

## Nuclear Costs for Our Nation

The costs of nuclear power result in economic inflation for our nation's families and businesses. There are also costs in the degradation of our culture by those whose interests are primarily in money over human life, which threatens our pursuits of life, liberty and happiness. Neither of these kinds of costs are recoverable.

We are dependent on electrical power generation. Nuclear power generation has tremendous costs; not only do front-end new construction per nuclear unit costs exceed \$10 billion dollars for each power plant, the decommissioning and closing costs do as well, and nuclear power plants have only a 40 year designed life expectancy. <http://www.kpbs.org/news/2015/aug/03/counting-customer-costs-san-onofre-closure-95-bill/>

There also is the risk of failure or disaster, particularly upon startup and at the end of a nuclear power facility's life expectancy. Nuclear power could not operate, because of these risks, without the Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act, protecting the industry from liability of a catastrophic failure, such as occurred at Three Mile Island in the U.S., Fukushima in Japan, Chernobyl in Ukraine, and the numerous failures due to safety and management errors.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Price%80%93Anderson\\_Nuclear\\_Industries\\_Indemnity\\_Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Price%E2%80%93Anderson_Nuclear_Industries_Indemnity_Act)

One of the more shocking discoveries I have found — through 7 years of observation, examination and investigation of the nuclear industries actions and disclosures in its management and operations — is nuclear power management's penchant for deceit. This is a dangerous state of affairs when dealing with one of the most risky and complicated combination of mechanisms, materials, and processes in human history. Worse, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NRC, our federal regulator, has compromised its integrity because of its too close relationship with the nuclear power industry's special interest group, the Nuclear Energy Institute. <http://www.propublica.org/article/u.s.-nuclear-regulator-lets-industry-write-rules>, and <http://www.propublica.org/article/whistleblowers-say-nuclear-regulatory-commission-watchdog-is-losing-its-bar>. See also "Troubles at the regulator - security weaknesses," <http://fedscoop.com/nrc-struggles-continuous-monitoring-years-old-security-weaknesses/>

Nuclear power's operations in the United States should be suspended immediately. Nuclear facilities are sickening and killing people. This is the hidden story of nuclear power,; money before human life. For workers - over \$11 billion dollars have been paid out in death and sickness benefits with over 107 thousand claims, That doesn't include those facilities not covered under the atomic energy workers protection acts. Until 2001, all information on the deaths and sicknesses were kept a national security secret. Currently, about half the actual claims are paid.

<http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/weeklstats.htm>

Effects on the civilian populace are also striking. For the area downwind of Browns Ferry, Alabama studies have shown greater than a 20% increase in cancer mortality since its operations begin.

[http://best-matrr.org/BFN\\_Report\\_Summary.pdf](http://best-matrr.org/BFN_Report_Summary.pdf) The full report and a comprehensive educational expose concerning nuclear powers risks may be viewed at <http://www.matrr.org>

Citizens must ask the question, is this the type of industry that you want in your community?

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