

WCO outreachCEM Resource

From: William Whitaker [wwhitak@boisestate.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 7:27 PM
To: WCO outreach Resource
Subject: nuclear waste storage

I am writing as an Oregon grandfather who wants to leave a safe and sustainable world to all our grandchildren. I am also the husband of a woman who grew up "downwind" of the Hanford nuclear facility.

Current on-site storage in indoor pools is not safe, secure, or protective of human health and the environment. [Fukushima Daiichi has shown](#) that pools can boil or drain dry, sparking a catastrophic radioactive fire, releasing up to 100% of the hazardous Cesium-137 in decades worth of the piled up irradiated nuclear fuel densely crammed into pools. [Several storage pools in the U.S. have simply sprung leaks over the decades](#), unleashing radioactively contaminated water into soil, groundwater, and surface water. [As documented in a report by Alvarez et al.](#), NRC commissioned studies themselves have admitted that a pool fire could cause around 25,000 latent cancer fatalities downwind (2001), or even 54,000 to 143,000 latent cancer fatalities downwind, 2,000 to 7,000 square kilometers [770 to 2,700 sq. miles] of agricultural land condemned, and economic costs due to evacuation of \$117 to 566 billion [\$158 to 765 billion in 2010 dollars, when adjusted for inflation] (1997).

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