



NUCLEAR INFORMATION AND RESOURCE SERVICE

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NEWS FROM NIRS

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U.S. Activists to Japan: “End the Fukushima Disaster— Stop Plans to Restart, Export Reactors”

Groups Visit 11 Japan Consulates on Third Anniversary of Meltdowns

Washington DC—On the 3rd anniversary of the beginning of the Fukushima nuclear power disaster, groups across the US are gathering at the Japanese Embassies and Consulates across the U.S. and worldwide in solidarity with the people of Japan, calling on Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to increase efforts to stabilize the precarious nuclear reactors and waste pools at Fukushima Daiichi, rather than working to restart as many as possible of the now-closed 54 nuclear reactors in Japan and to continue to export nuclear technology.

Nuclear Information and Resource Service and the Crabshell Alliance (who worked together to stop a new, foreign-owned, nuclear reactor in Maryland) are delivering a letter from 67 organizations via the Washington DC Embassy of Japan. Simultaneously, groups will be gathering at 10 other US Japanese embassies including New York City, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Atlanta and Detroit on March 11, 2014 the three-year anniversary to deliver similar messages.

The catastrophe began March 11, 2011 with the earthquake and tsunami disabling the power supplies and cooling systems at the six-reactor Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant. The three reactors operating at the time of the accident underwent meltdowns within hours, which led to three massive hydrogen explosions, massive releases of radioactive material, and severe damage to the reactor buildings and high-level radioactive waste fuel pools in the days after.

The accident continues today, with the constant flow of massive amounts of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean, precarious conditions of high level radioactive waste pools, and no certainty about the actual location of the melted cores. Across Japan, communities are expected to burn the radioactive rubble to “share the burden” of contamination, even though incineration does not destroy but *spreads* radioactivity. Children still attend contaminated schools and people are eating contaminated food. Only those in designated areas receive compensation.

The letter (see front page of www.nirs.org) includes six requests for action in response to the accidents:

1. Permanent closure of all nuclear reactors in Japan and indicates we are also working for the same goal in our own country.
2. Expedited stabilization of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactors and the irradiated fuel pools.
3. Stopping the flow of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean.
4. Cessation of efforts to export nuclear reactors to other countries.
5. Full compensation of all victims of Fukushima, provision of medical treatment and relocation of people living in contaminated areas.
6. A halt to incineration of radioactive rubble and waste throughout Japan.

“We are sorry that US companies brought the dangerous nuclear reactors to Fukushima, and we send condolences on the lost lives and lifestyles and culture,” said Denise Jakobsberg of Nuclear Information and Resource Service. “Today, as the accident continues and spreads around the globe, we stand with people of Japan calling for a halt to the spreading of radioactivity and a realization that this is an accident that may never end.”