

Contact Senator Mark Wyland: State Capitol, Room 4048, Sacramento, CA 95814
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NUCLEAR EMERGENCY PLANNING LEGISLATION—SUPPORT!

Dear Senator Wyland:

As a California resident, I ask that you please sponsor legislation that will study the impacts of expanding the emergency planning zones around California's nuclear reactors from the minimum 10 to the more realistic 50-mile radius. Nearly 18 million people live within 50 miles of San Onofre nuclear plant, in one of the most congested metropolitan areas in the world. As the tragic lessons from the earthquake and meltdown in Fukushima, Japan demonstrated, a lack of planning can lead to catastrophe.

FACT: on January 26, 2012, the New York Times reported:

"The Japanese government's worst-case scenario at the height of the nuclear crisis last year warned that tens of millions of people, including residents of Tokyo, might be forced to leave their homes, according to a report...It also casts doubt about whether the government was sufficiently prepared to handle what could have been an evacuation on an extraordinary scale.

FACT: on February 21, 2012, Bloomberg Financial News reported:

"If this happened in the U.S., we would go out to 50 miles," Bill Borchardt, the NRC's executive director for operations, told [Chairman] Jaczko in a conversation on March 16, five days into the crisis..."

FACT: on March 6, 2012, The Christian Science Monitor reported on a new study by the Union of Concerned Scientists that discussed the failure of the NRC to make changes, revealing that:

- Three key emergency steps selected for evaluation by the task force have been put on back burner: enlarging emergency evacuation zones, expanding potassium iodide distribution, and speeding up the transfer of spent fuel from pools to dry casks.

FACT: on March 5, 2012, The Washington Post reported:

The [Japanese] government has budgeted \$14 billion (1.15 trillion yen) through March 2014 for the cleanup, which could take decades.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission isn't willing to make a similar commitment to our safety here at home that it made to American in Japan. The NRC chairman told Congress on March 31, 2011: "...in any situation it is up to state and local governments...to take the appropriate protective action that could extend beyond" the 10-mile evacuation zone..."

Rhe federal government is abandoning California on this issue. Our nuclear plants are near earthquake faults and we need to know what to do if the unthinkable ever happens here:

- How much will it cost to provide emergency training, personnel and equipment?
- How much will it cost to upgrade infrastructure and communications for evacuation?
- Who will provide liability coverage for contaminated land, homes, crops and industries?

Please sponsor Nuclear Emergency Planning expansion legislation.

Thank you,