise their responsibility for policy formulation (including management policy), most rulemaking, and oversight of the agency. The full Commission's access to the staff's independent and sometimes diverse views allows for better-informed Commission decisions. It also enhances the ability of each Commissioner to articulate and consider differing positions and makes more transparent to the Commission the Chairman's actions in the performance of her functions.<sup>177</sup>

As noted in the previous section, the current Chairman has increasingly sought to leverage his supervisory authority to limit the staff's ability to provide advice or recommendations that do not align with his policy objectives. In fact, despite the legal opinion developed by the General Counsel in 1998, information obtained by the Committee indicates that in September 2011, the Chairman's office provided verbal direction to staff in the EDO's office that all draft SECY papers be delivered to the Chairman for review prior to delivery to other members of the Commission.<sup>178</sup>

Chairman Jaczko's continued failure to live up to the standards made clear in response to Chairman Jackson's abuses have frustrated Commission staff. Patrice Bubar, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Magwood, stated:

Why? Why does it have to be that way? Why does it have to be so difficult? This is information that is clearly owed to the Commission that is interesting and helpful to them in their decision making process. Why can't it just be provided to the Commission?<sup>179</sup>

---

<sup>176</sup> Memorandum from Karen Cyr, General Counsel, to the Commissioners of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Commission Internal Procedures," (July 8, 1998).

<sup>177</sup> *Nuclear Regulatory Commission Oversight, S. Hrg. 105-918, Before the S. Subcomm. On Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety and the S. Comm. on Environment and Public Works, 105th Cong. (1998)* (answers of Comm'r Diaz).

<sup>178</sup> E-mail from [REDACTED] to Comm. Staff (Sept. 12, 2011).

<sup>179</sup> Bubar Tr. at 165-166.

2. Chairman Jaczko instructed staff to always speak with him before communicating about policy matters with other Commissioners.

In the wake of the events associated with the SECY paper and near-term report, the Chairman began to increase pressure on staff to support his policy objectives. Virgilio testified that in a meeting on July 28, 2011, the Chairman outlined his expectations to several of the NRC's top staff members. Virgilio stated:

I mean, it was clear in that meeting on the 28th, you know, that his marching orders to the three of us were that we were to talk to him before we talked to any Commissioner about policy to make sure that we were aligned.<sup>180</sup>

Virgilio testified that this was another "watershed event" that expanded the Chairman's interpretation of his supervisory authority and further reduced the staff's ability to convey independent advice to the other members of the Commission.<sup>181</sup> Virgilio understood that the Chairman expected top staff to communicate their recommendations to the other Commissioners only in cases where their views aligned with his. Virgilio stated:

Q. And so do you feel like if another Commissioner asks you -- if another Commissioner is deciding how to vote and they ask you what your recommendations are, do you feel like you now could be prevented from providing your real recommendations if they aren't in alignment with the Chairman?

A. Under this model, yeah, I think that's what Chairman Jaczko expects.<sup>182</sup>

<b>FINDING: Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to support his policy priorities in order to gain leverage over his colleagues on the Commission.</b>
---

Virgilio attributed the Chairman's shifting expectations and erratic demands on staff to an evolving interpretation of his authority under the Reorganization Plan. He stated:

Q. Has his - do you get the feeling that the chairman's sort of view of the reorganization plan, his interpretation of your reorganization plan has evolved?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you elaborate specifically on how it has evolved?

<sup>180</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 55. (emphasis added).

<sup>181</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 50.

<sup>182</sup> *Id.* at 56. (emphasis added).

A. Well, I think going through this whole process with the paper and the expectation that I would have shown him a draft and now the fact that he believes that before the senior executives discuss with other Commissioners matters of policy that we ought to be aligned with him with respect to the discussions.

Q. What do you think is prompting this sort of taking this stricter view?

A. Maybe a strategy to ensure that the policy that he presents to the commission and the options that he recommends to the commission are in fact carried forward; leveraging his conversations and leveraging us to support his conversations and his interests.<sup>183</sup>

## IX. The Commission Responds

Over time, the Chairman's escalating abuse of authority, disregard for the Commission structure and values, and mistreatment of NRC staff has taken its toll on the agency. Commissioners and their staffs have grown increasingly concerned that the current environment is not sustainable and could potentially undermine the NRC's core mission. Ho Nieh stated:

With respect to severity, where I see this being not sustainable and leading into something that's more severe is when it gets to the point where we're spending so much energy trying to assert the majority will is that it's going to eventually take away our focus on some of the more important issues.<sup>184</sup>

Patrice Bubar added:

Q: Do you think [the time spent trying to find information, trying to get information that you need to do your job] is compromising the Commission's ability to fulfill its responsibilities for safety and security?

A: I can't say that we are at that point just yet, but I do believe that we are definitely on a path that that could become a problem . . . . I don't have evidence right now that says, you know, we are compromising safety, but I feel as if we are definitely on a path that that could become the issue.<sup>185</sup>

After months of trying to combat the Chairman's authoritarian leadership and abusive behavior, the Commissioners came to the conclusion that the situation could no longer be addressed internally. On October 13, 2011, the four Commissioners took the unprecedented step

---

<sup>183</sup> Virgilio Tr. at 28-29.

<sup>184</sup> Nieh Tr. at 184-185.

<sup>185</sup> Bubar Tr. at 189-190.

of writing a letter to the White House Chief of Staff, William Daley, outlining their concerns about Chairman Jaczko's leadership of the NRC. The letter informed the Chief of Staff:

We believe that [Chairman Jaczko's] actions and behavior are causing serious damage to this institution and are creating a chilled work environment at the NRC. We are concerned that this will adversely affect the NRC's essential mission protect the health, safety and security of the American people.<sup>186</sup>

**FINDING:** Four Commissioners wrote a letter to the White House explaining their concerns about Chairman Jaczko's leadership. They told the White House that he has "intimidated and bullied career staff," created a "chilled work environment," undermined and disrespected the Commission, and created a situation that "will adversely affect the NRC's essential mission to protect the health, safety and security of the American people."

They provided five specific observations. The Commissioners wrote that Chairman Jaczko:

- Intimidated and bullied senior career staff to the degree that he has created a high level of fear and anxiety resulting in a chilled work environment;
- Ordered staff to withhold or modify policy information and recommendations intended for transmission to the Commission;
- Attempted to intimidate the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, a legislatively-chartered independent group of technical advisors, to prevent it from reviewing certain aspects of NRC's analysis of the Fukushima accident;
- Ignored the will of the majority of the Commission, contrary to the statutory functions of the Commission; and
- Interacted with us, his fellow Commissioners, with such intemperance and disrespect that the Commission no longer functions as effectively as it should.<sup>187</sup>

They concluded:

[W]e have carried out the work before us and will continue to do so. However, Chairman Jaczko's behavior and management practices have become increasingly problematic and erratic. **We believe his conduct as**

<sup>186</sup> Letter from NRC Commissioners Kristine Svinicki, George Apostolakis, William Magwood IV, and William Ostendorff to White House Chief of Staff William L. Daley (Oct. 13, 2011).

<sup>187</sup> *Id.* at 1.

**Chairman is inconsistent with the NRC's organizational values and impairs the effective execution of the agency's mission.**<sup>188</sup>

## X. Conclusion

For more than 18 months, Chairman Jaczko has had the opportunity to demonstrate his effectiveness as a leader. Even when his actions created tensions with his colleagues, he had the chance to mend fences and restore a level of trust and professionalism. Rather than rise to the challenge and accept responsibility for leading the agency off course, Chairman Jaczko became increasingly defiant when faced with opposition from his colleagues and the staff. For an agency that once prided itself on its values and open and collaborative work environment, the new mantra appears to be “my way or the highway.”

Today, the NRC's ability to remain focused on its core mission has been brought under question – not only by four Commissioners but by the NRC's staff. As Chairman Jaczko's abuses have come to light, he and political allies are attempting to paint the picture of a victim – a white knight, standing alone against the powerful forces that seek to undermine the safety of the nation's nuclear facilities. In this skewed portrayal, only he cares enough to do what is right. His fellow Commissioners are working against him, colluding with the NRC staff to delay the changes needed to save the nation from the potential dangers of nuclear power.

