

Fukushima Update Spring 2014

Three years after the Japanese earthquake triggered three meltdowns of the nuclear power stations at Fukushima, the plants continue to pour 400 tons of poisoned, heavily radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean every day. As they have every single day for three years. Scientists had been expressing surprise that the level of contamination in sea-life was not decreasing after 3 years; it is because the radiation is being constantly renewed. The water is coming from both the water poured into the reactors to cool the melted fuel, which is splattered around and under the broken reactors, (4 tons an hour for reactor 3, for example), and from the groundwater that continues to leak into the buildings, mix with radioactive fuel, and then leak back out and into the sea.

And the plant continues to have trouble with the 520,000 tons of poisoned water they are storing on site. Another 100 tons was leaked last week. An alarm on one of the hastily riveted-together 100 ton tanks went off, at 14.01 hours on 19 Feb, indicating too high a water level. The Tepco employees went to check, but as no transfer into this tank was scheduled, they decided it must be a false alarm, and did nothing. The water started to overflow from the top of the tank, flowing into a rainwater gutter and on to the ground outside the concrete dam around each tank. A worker noticed the leak at 11.25pm, 9 hours later, and they stopped it at 5.40am next day. The 100 tons has a radiation level of 230,000,000 bq/litre all-beta. About half of all-beta is strontium 90, a known cause of cancer that deposits in your bones. 'It didn't leak into the sea', said Tepco. No, it went into the ground, thus the groundwater, then will go into the sea in a few years time. If water continues to flow downhill.. And these tanks' water emits lots of beta radiation, which is becoming a deadly problem to the workers on site as the beta particles (electrons) emit X-rays when they hit the metal of the tank walls.

This Japanese culture of saving face, ('we have everything under control, please do not worry') has costs to the health of the human race of an unknown size and a permanent duration. As well as the all-beta radiation measured above, the waste water released contained all the other deadly elements, Cobalt 60, Manganese 54, Antimony 125, etc. So Plutonium and the other ¼ million year isotopes will be in there, it's just that Tepco doesn't test for them. Would cost too much, they say. Now the Japanese Prime Minister is lying by claiming that the poisoned water 'is completely contained within the port', when studies have shown beyond doubt that 44% of the water in the port is exchanged with sea water every day.

Why these lies? The whole of Japan has been contaminated to a greater or lesser degree. The government's role should be to accurately describe the dangers so that the population can avoid the dangers. Instead the government thinks only of the financial cost of admitting the problem, (\$500 billion for a clean-up of doubtful effectiveness, no restart for the other 48 nuclear plants in Japan, an upset of the nuclear village of businessmen and bureaucrats), so it lies and hopes the problem will go away. It won't. They are making no progress on stopping the 400 tons a day that flows through the plant into the sea. Their ice-wall is a maybe, is untested technology, 2 years into the future. Tepco announced recently that they are stopping the building of the underground wall between the plant and the sea, as 'other tasks are more important', (and it wasn't working anyway). And the Ministry of Education in Japan just released an updated pamphlet on the dangers of radiation, talking of the impact of harmful rumours about the disaster on the farming and tourism industry. Harmful rumours such as that the situation is not perfectly safe and under control. And there is a new, draconian piece of legislation promising ten years jail for journalists who talk about what the government doesn't want discussed.

Japan seems to be setting itself up to be resented by the whole human race for the rest of eternity for permanently poisoning the genetic basis of life on planet earth. If 'the Japanese people' don't want this, they should get angry, inform themselves, and admit to and deal with the problem. The Russians mobilised 600,000 military to deal with their radioactive catastrophe; the Japanese have left a dishonest electricity distribution company in charge of the crime scene, of the scene of their crime. This company, Tepco, is rounding up the homeless from the railway stations to use to replace the trained workers now over their exposure limits, giving them zero training and a radiation suit, and getting them to try to fix this shattered plant and trying to sweep the plutonium etc. under the mat. They have 520,000 tons of deadly water in shoddy tanks, 3 non-working filter systems, a stream of errors and leaks, and a bagful of 'sorry' ready for the inevitable dumping of this water into our Pacific Ocean, or collapse of these tanks in the next medium earthquake. Now 81 U.S. Sailors from the 'Ronald Reagan' are suing, after their ship hit 'a warm wind, which left a metallic taste' 2 miles off Fukushima when it blew up. They are suffering leukemia, thyroid cancers, sores all over the body, bleeding from the anus, testicular cancer, brain tumours, blindness, paralysis. The sort of things the Japanese government is working to distribute to the whole population of Japan.

The best defence is to inform yourself, and we recommend enenews.com, www.fukuleaks.org/web/ and fukushima-diary.com for daily, honest updates of Fukushima's condition.