#### **Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster**



By:

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#### Introduction

- Introduction
- Overview
  - Summary of event
- Preventative Measures
  - Ignored warnings
- Reactor
  - What happened?

#### Introduction

- Aftermath/Decon.
  - Radiation leaks
- Our preventative measures
- Bottom line:
  - raise equipment
    - salt water pumps, generators

#### Overview

On march 11 2011 the Tōhoku earthquake and subsequent tsunami hit the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.



#### The Tsunami

The earthquake triggered the automatic SCRAM shutdown procedures and then the tsunami flooded the generators for the cooling system.







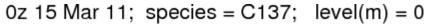
### The Reactors Explode

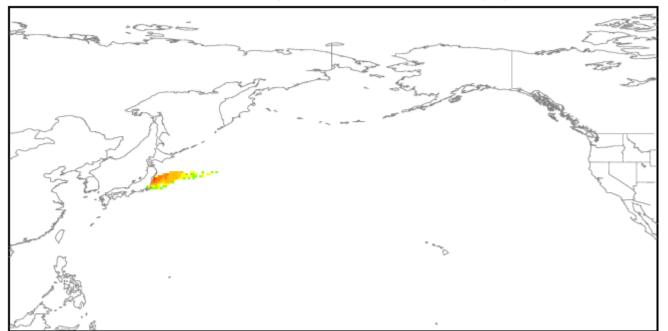
When the reactors overheated they released hydrogen gas which then exploded.



### **Fallout**

Reactors 1,2, and 3 exploded sending radioactive fallout globally.





### **Contributing Factors**

- Changed construction plans
  - Daiichi built lower despite engineers' warnings
  - lower pumping cost
  - sealed off pumps
  - 1990 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Committee Report on seismic damage
- TEPCO warned about likely seismic event in 2000, no changes were made

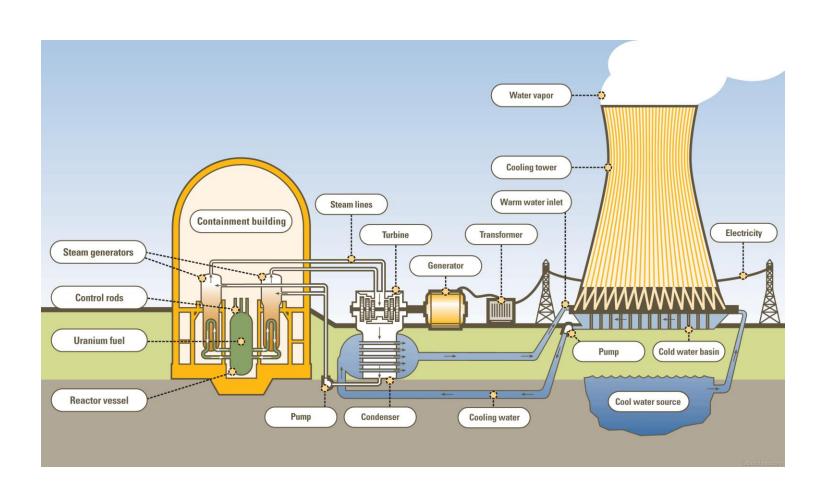
#### Reactor

- Earthquake happens
- 41 minutes later Tsunami happens
  - Seawater cooling pumps break
  - Condensers didn't work

## Reactor (cont'd)

- Steam builds in Reactor 1 with hydrogen
- Reactor 1 had a hydrogen explosion
- Then Reactor 3 followed by Reactor 2
- Reactor 1,2 & 3 all reach meltdown
- Hydrogen explosions releases radioactive matter into the environment

### **Nuclear Reactor**



#### Aftermath

- March 25, 2011 20km-30km radius around Fukushima "voluntary evacuation"
- April 21, 2011 20 km around Fukushima "no go area"

## Aftermath (cont'd)

- Six Fukushima workers reach radiation of 250 mSv
- 160,000 locals evacuated from area
- Water treated and sent to sea

## Treatment & Decontamination



## Our Preventative Measures

#### Research Data

- 99% probability of 7.5 mag earthquake (JGRC)\*
- 1:1000, 20m tsunamis
- Geographical location

<sup>\*</sup>Statistics provided by Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

# Our Preventative Measures (cont'd)

- Relationship with government/research agn.
  - Japanese Government Research Committee
  - Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA)
  - Japanese Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE)

# Our Preventative Measures (cont'd)

- Stricter Regulations
  - NISA
    - Bureaucracy
- Placement of back-ups
  - NOT in basement
- Watertight connections
  - Improving Heat sinks

#### Conclusion

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#### References

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Website:

http://carnegieendowment.org/2012/03/06/why-fukushima-was-preventable/a0i7#

World Nuclear Association Website:

http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Safety-and-Security/Safety-of-Plants/Fukushima-Accident-2011/#.Uje5XMakqva