The Chairman and his supporters are attempting to demonize the NRC, a strategy that the late Commissioner Edward McGaffigan – a man who embodied commitment to the NRC, its mission, and values – reserved for groups motivated by profit or an ideological agenda – not “a dedication to protect and serve the American people.”<sup>189</sup> In a 2006 speech to new NRC employees, Commissioner McGaffigan explained:

When I arrived at NRC in 1996, I had spent two decades working on national security issues first as a Foreign Service Officer, and then as an aide to Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM). I did not know that I was a demon, but it did not take long for me to cast votes, based on my scientific, technical, and policy judgment, that were not to the liking of the anti-nuclear zealots and so I became a demon.<sup>190</sup>

His message to employees was simple – conduct yourself with honor and integrity, let the facts guide your decisions, even when that means telling someone something they do not want to hear.<sup>191</sup> There will always be individuals or groups so blinded by their views that they cannot allow facts to compromise their position.<sup>192</sup> Commissioner McGaffigan reminded employees,

---

<sup>188</sup> *Id.* at 2. (emphasis added).

<sup>189</sup> Commissioner McGaffigan's Remarks at the Nuclear Safety Professional Development Program Graduation (September 28, 2006) available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/speeches/2006/exm-nspdp-remarks.html>.

<sup>190</sup> *Id.*

<sup>191</sup> *Id.*

<sup>192</sup> *Id.*

“you can afford such enemies, but you cannot afford to compromise your honor, your personal compass.”<sup>193</sup>

The unprecedented decision by four commissioners – two Democrats, two Republicans – to bring their concerns to the White House is not part of some grand political conspiracy against Chairman Jaczko. It is about upholding their integrity and standing up for the NRC, its employees, and its mission. It reflects a commitment to everything the NRC stands for as well as the reason why Congress has preserved the NRC as an independent, collegial body – to protect against the partisan influences that corrupt and undermine its important mission. Jeffry Sharkey, who spent more than 11 years working for Commissioner McGaffigan, told the Committee:

I know Commissioner McGaffigan would. . . be outraged and devastated by the damage done to this fine institution by Chairman Jaczko. Without hesitation he would add his voice to that of Commissioners Svinicki, Apostolakis, Magwood, and Ostendorff in calling for Chairman Jaczko’s removal.<sup>194</sup>

The NRC’s organizational values – integrity, service, openness, commitment, cooperation, excellence, and respect – are more than just buzz words; they define daily life at the Commission. Many organizations have a mission statement or values but few live them quite like the NRC. These values are as much a part of the NRC’s operations as any law, regulation, or standard. For NRC employees, they are a source of pride. The EDO describes two principle reasons why NRC employees have demonstrated such strong support for the agency:

One is an absolute and unabiding belief in the mission of the NRC, and the second is this intrinsic understanding and incorporation of living by a set of values that all 4,000 people exhibit every single day, whether we’re dealing with external stakeholders, licensees, and most importantly with ourselves. There is a sense of trust between NRC staffers that I don’t think exists in many places in the workforce.<sup>195</sup>

Chairmen and Commissioners come and go but the men and women of the NRC who live by these values are the reason that the NRC remains focused on its mission. The current Chairman, through his blatant disregard for the Commission and its core beliefs, is testing this resolve. The NRC has survived thus far but the cracks are forming and all symptoms point to catastrophe.

When four Commissioners and countless staff are concerned about the future of the NRC, the American public should also be worried. Swift, decisive action is desperately needed to restore the integrity of the NRC, its values, and commitment to its core mission – public health and safety.

---

<sup>193</sup> *Id.*

<sup>194</sup> Email from Jeffry Sharkey to Committee Staff (December 9, 2011).

<sup>195</sup> Bill Borchardt, Living the NRC Values Transcript, available at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/values.html>.

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Kenneth Fletcher [fletcher@exchangemonitor.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:33 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Daley Letters

Thanks Eliot! Yes, I think I have everything else, including the Chairman's Dec. 7 letter to Daley. Please keep me in the loop if anything else comes out.

See you tomorrow,

Kenny Fletcher  
Reporter, Weapons Complex Monitor  
Exchange Monitor Publications  
(202) 296-2814 x108

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:28 PM  
**To:** Kenneth Fletcher  
**Subject:** RE: Daley Letters

Do you have all of our materials – the chairman's letter to Daley, etc?

---

**From:** Kenneth Fletcher [mailto:fletcher@exchangemonitor.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:11 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Daley Letters

Eliot,

Hope everything is going OK preparing for the hearings. Wanted to check in and see if you could send me a copy of the letters William Daley sent out yesterday.

Thanks,

Kenny Fletcher  
Reporter, Weapons Complex Monitor  
Exchange Monitor Publications  
(202) 296-2814 x108

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Mr. Brenner,  
Thank you very much for all the attachments.  
Regarding the other commissioners' letter, would it be too much trouble to ask you to ask them for their letter?  
Thank you very much.  
Christina Bilski  
Washington DC Bureau  
Nikkei Newspaper  
Main: 202-393-1388  
Fax: 202-737-0170  
BlackBerry:

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** white house letters

I will forward our materials momentarily. I do not have the letter of the other commissioners. Sorry.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C:

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** request for comment

Eliot,

House Republicans on the Oversight Committee just released a new report on Chairman Jaczko. Have you see it? If so, can you provide comment?

Thanks,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Darius Dixon [ddixon@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:38 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** The Chairman's testimony

Eliot, is there any way you can send me the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow. My editor wants a story on it now. A source sent me a copy but I'd like to verify it with you...

If you think I'm trying to trick you, it starts:  
Chairman Issa, Ranking Member Cummings, and Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you to provide an overview of the management and operations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The year 2011 has been an exceptionally challenging and productive year for the NRC. The NRC staff has done an outstanding job over the past year under what have been, at times, challenging circumstances. The Commission never loses sight of the fact that our effectiveness as a safety and security regulator depends first and foremost on the staff's hard work and dedication.

Even with the pressures of the past year, ...

~Darius Dixon  
Energy Reporter  
POLITICO

(b)(6) (m)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:44 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Oh, sorry, I didn't realize the press office didn't represent the entire NRC.  
Thank you.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Christina Bilski  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:38 PM  
**Subject:** RE: white house letters

I work for the chairman and do not represent the other commissioners. I would suggest that you look for a story that has a link to their letter, or call one of their offices. It might also be contained in the report that Rep. Issa's committee just produced.

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [mailto:bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Mr. Brenner,  
Thank you very much for all the attachments.  
Regarding the other commissioners' letter, would it be too much trouble to ask you to ask them for their letter?  
Thank you very much.  
Christina Bilski  
Washington DC Bureau  
Nikkei Newspaper  
Main: 202-393-1388  
Fax: 202-737-0170  
BlackBerry: (b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** white house letters

I will forward our materials momentarily. I do not have the letter of the other commissioners. Sorry.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200

C:

(b)(6)

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Hannah Northey [REDACTED] (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:55 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Comment request

Hi Eliot,

I'm sure you probably have seen it already, but Whitfield is asking for Obama to replace the chairman. Can you give me a comment on this? Please confirm and then I'll know you received this.

Thanks, Hannah

--  
**Hannah M. Northey**  
Energy Reporter  
Greenwire  
122 C Street NW, Suite 722  
Washington, DC  
(o) 202-446-0468

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** McIntyre, David  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:58 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** ISSA ON GBJ!

Eliot – Becky just called asking if we had access to PoliticoPro. Apparently Issa just released a report on the Chairman, but it's only on the pay site for now.

Just fyi ...

---

**David McIntyre**  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**  
(301) 415-8200 (office)  
(301) 415-8206 (direct)  
*Protecting People & the Environment*

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Nancy Roth [nancy@fuelcycleweek.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:02 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Dan Yurman  
**Subject:** Re: about Jaczko WH apology letter

Hi, Eliot,

Thank you. I understand and appreciate your point that the administrative structure has been a source of tension among commissioners in the past.

But to my knowledge no commissioner has ever taken the initiative to warn the White House in writing that the behavior and management of a chairman threatened full agency function. Am I right? Let alone all four serving under the same commissioner. That strikes me as unique to this situation. Unless something like this has happened in the past.

Yes, I have heard the chairman note that he is passionate in his commitment to safety. In fact, in his Dec. 7 letter to the White House the chairman claims his passion for safety at nuclear plants surpassed that of his colleagues, and points to that as the origin of the dispute.

