



AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FUKUSHIMA KEY FINDINGS

- We have found no aspect of the Fukushima Daiichi accident to suggest that the level of safety of nuclear energy facilities in the U.S. is unacceptable.
- The current level of oversight is sufficient to protect the health and safety of the American public.
- Our analysis suggests that off-site health consequences of the Fukushima Daiichi accident may ultimately be negligible. These findings reinforce those of the panel assembled by the Health Physics Society, which presented its findings at the National Press Club on March 1.
- The overall lessons learned and to be learned from Fukushima Daiichi chiefly concern a facility's response to an extreme natural events—in this specific case, an earthquake and the resulting tsunami.
- **Risk-Informed Regulation:** One should use a risk-informed approach, in planning for the next level of safety. One example would be using such an approach for extreme natural phenomena.
- **Emergency Planning:** We believe that emergency planning zones should not be based on arbitrary mileage designations, but rather a comprehensive assessment of the consequences and probabilities of various accident scenarios—in short, a “risk-informed” approach.
- **Multiple-Unit Site Considerations:** We recommend that a risk assessment associated with multiple units be performed by an appropriate regulatory body when a unit is added to a site.
- **Hardware Design Modifications:** We have identified hardware-related modifications, which may be considered by near-term regulation. These modifications would be plant specific and some cost-benefit analysis would ultimately determine which improvements have a real benefit on the safety of each facility.
- **Command and Control During a Reactor Accident:** We believe that the Command and Control system in the United States is adequate, but we believe that a review is still worthwhile in the light of the Fukushima accident.
- **Severe Accident Management Guidelines:** The industry needs to develop a consensus with NRC regarding the intent and scope of Severe Accident Management Guidelines, including the manner in which they interface with specific plant emergency operating procedures.
- **Societal Risk Comparison:** We recommend that a quantitative assessment of the societal benefits and risks—including indirect costs and externalities—relating to all energy sources be performed.