

MEDIA ADVISORY

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****** Begins at Columbus Circle, New York City at 11:30am, Sep 21, 2014 ******

“Level 8” Nuclear Disaster Campaign Launched

Urgent Demand for International Response to Ongoing Nuclear Reactor Meltdowns in Fukushima Kicks Off at NYC Climate March

California environmental activists attending today’s People’s Climate March in NYC, and the solidarity rally in Oakland CA, have launched a global campaign to address the ongoing crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power facility on the east coast of Japan. The situation is still largely out of control, with no end in sight. “We have had over three years of criminally inept management and oversight by TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company), the corporate owner of the plant. To allow over 300 tons of radioactive water to continue to leak daily into the world’s ocean since 2011 is an ongoing environmental disaster,” said spokesperson Jina Brooks, “and demonstrates that the global community needs to step up and intervene with far more resources and expertise.”

The “Level 8” Nuclear Disaster campaign is focused on mobilizing governments and organizations in every country to demand modification of the International Atomic Energy Agency’s current 7-level scale that indicates the severity of nuclear accidents. This newly proposed “Level 8” would firmly classify the gravity of the situation in Fukushima as a crisis calling for an unprecedented, internationally coordinated response of resources and aid in answer to a global nuclear emergency.

John Bertucci, press contact for FukushimaResponse.org, said, “Everyone on earth ought to agree on one thing: There should be a full on international response to any nuclear accident that rises above a certain level or category, and threatens the environment of the entire planet.” The present lack of informed public understanding and official urgency is an epic failure to respond, with dire consequences for future generations.

WHAT: Official kickoff of campaign to declare Fukushima a new “Level 8” nuclear disaster, requiring international assistance and monitoring—online petitions can be signed at MoveOn.org, Avaaz.org, and 350.org. Draft resolutions for organizations and various levels of government (city, state, and national) can be found at both FukushimaResponse.org and FixFukushima.info.

WHO: FukushimaResponse.org (parent website of FixFukushima.info), a network of concerned citizens and organizations responding to the immediate threat of catastrophic global radiation contamination released daily from the devastated Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant on the east coast of Japan.

WHERE: At the People’s Climate March—march scheduled to start at 11:30am at Columbus Circle, and proceeding to 11th Ave and 34th St, in NYC—and at the NorCal People’s Climate Rally at the Lake Merritt Amphitheater, 12th Street & Lake Merritt Blvd, in Oakland CA.

WHEN: At the beginning, during and at conclusion of People’s Climate March, September 21, 2014 from approximately 10am to 6pm in NYC—and from 2 to 5pm in Oakland CA.

To read the petitions go to: <http://campaigns.350.org/p/fixfukushima>
<http://tinyurl.com/avaaz-DeclareFukushimaLevel8>
<http://tinyurl.com/moveon-DeclareFukushimaLevel8>

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