But he offered no examples or evidence to back up that assertion so to me it lacked credibility.

So is the chairman correct to say the other commissioners are inadequately committed to safety at the nation's nuclear fleet, especially in light of what we know today about the events in Japan?

Thanks for helping me understand,  
Nancy

Nancy E. Roth

**Managing Ed., Fuel Cycle Week**

710 C Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
United States of America

202 547 8300 Office

(b)(6)

Mobile

<http://fuelcycleweek.com>

[nancy@fuelcycleweek.com](mailto:nancy@fuelcycleweek.com)

Follow FCW on Twitter: @NuclearBuzz

On Dec 13, 2011, at 3:18 PM, Brenner, Eliot wrote:

Nancy: Per your 4<sup>th</sup> graph, I suspect you are seeing the same issues recycled in different venues. The IG did not find that the chairman was bullying, etc, but rather merely reported that there were those who had that view. The key finding was that he acted within the responsibilities of his office.

There have been tensions among commissioners that date back to the creation of the current structure, and as the IG reported in 1999 they have been acrimonious at times. There is a difference between the job of a commissioner and that of the chairman, as clearly described in the reorganization act. The chairman discussed that in his letter and, if I recall, has noted in many venues that he is passionate about safety and passionate in the way he expresses himself.

With reference to the Oct. 5 meeting and its proximity to the Oct. 13 letter: I cannot comment on private conversations between the chairman and NRC managers, I'm not going to draw any connection between those dates, nor between the release of the Oct. 13 letter late Friday and Hill activity this week.

Eliot

---

**From:** Nancy Roth [mailto:nancy@uelwrcleweek.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:49 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Cc:** Dan Yurman  
**Subject:** Fwd: about Jazcko WH apology letter

Hi, Eliot,

Dan has kindly shared his recent correspondence with you about the newest contretemps between the chairman and his colleagues, as I plan to write about it for this week's FCW. I hope it's okay to jump in with a question.

You have suggested that the tensions spring from the way the commission is structured. Chairman Jazcko made that same point in his rebuttal to the letter that the four commissioners sent to the White House. I'm sorry to say I don't find it a convincing response to what appears to be quite an exceptional and unfortunate event at NRC.

The fact that all four of the dissenting commissioners even sent a letter to the White House sets a disheartening precedent. I can't think of any analogous situation at NRC, even though the administrative structure has been in

place for well over a decade. These guys are not rookies, they are leaders in their field. They are not given to whining. To my mind, attributing their concerns to the administrative structure within which they work belittles their concerns.

The IG published a report this year criticizing the chairman's management style. It corroborated the very behavior--bullying, intemperate interactions with staff and withholding of information from other commissioners--that the Oct. 13 letter cited.

We also saw a lot of subterranean clashing rise to the surface last summer among the commissioners regarding the speed with which the Fukushima task force recommendations could be acted on, after the chairman made a speech at the National Press Club last summer promising immediate action on all of them. Apparently he didn't consult his colleagues first. I personally witnessed the fireworks at a Senate hearing a few weeks later.

So something really turned up the heat on a pot that was already boiling. I suspect it was the chairman's disparaging comments at the Oct. 5 meeting. That would explain the timing of the Oct. 13 letter.

What am I missing? I hope you can tell me.

Best,  
Nancy

Nancy E. Roth

**Managing Ed., Fuel Cycle Week**

710 C Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
United States of America

202 547 8300

Office

(b)(6) Mobile

<http://fuelcycleweek.com>

Nancy E. Roth

Begin forwarded message:

From: "dan.yurman@usa.net" <dan.yurman@usa.net>  
Date: December 13, 2011 11:04:12 AM EST  
To: "Nancy Roth" <nancy@fuelcycleweek.com>  
Subject: Fwd: about Jaczko WH apology letter

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)

Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Brenner, Eliot" <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
To: "dan.yurman@usa.net" <dan.yurman@usa.net>  
Subject: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2011 10:24

That this discord is a result of the way the commission is structured, it has been this way for quite some time, and despite that this commission has gotten a remarkable amount of work done.

---

**From:** dan.yurman@usa.net [mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

So what was the "right thing" and yes I'm asking nicely.

Best, Dan

-----  
Dan Yurman  
[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)  
Mobile: (b)(6)

----- Reply message -----

From: "Brenner, Eliot" <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
To: "Dan Yurman" <dan.yurman@usa.net>  
Subject: Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter  
Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2011 09:47

It came from the white house. It is not mine to give out ... but if you ask nicely I can see that you get the material....

I saw your piece this morning. my personal observation is you focused on the wrong thing, but that's just me.

---

**From:** Dan Yurman [mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Questoin about Jaczko WH apology letter

Is this an NRC document or did it come from the White House? Who has a copy for the media?

My latest coverage on my blog here.

<http://djysrv.blogspot.com/2011/12/white-house-issues-apology-by-jaczko.html>

—  
Dan Yurman

[dan.yurman@usa.net](mailto:dan.yurman@usa.net)

Mobile: (b)(6)

Blog: [Idaho Samizdat](#) [Google+](#)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

## Brenner, Eliot

---

**From:** Adam Satow [ASATOW@vocus.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:20 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request for January 5th

Congratulations, Beth! Take advantage - our director recently retired so we often receive photos from the golf course and beach.

Eliot, I'm so sorry you didn't feel as though Vocus would be helpful – this is truthfully the first time that I've heard that. We release two major updates to the Vocus system annually and feedback from conversations like this drive those changes. Are there any suggestions as to how we can make Vocus better?

Also, I wanted to let you know the reasoning behind our interest in NRC. From the outside looking in, NRC seems like an extremely great fit.

1. Many Federal Agencies & Departments are mandating a shift to data-driven Public Affairs wherein decisions and campaigns are influenced by research and analysis. Vocus is by far the easiest and most comprehensive tool to accomplish this mission so we've been a sought after solution.
2. NRC generates/distributes a great deal of news each month; each usually dealing with certain plants -- How do you research and maintain all of your media lists? How do you judge your release's success?
3. NRC generates quite a lot of press on a weekly basis -- How are you generating your clip reports and analysis?
4. NRC OPA is decentralized and works out of multiple regional offices -- Have you found a way to centralize your teams' efforts to collaborate easier and share materials?

Vocus automates all of these activities, leaving more time for the strategic and critical work. While we would love the ability to share our new modular software and some best practices from your peers, you know your operations best! Let me know if there is anything that we can help with, or any suggestions to make Vocus better.

Happy Holidays,  
Adam

### *Adam Satow*

*Federal Marketing and Sales Coordinator*  
**VOCUS - On Demand Software for Public/Media Relations**  
☎: 301-479-3520 ex. 35676 ✉: [asatow@vocus.com](mailto:asatow@vocus.com)

*Forbes 25 Fastest-Growing Tech Companies*  
*SIIA Codie Award for Best Productivity Solution*

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:02 PM  
**To:** Adam Satow; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting request for January 5th

Adam: Beth is retiring at year's end, and I expect to be on the road on that day. We have already had a demonstration of Vocus' capabilities and it is not a product that we find particularly helpful to us.

Thank you for checking in.

Eliot

---

**From:** Adam Satow [mailto:asatow@vocus.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:00 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Meeting request for January 5th

Hi Eliot & Elizabeth,

I hope this email finds you doing well. Following up on my voicemail, we're hoping to coordinate a short presentation of Vocus' Media & Public Affairs Software once calendars return to "normal" in January.

Vocus' Solution supports a number of your peers in over 200 Federal Agencies & Offices and 10,000 Corporations by streamlining Communications and automating essential processes.

A brief introduction:

The software connects essential components of your Communications needs in one cloud-based system; media relations, media contact database, news distribution, media monitoring, social media and reporting/analysis of all media efforts. It provides updated media contact information as well as real time news coverage and metrics on the topics you wish to track. Of particular interest to most organizations is how Vocus provides a way to measure and visualize results in a way people haven't been able to before. Having a true integrated system, our customers realize significant benefits - they save time by streamlining manual efforts, share information more easily, obtain automated measurement reports, and achieve better results across their initiatives.

Would you be available Thursday, January 5th for a short introductory presentation to see how your peers leverage Vocus? Please, feel free to reach me at 301.683.6039 to talk further or compare calendars.

