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Why Do I Research Nuclear Safety?

My personal experience:

- •Various visits to the affected areas in Ukraine and Belarus in 1992-2011.
- •Member of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network (UNDP, IAEA, UNICEF, WHO).
- •Journalist for the Ukrainian national newspaper "Robitnycha Gazeta", Kyiv, Ukraine, 1993-1997, and the newspaper "Echo Chernobylja" (Echo of Chernobyl), Kyiv, Ukraine, 1992-1993.
- •Member, Board of Advisors, Chernobyl Foundation, Toronto, Canada, 2011-2015.
- •UC Berkeley Workshop Facilitator on Nuclear Safety, 2015.
- Research on risk communication & food security



Food Insecurity Issues

My focus is on the **Secondary Zone** (within a 50 km radius of **DNGS**) within which it is necessary to plan and prepare measures against **exposure from the ingestion of radioactive material**.

Both the Soviet and Japanese governments failed to adequately protect citizens' rights to safe, adequate food in the affected zones up to 80 km and beyond.

Food contamination **significantly** contributed **to internal radiation doses**.

Do we have a detailed plan on how to prevent the contamination of foodstuffs, protect the public from ingestion of contaminated products and ensure catering for large numbers of diverse evacuees from all communities?

Evacuees from the GTA also might have a high risk of becoming malnourished.

From Chernobyl to Fukushima: an interdisciplinary framework for managing and communicating food security risks after nuclear plant accidents

Alexander Belyakov

Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences

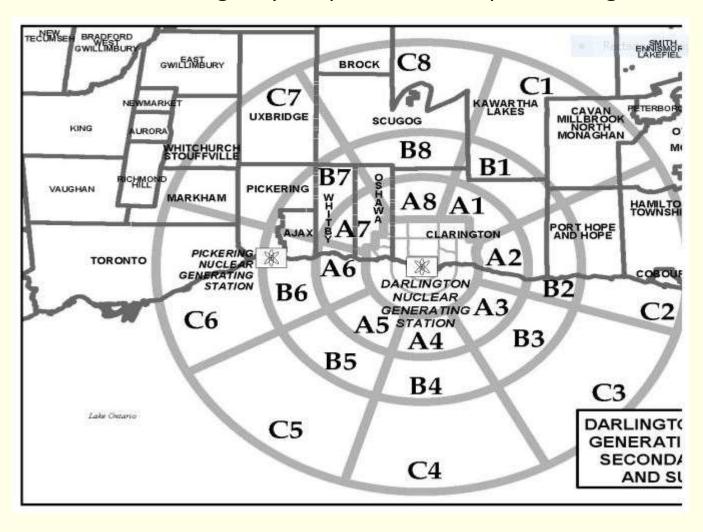
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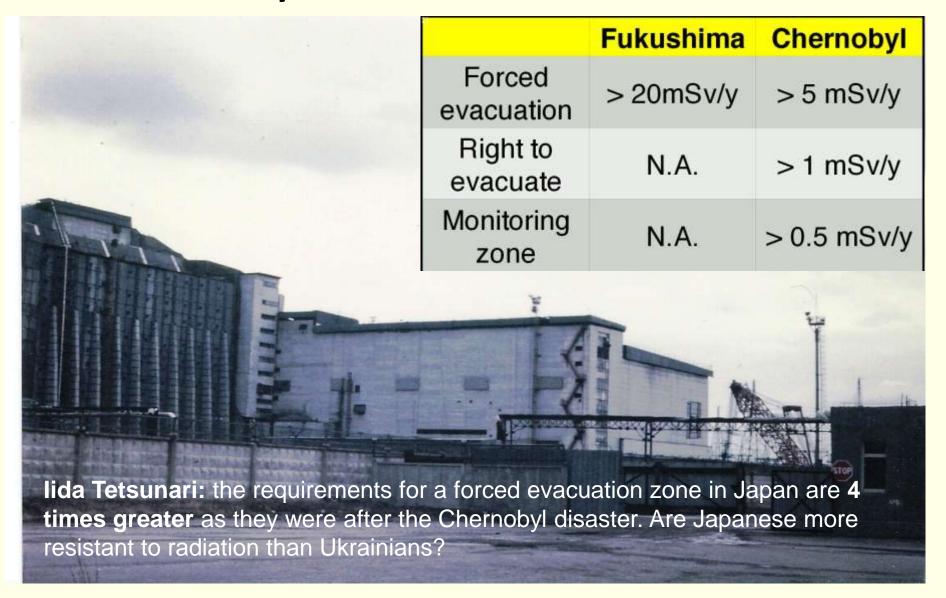
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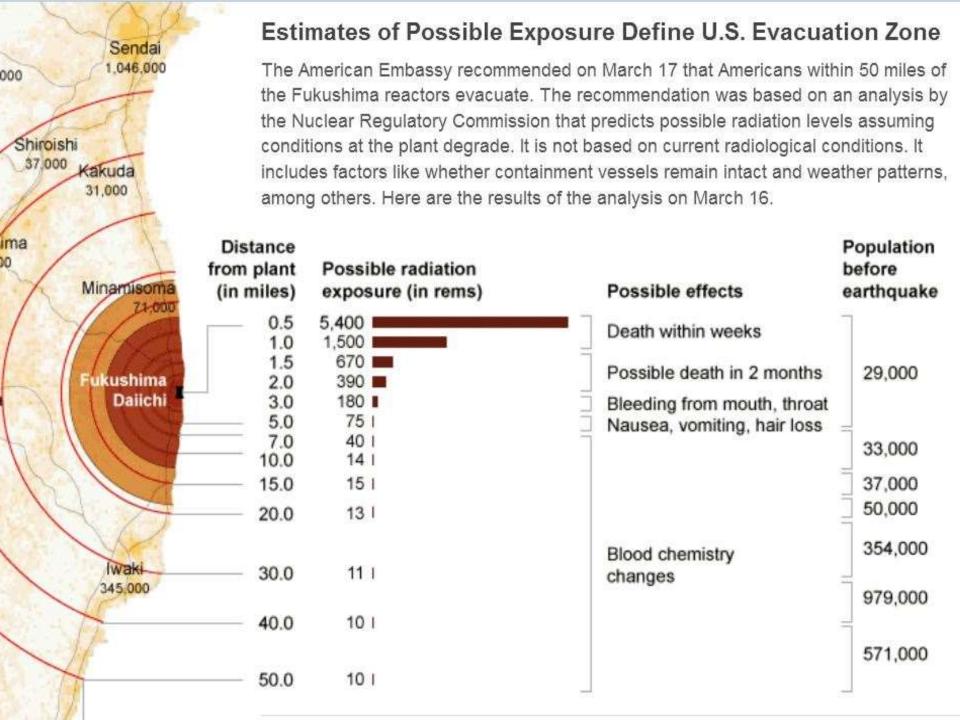
Emergency Zoning Issues

Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan Implementing Plan For DNGS



Chernobyl vs. Fukushima Disaster





Evacuation

The Soviet authorities established the 30 km zone of mandatory resettlement after the Chernobyl disaster.



Chaos and panic during the disaster

The evacuation of the entire City of Toronto under hypothetical large-scale emergencies

The number of people in Toronto peaks at 108% of the City's population (2.56 M residents at 4:00 a.m.). They need 1,216,886 evacuation trips by car and 1,344,942 evacuation trips by transit (Abdelgawad & Abdulhai 2010), which **could result in an unmanageable situation** in the event of an emergency.

What will be the average response time of a 911 call during a nuclear emergency?

Rescue of 1,400 passengers from waterlogged commuter GO train took 7 ½ hours in 2013.

What We Don't Know

- The licensee's emergency preparedness is formally and regularly evaluated by the regulator, whereas there is **no** such formal and independent approach to evaluate the preparedness of offsite authorities.
- Do you know how lack of emergency preparedness may affect population in the Greater Toronto Area?
- "As we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns—the ones we don't know we don't know" (Donald Rumsfeld).

Conclusions

- No evidence that emergency plans are adequate for the life extension period. Updated evacuation modelling is needed for an INES level 7 accident.
- Examine the lessons learned from the Chernobyl and Fukushima disasters (including lack of ingestion control).
- Local communities might need more guidance and interdisciplinary approach in emergency preparedness (especially, ingestion control and food security issues).
- Avoid unreasonable risks for health, food, and environment in case of nuclear emergency.
- OPG's operating license should be limited to a one year. No life extension should be permitted without the full disclosure of all potential risks.