Best Regards,  
Adam

**Adam Satow**  
*Federal Marketing and Sales Coordinator*  
**VOCUS - On Demand Software for Public/Media Relations**  
☎: 301-479-3520 ex. 35676 ✉: [asatow@vocus.com](mailto:asatow@vocus.com)

*Forbes 25 Fastest-Growing Tech Companies*  
*SIIA Codie Award for Best Productivity Solution*

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC  
**Attachments:** Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg; Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 2.jpg; Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 3.jpg; Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 4.jpg

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [mailto:Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Cc:** OPA Resource; Xie, Yanmei  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

Hi Scott, Any NRC comment on the Issa report? I'm filing shortly for our wire and daily. Thanks, Steve

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Hill, Frederick [mailto:Frederick.Hill@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:37 PM  
**Cc:** Hill, Frederick  
**Subject:** Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC



December 13, 2011

Contact: Frederick Hill 202-225-0037

### **Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC**

Washington, DC – House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa today released findings from an investigation on the crisis at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The report, “How the Actions of Chairman Gregory Jaczko are Damaging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,” presents findings

from an investigation by the Oversight Committee. Committee investigators reviewed over 25,000 documents and conducted transcribed interviews of 15 NRC employees.

“The Oversight Committee’s investigation of leadership problems plaguing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission substantiates concerns raised by the group of four bipartisan commissioners who have told the White House that Chairman Jaczko is creating a chilled environment while seriously damaging this agency and its critical mission of ensuring nuclear safety,” said Chairman Issa. “The commission and its career staff are facing a crisis. Downplaying these serious problems won’t resolve them.”

Key findings of the report include:

- Chairman Jaczko and his staff used political considerations to try to intimidate and influence other Democratic Commissioners’ votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain.
- Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to support his policy priorities in order to gain leverage over his colleagues on the Commission.
- Chairman Jaczko’s aggressive behavior and attempts to threaten or intimidate his colleagues prevents constructive discussion among Commissioners and undermines the NRC’s deliberative process.
- Chairman Jaczko became “shaking angry” and accused the Deputy Executive Director for Operations of being dishonest when a vote paper delivered to the Commission did not conform to his desires, interests, or views. Staff had already significantly altered the paper to conform to the Chairman’s vision.
- Chairman Jaczko stated an expectation that he should see voting papers before they are shared with his colleagues. Having prior access to voting papers would allow the Chairman to pressure staff to pull back or otherwise edit papers contrary to his policy priorities. This instruction represented a “defining moment” for the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.

Click [here](#) for a copy of the report.

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing tomorrow on the leadership of the NRC where the five commissioners will testify tomorrow at 10 AM in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

###

**Frederick R. Hill**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Oversight & Government Reform**  
**Committee**  
**Darrell Issa, Chairman**

2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Phone: 202-225-0037  
Fax: 202-225-3974



---

The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient, and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.

---

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:43 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release – Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; image002.jpg; image003.jpg; image004.jpg

OK, sorry for the confusion. I misunderstood your comment this morning that there would be "no more outreach" from you today on this.

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:39 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Dolley, Steven  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

Steve: on all this stuff, I will be your point of contact. I don't want the staff to get wrapped up with their names in print.

The chairman will be pleased to address any question the committee has in his appearance tomorrow.

(on background, I would refer you back to the materials that cover much of this ground.)

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [mailto:Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Cc:** OPA Resource; Xie, Yanmei  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

Hi Scott, Any NRC comment on the Issa report? I'm filing shortly for our wire and daily. Thanks, Steve

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts

202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Hill, Frederick [mailto:Frederick.Hill@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:37 PM  
**Cc:** Hill, Frederick  
**Subject:** Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC



December 13, 2011

Contact: Frederick Hill 202-225-0037

## **Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC**

Washington, DC – House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa today released findings from an investigation on the crisis at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The report, “How the Actions of Chairman Gregory Jaczko are Damaging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,” presents findings from an investigation by the Oversight Committee. Committee investigators reviewed over 25,000 documents and conducted transcribed interviews of 15 NRC employees.

“The Oversight Committee’s investigation of leadership problems plaguing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission substantiates concerns raised by the group of four bipartisan commissioners who have told the White House that Chairman Jaczko is creating a chilled environment while seriously damaging this agency and its critical mission of ensuring nuclear safety,” said Chairman Issa. “The commission and its career staff are facing a crisis. Downplaying these serious problems won’t resolve them.”

Key findings of the report include:

- Chairman Jaczko and his staff used political considerations to try to intimidate and influence other Democratic Commissioners’ votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain.
- Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to support his policy priorities in order to gain leverage over his colleagues on the Commission.
- Chairman Jaczko’s aggressive behavior and attempts to threaten or intimidate his colleagues prevents constructive discussion among Commissioners and undermines the NRC’s deliberative process.

- Chairman Jaczko became “shaking angry” and accused the Deputy Executive Director for Operations of being dishonest when a vote paper delivered to the Commission did not conform to his desires, interests, or views. Staff had already significantly altered the paper to conform to the Chairman’s vision.
- Chairman Jaczko stated an expectation that he should see voting papers before they are shared with his colleagues. Having prior access to voting papers would allow the Chairman to pressure staff to pull back or otherwise edit papers contrary to his policy priorities. This instruction represented a “defining moment” for the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.

Click here for a copy of the [report](#).

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing tomorrow on the leadership of the NRC where the five commissioners will testify tomorrow at 10 AM in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

###

**Frederick R. Hill**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Oversight & Government Reform**  
**Committee**  
**Darrell Issa, Chairman**  
**2157 Rayburn House Office Building**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**  
**Phone: 202-225-0037**  
**Fax: 202-225-3974**



NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

---

The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient, and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.

---

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:48 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; image002.jpg; image003.jpg; image004.jpg

To which I replied, "OK, I'll call Scott instead," and you said "OK" ...

but henceforth, I will send questions just to you on this, and will let other Platts nuke group reporters know

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:44 PM  
**To:** Dolley, Steven; Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

By outreach, I meant that I wasn't going to be proactively dumping more documents on folks today.

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [mailto:Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:43 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Burnell, Scott  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

OK, sorry for the confusion. I misunderstood your comment this morning that there would be "no more outreach" from you today on this.

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Brenner, Eliot [mailto:Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:39 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott; Dolley, Steven  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

Steve: on all this stuff, I will be your point of contact. I don't want the staff to get wrapped up with their names in print.

The chairman will be pleased to address any question the committee has in his appearance tomorrow.

(on background, I would refer you back to the materials that cover much of this ground.)

---

**From:** Burnell, Scott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:35 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

---

**From:** Dolley, Steven [mailto:Steven\_Dolley@platts.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** Burnell, Scott  
**Cc:** OPA Resource; Xie, Yanmei  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC

Hi Scott, Any NRC comment on the Issa report? I'm filing shortly for our wire and daily. Thank you, Steve

Steven Dolley  
Managing Editor, Inside NRC  
Platts  
202-383-2166 Office  
202-383-2187 Fax

---

**From:** Hill, Frederick [mailto:Frederick.Hill@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:37 PM  
**Cc:** Hill, Frederick  
**Subject:** Press Release -- Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC



December 13, 2011

Contact: Frederick Hill 202-225-0037

### **Chairman Issa Releases Report on Abuse and Mismanagement at the NRC**

Washington, DC – House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa today released findings from an investigation on the crisis at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The report, “How the Actions of Chairman Gregory Jaczko are Damaging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,” presents findings from an investigation by the Oversight Committee. Committee investigators reviewed over 25,000 documents and conducted transcribed interviews of 15 NRC employees.

“The Oversight Committee’s investigation of leadership problems plaguing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission substantiates concerns raised by the group of four bipartisan commissioners who have told the White House that Chairman Jaczko is creating a chilled environment while seriously damaging this agency and its critical mission of ensuring nuclear safety,” said Chairman Issa. “The commission and its career staff are facing a crisis. Downplaying these serious problems won’t resolve them.”

Key findings of the report include:

- Chairman Jaczko and his staff used political considerations to try to intimidate and influence other Democratic Commissioners’ votes on matters related to Yucca Mountain.
- Chairman Jaczko pressured staff to support his policy priorities in order to gain leverage over his colleagues on the Commission.
- Chairman Jaczko’s aggressive behavior and attempts to threaten or intimidate his colleagues prevents constructive discussion among Commissioners and undermines the NRC’s deliberative process.
- Chairman Jaczko became “shaking angry” and accused the Deputy Executive Director for Operations of being dishonest when a vote paper delivered to the Commission did not conform to his desires, interests, or views. Staff had already significantly altered the paper to conform to the Chairman’s vision.
- Chairman Jaczko stated an expectation that he should see voting papers before they are shared with his colleagues. Having prior access to voting papers would allow the Chairman to pressure staff to pull back or otherwise edit papers contrary to his policy priorities. This instruction represented a “defining moment” for the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.

[Click here for a copy of the report.](#)

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee will hold a hearing tomorrow on the leadership of the NRC where the five commissioners will testify tomorrow at 10 AM in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

###

**Frederick R. Hill**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Oversight & Government Reform**  
**Committee**  
**Darrell Issa, Chairman**  
**2157 Rayburn House Office Building**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

Phone: 202-225-0037

Fax: 202-225-3974



---

The information contained in this message is intended only for the recipient, and may be a confidential attorney-client communication or may otherwise be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, please be aware that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. reserves the right, subject to applicable local law, to monitor, review and process the content of any electronic message or information sent to or from McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses without informing the sender or recipient of the message. By sending electronic message or information to McGraw-Hill e-mail addresses you, as the sender, are consenting to McGraw-Hill processing any of your personal data therein.

---

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:53 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Ok. One more thing, please: could you confirm Japanese public broadcaster NHK's report that Chairman Jaczko will go to to Japan maybe next week to see the Fukushima nuclear site? Thanks.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Christina Bilski  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:38 PM  
**Subject:** RE: white house letters

I work for the chairman and do not represent the other commissioners. I would suggest that you look for a story that has a link to their letter, or call one of their offices. It might also be contained in the report that Pennington's committee just produced.

**From:** Christina Bilski [mailto:bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Mr. Brenner,  
Thank you very much for all the attachments.  
Regarding the other commissioners' letter, would it be too much trouble to ask you to ask them for their letter?  
Thank you very much.  
Christina Bilski  
Washington DC Bureau  
Nikkei Newspaper  
Main: 202-393-1388  
Fax: 202-737-0170  
BlackBerry: (b)(6)

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:23 PM  
**Subject:** white house letters

I will forward our materials momentarily. I do not have the letter of the other commissioners. Sorry.

Eliot Brenner  
Director, Office of Public Affairs

Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Rockville, Md.  
O: 301-415-8200  
C: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [redacted] (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 5:11 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Ok. Thank you so much for all your help this afternoon.  
Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

---

**From:** "Brenner, Eliot" <Eliot.Brenner@nrc.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, 13 Dec 2011 17:09:42 -0500  
**To:** Christina Bilski <bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com>  
**Subject:** RE: white house letters

No. if there is any announcement about any trip, it would come from the embassy in japan. The chairman has expressed a desire to go back, but there has been no announcement on timing.

Eliot

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [mailto:bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 4:53 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Ok. One more thing, please: could you confirm Japanese public broadcaster NHK's report that Chairman Jaczko will go to to Japan next week to see the Fukushima nuclear site? Thanks.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot  
**To:** Christina Bilski  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:38 PM  
**Subject:** RE: white house letters

I work for the chairman and do not represent the other commissioners. I would suggest that you look for a story that has a link to their letter, or call one of their offices. It might also be contained in the report that Rep. Issa's committee just produced.

---

**From:** Christina Bilski [mailto:bilski\_wdc@nikkei.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot  
**Subject:** Re: white house letters

Mr. Brenner,  
Thank you very much for all the attachments.

Regarding the other commissioners' letter, would it be too much trouble to ask you to ask them for their letter?

Thank you very much.

Christina Bilski

Washington DC Bureau

Nikkei Newspaper

Main: 202-393-1388

Fax: 202-737-0170

BlackBerry: (b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brenner, Eliot

**To:** [bilski\\_wdc@nikkei.com](mailto:bilski_wdc@nikkei.com)

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 3:23 PM

**Subject:** white house letters

I will forward our materials momentarily. I do not have the letter of the other commissioners. Sorry.

Eliot Brenner

Director, Office of Public Affairs

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Rockville, Md.

O: 301-415-8200

C: (b)(6)

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Brenner, Eliot**

---

**From:** Andrew Restuccia [arestuccia@thehill.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 5:13 PM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; McIntyre, David  
**Subject:** Do you guys have a copy of Jaczko's written testimony for tomorrow's hearing?

Thanks!

--

Andrew Restuccia  
Staff Writer  
The Hill  
[arestuccia@thehill.com](mailto:arestuccia@thehill.com)  
Office: 202-407-8012  
Cell:  (best way to reach me)

Follow me on Twitter: [@AndrewRestuccia](https://twitter.com/AndrewRestuccia)  
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your letter dated December 16, 2011, letter to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 9, 2012

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

Enclosed please find documents responsive to your December 16, 2011, letter to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Dec 19, 2011 15:29

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-11-0672

LOGGING DATE: 12/19/2011

ACTION OFFICE:

(b)(5)

AUTHOR: REP Edward Markey

AFFILIATION: CONG

ADDRESSEE:

SUBJECT:

ACTION:

DISTRIBUTION:

LETTER DATE:

ACKNOWLEDGED

SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION:

DATE DUE:

(b)(5)

DATE SIGNED:

(b)(5)

COMMITTEES  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
RANKING DEMOCRAT  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

EDWARD J. MARKEY  
7TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

2108 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2107  
(202) 225-2835

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2107**

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
5 HIGH STREET, SUITE 101  
MEDFORD, MA 02155  
(781) 298-2900

188 CONCORD STREET, SUITE 102  
FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702  
(508) 875-2900

<http://markey.house.gov>

December 16, 2011

The Honorable Greg Jaczko, Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

I write in regards to a December 15, 2011 letter<sup>1</sup> to you sent by Chairmen Fred Upton, Cliff Stearns, Ed Whitfield and John Shimkus. This letter appears to commence an Energy and Commerce Committee investigation into my investigation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) response to the Fukushima meltdowns.

The documents requested in the December 15 letter include 1) all the materials provided by the five Commissioners and the NRC Office of the Secretary related to the Fukushima meltdowns that were provided to my office, 2) all documents related to the NRC's response to media requests surrounding the October 13, 2011 correspondence between some NRC Commissioners and the White House and the Congressional hearings of December 14 and 15 and 3) an explanation as to why the NRC did not formally notify the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee of the release of "sensitive Commission voting records" to my office.

As you know, on December 11, I released a report entitled "Regulatory Meltdown: How Four Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners Conspired to Delay and Weaken Nuclear Reactor Safety in the Wake of Fukushima" which drew heavily from the materials provided to me by each NRC Commissioner. This report, which was referenced extensively in the media and at both Congressional hearings that are also the subject of the December 15 letter, found that four NRC Commissioners sought to impede the NRC response to the Fukushima meltdowns by delaying the public release of and action on the recommendations made by the NRC's Near-Term Task Force on Fukushima.

I hereby request the following materials and responses:

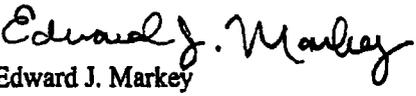
- 1) A copy of any documents the Commission provides in response to the December 15 letter that have not already been provided to me (including copies of any documents that are un-redacted or cleared for public release that were not first provided to me in that form).
- 2) Can you please verify, by close of business on Monday December 19, 2011, that chapter VI of NRC's July 5, 2011 guidance documents entitled "Transmittal of Sensitive

<sup>1</sup> <http://republicans.energycommerce.house.gov/Media/Files/Letters/112th/121511NRC.pdf>

**Documents to Congress” states that “The Commission’s general practice is to provide sensitive documents requested by Members of its Congressional Oversight Committees?”**

**Thank you very much for your prompt attention to this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please have your staff contact Dr. Michal Freedhoff of my staff at 202-225-2836.**

Sincerely,

  
Edward J. Markey

**Powell, Amy**

---

**From:** Freedhoff, Michal [Michal.Freedhoff@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2011 4:41 PM  
**To:** Powell, Amy  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Subject:** RE: Verifying requested information

Thank you

Michal Ilana Freedhoff, Ph.D.  
Policy Director  
Office of Congressman Edward J. Markey (D-MA)  
2108 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-2836

---

**From:** Powell, Amy [mailto:Amy.Powell@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2011 4:41 PM  
**To:** Freedhoff, Michal  
**Cc:** Schmidt, Rebecca  
**Subject:** Verifying requested information

Hi Michal –

I am writing in response to Mr. Markey's December 16, 2011, letter to Chairman Jaczko. Specifically, I am responding to Question #2 which asks for verification about the guidance in the NRC's Internal Commission Procedures (ICPs) regarding the transmittal of sensitive documents to Congress. Guidelines and procedures for such transmittals can be found in Chapter VI of the ICPs, a publicly available document. Section 3 on p. VI-1 includes the following statement: "The Commission's general practice is to provide sensitive documents requested by Members of its Congressional oversight committees." This specific section of the ICPs can be found at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/policy-making/icp-chapter-6-2011.pdf>

Sincerely,

Amy Powell  
Associate Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Phone: 301-415-1673



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 2, 2012

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find documents responsive to your request during the Committee's December hearing for documents that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission had previously provided to another Member of Congress.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide or have already provided other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc: Representative Elijah E. Cummings



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa  
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed please find further documents responsive to your request during the Committee's December hearing for documents that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission had previously provided to another Member of Congress.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide or have already provided other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated

cc: Representative Elijah E. Cummings

Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2011 10:15 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** you at this hearing?

--

Ryan Grim  
Desk: x40241 (Senate Daily)  
Cell: (b)(6)  
AIM: (b)(6)  
@ryangrim

Subscribe to HuffPost Hill: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/hill/signup.html>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Harder, Amy [aharder@nationaljournal.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:11 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Cc:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: NRC news

Hi Josh, just tried calling you but your office said you were on the phone. I can be reached at either of the numbers below pretty much all day, so if you could call me as soon as you get the chance, that'd be great. My deadline is 4:30 p.m. And yes, I am working on a profile of the chairman and trying to get a better understanding of exactly what happened to compel the commissioners to send a letter to the White House. Thanks for reaching out. I am using my gmail account on here because my work email has been slow to respond and spotty for the last several days. Can you make sure to cc both addresses when you respond?

**Amy Harder**  
Energy and environment reporter  
*National Journal Daily*  
M: (b)(6)  
O: (202) 266-7436  
[aharder@nationaljournal.com](mailto:aharder@nationaljournal.com)

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:46 AM  
**To:** Harder, Amy  
**Subject:** NRC news

Amy – I believe you may be working on a profile of Chairman Jaczko and was hoping to speak with you. Please give me a ring at your convenience.

Thank you,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w  
(b)(6) c

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 6:00 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: You still around?

Yup should I give you a call? Or you can call me, 703 236 2405

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Batkin, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 5:56 PM  
**To:** 'jbeattie@accessintel.com'; Beattie, Jeff  
**Subject:** You still around?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

Batkin, Joshua

---

From: Beattie, Jeff [Jeff.Beattie@ihs.com]  
Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2011 8:44 PM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: Re: You done writing?

I haven't written anything since the fri nite piece. Yes I'd like to chat w you tomorrow anytime. I could also talk tonite but whatever works. Crazy stuff. Jeff

----- Original Message -----

From: Batkin; Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov]  
Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2011 06:21 PM  
To: Beattie, Jeff  
Subject: You done writing?

Chat tomorrow?

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Brenner, Eliot; Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** URGENTLY seeking comment on Magwood comments re abusive behavior

Toward female staff. Urgently want to include a response ASAP.

-----  
Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 898 3390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

Blog: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

keep our focus — first and foremost — on our safety and security mission.”

*This article first appeared on POLITICO Pro at 4:54 p.m. on December 13, 2011.*

---

Roberta Rampton  
Independent

Phone: 202 200 6890

Email: (b)(6)

[roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com)

Blog feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 2:53 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Reuters / checking in, in case there are comments etc.

I've checked in with Eliot as well.  
We have this story on the wire which we'll be updating at least one more time.  
My colleague at White House is checking for comment there.  
Bests / Roberta

---

Roberta Rampton  
Independent

Phone: 202 898 8390  
Mobile: (b)(6)  
roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

Web feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

14:45 10Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Sen. Reid defends US nuke chief against complaints

- \* Nuclear Regulatory Commission chair Jaczko under fire
- \* Agency divided over reforms prompted by Japan disaster
- \* Regulatory reforms would cost plant operators millions

(Adds Murkowski comments)

By Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 10 (Reuters) - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on Saturday sought to defend the chairman of the U.S. nuclear safety commission, a man he helped put in power and who is locked in a bitter battle with fellow regulators over reforms prompted by Japan's Fukushima nuclear accident.

The deep-seated infighting within the five-member Nuclear Regulatory Commission was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The complaints about NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko are "a politically motivated witch hunt against a man with a proven track record of ensuring that nuclear power is produced as safely and responsibly as possible," a Reid spokesman said.

"His leadership during the Fukushima nuclear crisis was instrumental in ensuring the safety of Americans in the wake of that disaster, and his safety-oriented approach is what we need to protect the American people from a similar crisis in our own backyards," said Reid spokesman Adam Jentleson.

Republican Derrell Hissa, chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, on Friday released a letter sent to the White House in October where the four commission members said Jaczko was overstepping his powers.

The letter also said Jaczko was intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors reviewing the agency's analysis of the March disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

The commissioners - two Democratic appointees and two Republican - said Jaczko's "behavior and management practices have become increasingly problematic and erratic."

The most powerful Republican on the Energy Committee, Alaska's Sen. Lisa Murkowski, said Jaczko's behavior was "unacceptable at any level of government" and asked Obama to take action.

"The president needs to immediately address the concerns raised by the four commissioners if he wants members of Congress and the public to have faith in the agency," she said in a statement.

Batkin, Joshua

---

**From:** roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 12:50 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Reuters / purely fyi

Hello – just reaching out in case the Chairman makes any further comment this weekend, or if there are further developments. My contact info is below.

Bests / Roberta

-----  
Roberta Rampton  
Correspondent

Phone: 202 858 3390

Mobile: (b)(6)

E-mail: roberta.rampton@thomsonreuters.com

Blog feed: <http://blogs.reuters.com/roberta-rampton/feed/>

23:28 09Dec11 RTRS-UPDATE 1-Private spat within US nuclear agency laid bare

- \* Commissioners complain to White House about chairman
- \* Jaczko defends his record, apologizes for "distraction"
- \* Comes ahead of Capitol Hill hearing on Wednesday
- \* Democratic Rep. Markey report cites "conspiracy" at NRC

(Recasts with details and background throughout, adds Jaczko letter to White House)

By Richard Cowan and Roberta Rampton

WASHINGTON, Dec 9 (Reuters) - Deep-seated infighting within the five-member U.S. nuclear safety regulator was exposed on Friday after Democrats and Republicans in Congress separately released complaints about misconduct at the highest levels of the agency.

The details shed new light on how caustic relationships have become at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which is rolling out a sweeping series of reforms for U.S. nuclear power plants in the wake of the March disaster at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi power plant.

On one side is the agency's chairman, Gregory Jaczko, who previously worked for prominent nuclear critics in Congress.

On the other, four commissioners -- two Democratic appointees and two Republicans -- who complained to the White House in October that Jaczko was overstepping his powers, and intimidating senior NRC staff and an independent group of advisors that was reviewing the agency's analysis of the Fukushima accident.

"We believe that his actions and behavior are causing serious damage to this institution and are creating a chilled work environment at the NRC," the four commissioners said in a

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:47 AM  
**To:** Roberta.Rampton@thompsonreuters.com (Roberta.Rampton@thompsonreuters.com)  
**Subject:** NRC news

Roberta – thanks for trekking to Rockville to cover today's meeting. Can you please give me a call when it's done? I wanted to talk to you about a piece I think you are working on.

Thank you,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

c

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 6:44 PM  
**To:** 'Ryan Grim'  
**Attachments:** 1999 IG report.docx

One more piece of background

~~NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

A comprehensive evaluation of the structure and role of the NRC Commission was conducted by the Inspector General (IG) in 1999. The report identified a number of areas where Commission collegiality could be improved while preserving the agency's ability to carry out its critical health and safety mission.

The IG recognized the inherent ambiguity in the Commission's structure, which gives Commissioners equal authority over policy matters but vests the Chairman with additional executive powers to ensure efficient and coherent management of the agency. The lesson of Three Mile Island highlighted the importance of prompt and decisive action in emergency situations and prompted President Carter to initiate the legislation that strengthened the Chairman's management authority. The lack of a common understanding of these roles and responsibilities has negatively affected Commission interaction over the years and is considered a key to improving collegiality and effectiveness.

Chairman Jaczko has taken a number of initiatives that were recommended 12 years ago by the IG to improve functioning of the Commission. At the beginning of his term he established agency-wide goals and objectives with specific performance measures. He shared them with his Commission colleagues before finalizing them and asked for input but they provided none. Sharing these throughout the agency and tracking our progress has been an important step in establishing an over-arching direction to guide agency efforts at all levels.

He has also worked to focus Commission efforts on common priorities, recommended by the IG as a critical component of Commission effectiveness and leadership. At his initiative, the Commission now follows a much more comprehensive agenda planning process in which the Commission meets on a monthly basis to set common priorities for the policy issues it will address and to agree on a schedule for upcoming Commission meetings. This process has helped Commissioners identify shared priorities and coordinate diverse and demanding Commissioner travel schedules as well as have better dialogue on policy issues since each of them is considering the same issues contemporaneously and can benefit from each others' thoughts and views.

The Chairman has also initiated proposals to enhance transparency of our decision making process by conducting Commission deliberations and voting on policy matters in public meetings. While these have not garnered the support of a majority of his colleagues thus far, he continues to work with them in the hope of reaching agreement on means to provide greater public engagement and understanding of our collegial processes.

An additional recommendation in the 1999 IG report is that the Commission hold an annual offsite meeting to improve communication and collegiality. While the Chairman has hosted all of his colleagues for a dinner shortly after they three new members arrived, he has not been able to get them to agree to attend a Commission meeting to discuss these types of issues despite his best efforts. As a point of reference, it took the Chairman's Chief of Staff several months to get all of his colleagues (the other Chiefs of Staff) to agree to attend an hour and a half long offsite retreat to discuss communication....

## Chairman Jaczko's Accomplishments

- Since he was first sworn in as a Commissioner in January of 2005, Greg Jaczko has been a strong advocate for strengthening the safety and security of nuclear power facilities and materials in the U.S.
- Although some of the positions he has taken have been unpopular with the nuclear industry, that has not stopped the Chairman from doing what is right for nuclear safety.
- Despite the opposition he has encountered on many occasions, Chairman Jaczko has proven effective in building consensus and making important changes to strengthen nuclear safety throughout his tenure.
- As a Commissioner, he worked successfully with Commissioners on both sides of the aisle that were equally interested in safety, and met with great success in doing so. As Chairman, he has continued to focus on safety, and has been accountable for his executive responsibilities. He has also worked to provide a more active role for the Commission in fulfilling their responsibilities.
- In 2009, Commissioner Jaczko secured a 3-1 Commission majority for his proposal to require that potential new reactors address the threat of a large commercial aircraft impact in their designs. Although the rest of the Commission opposed this measure when he initially proposed it in 2007, Commissioner Jaczko did not give up and worked persistently over the next two years to build majority support for this important safety measure.
- Commissioner Jaczko, working with his colleagues on both sides of the aisle, was part of the majority that determined that the Commission rather than a licensing board, would hold the mandatory hearings on any new reactor license application. As Chairman, he made it a priority to ensure that the new Commission focused on this responsibility. He proposed several Commission meetings so that he and his colleagues could discuss expectations for the hearings, and he requested Commission votes on the hearing process well in advance of the first mandatory hearing. His efforts proved successful. Just last month, the Chairman presided over the first mandatory hearing on a new reactor license application since the 1970's. This was the first time the Commission itself- rather than the licensing boards - conducted such a hearing.
- In 2011, under the Chairman's leadership, the agency published the Final Safety Culture Policy Statement. This was the culmination of a multi-year effort and was initiated by a proposal from Commissioner Jaczko to his colleagues to have the agency develop this policy statement. Despite the lack of industry support for his proposal and the initial reluctance of some of his colleagues, the Commissioner was able to secure majority support and the Commission directed the staff to draft this policy statement. As Chairman, he maintained his focus on this issue proposing several Commission meetings on this topic and proposing several voting papers such that this significant policy matter was finalized.
- In 2009, the agency under Chairman Jaczko's leadership took strong action to resolve significant concerns about the ability of the proposed Westinghouse AP1000 reactor

- The Chairman successfully led the agency through the emergency response following the tragic earthquake and Tsunami in Japan in March, 2011, the domestic event response, and the ensuing crisis at the Fukushima Daichi nuclear site in Japan. At the same time, the Chairman also successfully focused the Commission on the need to determine policy implications of this event for domestic licensees. He garnered support from his colleagues on a proposal to establish a task force to examine near-term recommendations and insights, as well as a task force to examine longer-term issues. The Commission approved this direction and the Chairman successfully managed the process such that the Task Force was able to perform its challenging task in the short amount of time provided by the Commission. The resulting Near-Term Task Force Report entitled, "Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" was issued on time, and provides comprehensive and well-founded recommendations for improvements to ensure public health and safety following the events at Fukushima.

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 4:04 PM  
**To:** 'Ryan Grim'  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Attachments:** En and Comm HEARING on Review of Energy Depts Yucca Mnt Nuke Energy Repository License Application June 14.pdf

The IG report courtesy of the house science committee. See especially the last three pages:  
[http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/061311\\_IGREPORT.pdf](http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/061311_IGREPORT.pdf)

The Chairman's statement on the IG report:  
<http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1116/ML11160A163.pdf>

And attached is the transcript from the Energy and Commerce Committee hearing with the IG discussing the Chairman's statement. See pages 25-26 and then 41.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ryan Grim [<mailto:ryan@huffingtonpost.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 2:09 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:**

What's the story with that IG report?

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2011 7:50 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re:

Thanks. Gimme a ring when you can. (b)(6)

On Sun, Dec 11, 2011 at 6:43 PM, Batkin, Joshua <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov> wrote:

One more piece of background

--  
Ryan Grim  
Desk: x40241 (Senate Daily)  
Cell: (b)(6)  
AIM: (b)(6)  
@ryangrim

Subscribe to HuffPost Hill: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/hill/signup.html>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Ryan Grim [ryan@huffingtonpost.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:42 PM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re: Materials

Got it, thanks

Ryan Grim

(b)(6)

On Dec 10, 2011, at 1:26 PM, "Batkin, Joshua" <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov> wrote:

Chairman's response to Daley.

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Pace, Patti  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua; Brenner, Eliot  
**Sent:** Fri Dec 09 17:51:18 2011  
**Subject:** Materials

<Letter to William.M Daley (12-7-11).pdf>  
<Facts about issues raised.pdf>  
<Transmittal ltrs & Reorg Plan No 1 of 1980.pdf>  
<Agency accomplishments slides.pdf>

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

Batkin, Joshua

---

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 2:51 PM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: RE: testimony

Hey Josh,

Am finally back at my desk. Just tried your cell. I'm at 202-654-7318.

Brian

----- Original Message -----

From: Joshua Batkin <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>  
To: BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
At: 12/13 11:54:04

Til mid afternoon - then on cell (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

From: Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov  
At: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w  
(b)(6) c

Batkin, Joshua

---

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 12:10 PM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: RE: testimony

Ok. Will give you a call this afternoon. Thanks.

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

From: [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
At: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:54:04 AM Eastern Standard Time

Til mid afternoon - then on cell (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
To: Batkin, Joshua  
Subject: RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

From: [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
At: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:49 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

Josh,

Just sent you a blank message by accident. Are you around later this afternoon?

Brian

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
**At:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 11:46 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

--  
Sent from Bloomberg for iPhone

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov](mailto:Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov)  
**At:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:42:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6) c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:44 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: testimony

and thanks much.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Joshua Batkin <Joshua.Batkin@nrc.gov>  
**To:** BRIAN WINGFIELD (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**At:** 12/13 9:42:47

Will do and thanks again for your continuing interest in this stuff. I think your stories are helping to get the whole story out there. Can you please give me a ring when the meeting is done? I was hoping to talk to you about the profile I think you are working on...

Thanks,  
Josh

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
(301) 415- 1820 w

(b)(6)

c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? Will be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** BRIAN WINGFIELD, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [bwingfield3@bloomberg.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Subject:** testimony

Hi Josh,

Thanks for saying hello this morning. Busy week.

I asked Eliot this as well: if you guys have an embargoed copy of the Chairman's testimony for tomorrow, can you let me know? I'll be covering the hearings tomorrow and Thursday.

Best,  
Brian

---

Brian Wingfield  
Bloomberg News  
1399 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-654-7318 office

(b)(6)

cell

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**Batkin, Joshua**

---

**From:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** 'lucia@huffingtonpost.com'  
**Subject:** Re: HuffPost media query

Will call you asap - few minutes though probably

Joshua C. Batkin  
Chief of Staff  
Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
(301) 415-1820

---

**From:** Lucia Graves <lucia@huffingtonpost.com>  
**To:** Batkin, Joshua  
**Sent:** Wed Dec 14 15:18:23 2011  
**Subject:** HuffPost media query

Hi it's Lucia Graves from HuffPost. I work with Ryan Grim. I'd love get your reactions to today's NRC hearing, if you have a minute. Cell is the best way to reach me this pm: (b)(6)

**NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 9, 2012

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

Enclosed please find documents responsive to your December 16, 2011, letter to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner may provide other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If additional responsive documents are located, we will provide them to you. Please contact me at 301-415-1776 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 5, 2011

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

Enclosed please find additional information that is responsive to your October 25, 2011, letter to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Specifically, this transmits documents from the NRC's Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication, including a log of withheld material. This log is provided for records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process. Also included in this transmittal are additional responsive documents identified by the NRC's Office of the Secretary, including a log of withheld material.

While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

We will continue to produce, on a rolling basis, documents responsive to your request. This will include categories of NRC documents related to events in Japan that were distributed to all Commissioners' offices by NRC staff.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 301-415-1776.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca L. Schmidt".

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2107

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
5 HIGH STREET, SUITE 101  
MEDFORD, MA 02155  
(781) 395-2900  
188 CONCORD STREET, SUITE 102  
FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702  
(508) 875-2900  
<http://markey.house.gov>

October 25, 2011

The Honorable Greg Jaczko, Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

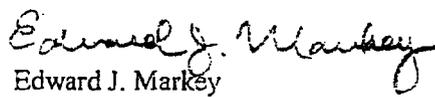
Dear Chairman Jaczko:

As a senior Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) oversight Committee, I write to request that the Commission provide me with copies of the following documents:

1. Voting records, including those kept by the NRC Office of the Secretary, for all actions taken or considered by the Commission in response to the issues raised by the events at Fukushima. These records include but are not limited to notation votes, votes on draft and final Staff Requirements Memoranda (SRMs), and other documents (including reports, emails, correspondence, memos, phone or meeting minutes or other materials) related to any such vote that was prepared or obtained by any Commissioner or member of any Commissioner's staff.
2. Copies of all documents (including reports, emails, correspondence, memos, phone or meeting minutes or other materials) related to the events of Fukushima or the NRC's response thereto prepared or obtained by any Commissioner or member of any Commissioner's staff.

Please contact Dr. Michal Freedhoff of my staff at 202-225-2836 to arrange a schedule for delivery of all responsive documents. I do not object to electronic transmission of the requested materials and further request that the documents be produced on a rolling basis as they become available, but no later than Friday November 18, 2011.

Sincerely,

  
Edward J. Markey  
Member  
House Energy and Commerce Committee



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 18, 2011

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

In response to your October 25, 2011 letter, enclosed please find a portion of the information that you requested from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Specifically, this transmits documents from the NRC's Office of the Secretary including voting records, related correspondence, as well as other materials related to events in Japan provided by the Secretary to the Commissioners' offices. This also transmits an initial set of responsive documents from the Chairman's office. Privilege logs are provided for records from adjudicatory matters related to events in Japan due to the importance of preserving the confidentiality and integrity of the adjudicatory process.

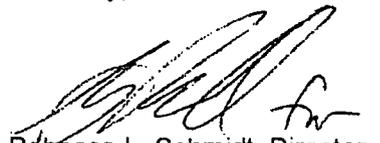
While some of the documents provided herein are publicly available, please note that a number of the enclosed documents have not been released publicly and have thus been marked "not for public disclosure." We respectfully ask that you and your staff honor these markings.

We will continue to produce, on a rolling basis, documents responsive to your request. This will include categories of NRC documents related to events in Japan that were distributed to all Commissioners' offices by NRC staff.

It is my understanding that each individual Commissioner will be providing other responsive documents in separate submittals.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 301-415-1776.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:  
As stated



(b)(5)

July 12, 2011

FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY  
ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

On March 23, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) tasked the staff to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of NRC processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. Consistent with that direction, the Task Force Report, with its recommendations for agency actions following the events in Japan, is attached for the Commission's consideration. The tasking memorandum also directed the staff to provide the Commission with estimated resource impacts before starting work on the longer-term review. Resource considerations were provided to the Commission in a separate memorandum.

The Office of the General Counsel has reviewed this paper and has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this paper for resource implications and concurred.

/RA/

R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure: Task Force Report

CONTACT: Martin J. Virgilio, DEDR  
301-415-1713

July 12, 2011

**FOR:** The Commissioners

**FROM:** R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

**SUBJECT:** NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

On March 23, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) tasked the staff to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of NRC processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. Consistent with that direction, the Task Force Report, with its recommendations for agency actions following the events in Japan, is attached for the Commission's consideration. The tasking memorandum also directed the staff to provide the Commission with estimated resource impacts before starting work on the longer-term review. Resource considerations were provided to the Commission in a separate memorandum.

The Office of the General Counsel has reviewed this paper and has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this paper for resource implications and concurred.

/RA/

R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure: Task Force Report

CONTACT: Martin J. Virgilio, DEDR  
301-415-1413

ADAMS Accession No.: ML11186A950

WITS 201100128/EDATS: SECY-2011-0200

OFFICE	EDO	Tech Editor	OGC (NLO)	OCFO	DEDR	EDO
NAME	GBowman	KAzariah-Kribbs (via email)	MSpencer (via email)	JDyer (GPeterson for) (via email)	MVirgilio	RWBorchardt
DATE	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/11/11	07/12/11

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

**POLICY ISSUE  
NOTATION VOTE**

July 12, 2011

SECY-11-0093

FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY  
ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

On March 23, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) tasked the staff to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of NRC processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. Consistent with that direction, the Task Force Report, with its recommendations for agency actions following the events in Japan, is attached for the Commission's consideration. The tasking memorandum also directed the staff to provide the Commission with estimated resource impacts before starting work on the longer-term review. Resource considerations were provided to the Commission in a separate memorandum.

The Office of the General Counsel has reviewed this paper and has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this paper for resource implications and concurred.

*/RA/*

R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure: Task Force Report

CONTACT: Martin J. Virgilio, DEDR  
301-415-1713

July 12, 2011

FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: NEAR-TERM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENCY  
ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

On March 23, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) tasked the staff to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of NRC processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. Consistent with that direction, the Task Force Report, with its recommendations for agency actions following the events in Japan, is attached for the Commission's consideration. The tasking memorandum also directed the staff to provide the Commission with estimated resource impacts before starting work on the longer-term review. Resource considerations were provided to the Commission in a separate memorandum.

The Office of the General Counsel has reviewed this paper and has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this paper for resource implications and concurred.

/RA/

R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Enclosure: Task Force Report

CONTACT: Martin J. Virgilio, DEDR  
301-415-1713

ADAMS Accession No.: ML11186A950

WITS 201100128/EDATS: SECY-2011-0200

OFFICE	EDO	Tech Editor	OGC (NLO)	OCFO	DEDR	EDO
NAME	GBowman	KAzariah-Kribbs (via email)	MSpencer (via email)	JDyer (GPeterson for) (via email)	MVirgilio	RWBorchardt
DATE	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/08/11	07/11/11	07/12/11

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY