

# BEYOND NUCLEAR ANNUAL REPORT

2011



## The year of Fukushima and worldwide nuclear protest



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## ABOUT BEYOND NUCLEAR

Beyond Nuclear aims to educate and activate the public about the connections between nuclear power and nuclear weapons and the need to abandon both to safeguard our future. Beyond Nuclear advocates for an energy future that is sustainable, benign and democratic. The Beyond Nuclear team works with diverse partners and allies to provide the public, government officials, and the media with the critical information necessary to move humanity toward a world beyond nuclear.



### BEYOND NUCLEAR

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## STAFF

Cindy Folkers                      Linda Gunter  
Paul Gunter                        Kevin Kamps

## BOARD

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Lou Friedman                      Karl Grossman  
Judith Johnsrud                    Judith Kaufman

## FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Dr. Helen Caldicott

## HONORARY CHAIRMAN

Ed Asner

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Ed Asner                            Ed Begley, Jr.  
Christie Brinkley                Susan Clark  
David Cortright                 James Cromwell  
Judi Friedman                    Keith Gunter  
Joan MacIntosh                 Friedrike Merck  
John McEnroe                    Bonnie Raitt  
Susan Sarandon                 Marilyn Strong  
Steven Stong                     Paul Winter  
Gretchen Wyler (1932-2007).

## AN UNFORGETTABLE YEAR

The March 11, 2011 nuclear power plant catastrophe at Fukushima Daiichi, changed the course of 2011 and our work at Beyond Nuclear. Our mission — to educate the world about the dangers of nuclear power — was propelled into the spotlight. Our message was never made more graphically clear. Public and media awareness was raised dramatically. Beyond Nuclear staff members were launched into literally hundreds of television, radio, print and on-line media interviews that still continue. Our website saw unprecedented traffic. Through petitions, social media outreach, and numerous media and speaking opportunities, we gained thousands of new members.

Our Japanese colleagues urged us to build off the Fukushima tragedy to ensure the suffering in Japan was not in vain. We agreed, and the campaigns we launched, and those we continue to work on, constitute our longstanding determination to try to ensure that another “Fukushima” never happens anywhere in the world.

## FREEZE OUR FUKUSHIMAS

We immediately revived our longstanding call for the shutdown of the 23 US GE Mark I Boiling Water Reactors, identical to the four at Fukushima Daiichi — by launching our *Freeze our Fukushimas* campaign. An unprecedented 8,000 of you co-signed our petition to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission which agreed to review two of our demands, providing a launching pad from which to mount a countrywide grassroots movement. Please see the *Freeze our Fukushimas* web page for more details.



## REMEMBERING CHERNOBYL

In April, around the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chernobyl reactor explosion in Ukraine, Beyond Nuclear organized a visiting tour of leading nuclear critics from Russia, including Alexei Yablokov (pictured), co-author of the seminal study into the health effects of the Chernobyl accident. Yablokov's press conference in Washington was covered by C-Span and CNN.



## THE GERMAN GREEN PLAN COMES TO VERMONT

In 2011, Germany led the green energy revolution and renounced nuclear power. Linda Gunter, Beyond Nuclear's international specialist, participated in two conferences in Berlin to exchange ideas, strategize and build alliances. In October, we brought Jochen Flasbarth, the head of the German equivalent of the Environmental Protection Agency, to Vermont. He met with state government leaders, the media, renewable energy innovators and the public to bolster Vermont's goal to shut down its reactor, Vermont Yankee, in March 2012. As countries including Switzerland and Italy said 'no' to new reactors, we provided video support, including in Italian.

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## THE FUKUSHIMA STORY IN NEW YORK AND DC

In September, Beyond Nuclear organized speaking and press events in Washington, DC and New York for a group of women activists from Japan whose compelling testimony inspired many others to action and which culminated with a rally at the UN. Beyond Nuclear will be collaborating with our new US-based Japanese allies and others across the world as we promote our March Against Nuclear Madness month of commemorative actions in March 2012.

The Japanese tour was followed by the October 1st Rally for a Nuke-Free World in New York City (with simultaneous events around the country) that drew more than 500 people to hear speakers including our nuclear waste specialist, Kevin Kamps, board member Karl Grossman and our founding president, Dr. Helen Caldicott.

By year's end, the Fukushima accident was still on-going with radioactive contamination from the site found ever farther afield in Japan and around the world. Particularly disturbing was the level of radioactive poisoning of the ocean, an out-of-sight-out-of-mind atrocity. Beyond Nuclear continued to monitor and report on the fate of domestic animals, wildlife and the ecosystems on which they depend. We also began working with California partners to investigate concerns about radioactive contamination of our food supplies.

## INTO ETERNITY .... OR INTO INFINITY?

The perpetual problem of nuclear waste of course remains unsolved and may never be solved. Beyond Nuclear bird-dogged the infamous Blue Ribbon Commission throughout 2011, a Department of Energy investigation into what to do with the mountains of radioactive waste now 70 years high. The largely token public hearings and input ended on Halloween and Beyond Nuclear marked the occasion outside DOE headquarters, with a little street theater, our "I Have A Scream" signs, and a loud and clear message that the first step to a solution is to Stop Making More! We continue to promote the haunting film about the Finnish waste repository under construction, *Into Eternity*. Contact Beyond Nuclear to show it in your community.

## NEW REACTORS? NO, JUST THE SAME OLD REACTORS!

The Nuclear Renaissance remains a figment of the nuclear industry's collective imagination as our Nuclear Retreat web page continued to point out. However, efforts to prolong the life of nuclear power in the US continued quietly in the form of license renewal applications for the aging, degrading reactor fleet. Paul Gunter continues to lead our challenge to an application by the owners of Seabrook for a 20-year license extension *20 years before the current one expires!* Our chief argument now under consideration is that NextEra, the Seabrook owner, is concealing mounting evidence that a renewable energy renaissance in offshore wind power will replace the need for the nuclear power plant in 20 years time. We are also challenging the license renewal at the Davis-Besse reactor in Ohio, (infamous for corrosion that brought it close to a meltdown), with several contentions including the renewable energy alternative, and cracking of the concrete shield building. The flooding of the Ft. Calhoun, NE reactor engaged our experts for many weeks, while August brought us the earthquake with its epicenter at the North Anna, VA nuclear power plant, followed by Hurricane Irene. These events provided us more press coverage and allowed us to reintroduce our important work focusing on the miles of inaccessible and uninspected buried pipes carrying radioactive water that lie under every reactor site. At N. Anna, we told media of our suspicions that these pipes were likely damaged by the quake and may have leaked. We also drew attention to the risks posed by the unprotected outdoor waste casks at N. Anna that shifted dramatically during the quake.





## NUCLEAR POWER IS DANGEROUS TO OUR HEALTH

Cindy Folkers, Beyond Nuclear's radiation expert, led efforts to monitor the National Academy of Sciences panel tasked by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to set up a new cancer study around US nuclear facilities. We submitted written comments on phase one, that sets up the framework for the study, although it is unclear whether the NRC will ever authorize a phase two. In particular, we highlighted the vulnerability of children to radiation damage, and encouraged others to participate. Beyond Nuclear has publicized European studies — including those in Germany and France — both of which show a marked increase in acute leukemia among children aged five and under living close to nuclear power plants in those countries.

We also drew attention to the dire health risks now inflicted on the people of Japan due to the Fukushima accident. In educating the US public to the frightening health consequences of a major nuclear accident, we were able to reach out to new audiences with our message about the need to end the nuclear age.

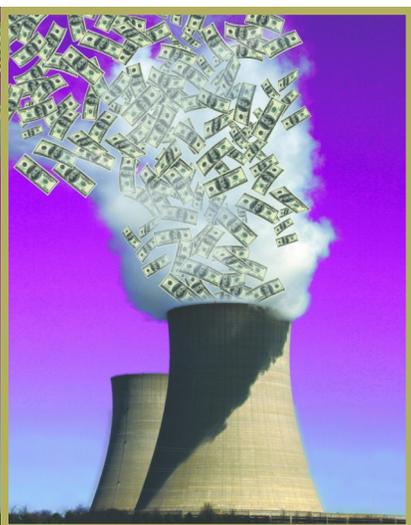
We continued our water testing program around US nuclear power plants, including taking samples near the Vernon Elementary School which is, unbelievably, across the street from the Vermont Yankee reactor. Although tritium levels there were found to be low, our next step is to test for alpha and beta radiation. We are also working with a public interest meteorological professor, Dr. Sam Miller of Plymouth State University, who is weather mapping around nuclear power plants. His maps and data will inform our testing program to look for radioactive plume pathways and hotspots from routine operational releases of radiation as well as from accidents.



## THE PLIGHT OF ANIMALS

In 2001, Linda and Paul Gunter, now with Beyond Nuclear, co-authored a landmark study on the impacts of coastal nuclear plants on marine wildlife. We looked at intake systems which draw in billions of animals small and large. And we examined thermal discharges which destroy aquatic ecosystems. In 2011, we were given an all-too vivid demonstration of what *radiological* contamination of the marine environment looks like. The almost inestimable and certainly unprecedented discharge of highly radioactive waters into seas off the Fukushima, Japan coast will

leave a toxic legacy potentially forever. And on land, the livestock left behind by fleeing residents, starved or roamed helplessly. Pets died or became feral. It became obvious, as Beyond Nuclear reminded the public and press of its previous findings, that nuclear power represents a major threat to animals, on a daily basis as well as from accidents. There is no way to evacuate livestock and still, in the US, most evacuation shelters will not accept pets. In 2012, we plan to integrate more of our animal welfare work into our efforts to use Fukushima as a template lesson against any further use — and especially expansion — of nuclear power.



## THROWING GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD NUKES

Beyond Nuclear opposes federal loan guarantees and taxpayer subsidies for new reactors and has played a central role on Capitol Hill, working with key legislative offices to educate lawmakers about the “toxicity” — fiscal and literal — of nuclear loan guarantees. Beyond Nuclear has delivered numerous Hill drops and produces fact sheets, fliers and pamphlets for decision-makers, the public and the media. At the grassroots level, Beyond Nuclear partners with allies to influence any “swing” votes on the issue of loan guarantees. Regionally, the focus of our work in stopping new reactors has been around the proposed Fermi 3 reactor in Michigan (we are still opposing a third reactor at Calvert Cliffs, MD although that project has, fortunately, hit troubled waters). Fermi owner, Detroit Edison, failed in its efforts to have our contentions dismissed, these being: lack of quality assurance; that operation of Fermi 3 would exacerbate the proliferation of toxic algae in Lake Erie; and that the new reactor would constitute a threat to the endangered Eastern Fox Snake.

## OUR VIDEO PRESENCE. WATCH THESE, AND OTHERS, ON OUR WEBSITE



Ed Asner...a nuclear accident....



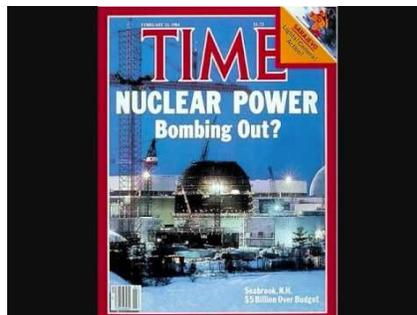
Halloween at DOE with Mr. Burns



Votare si per dire no al nucleare!



VY, unsafe today, shut tomorrow!



Seabrook, no license renewal



Howard Zinn, civil disobedience

## FINANCIALS

### BEYOND NUCLEAR STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Unrestricted	Temp. Restricted	Total
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>			
Contributions and Grants	\$ 460,910	\$ -	\$ 460,910
Interest Income	481	-	481
Other	599	-	599
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	461,990	-	461,990
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	461,990		461,990
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program	352,620	-	352,620
Management and General	17,470	-	17,470
Fundraising	13,196	-	13,196
<b>Total Expenses</b>	383,286	-	383,286
<b>Increase in Net Assets</b>	78,704	-	78,704
Net Assets — Beginning	165,559	-	165,559
<b>Net Assets — Ending</b>	\$ 244,263	\$ -	\$ 244,263

# YOUR LOCAL NUCLEAR PLANT HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE



## IT'S CALLED A MELTDOWN



You don't need an earthquake or a tsunami to melt down a nuclear power plant. Loss of electricity, a fire, or even human error is enough.

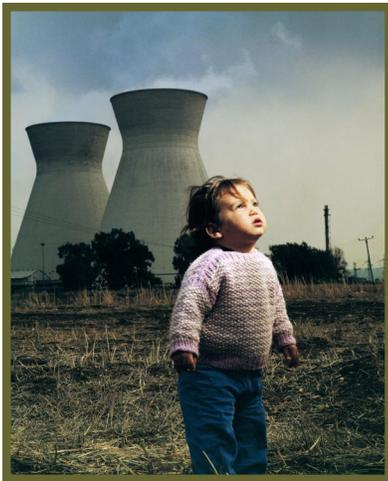
**FREEZE OUR FUKUSHIMAS!**

Demand the shutdown of dangerous US GE Mark I reactors, the "evil twins" of Fukushima.



Learn more at: [WWW.BEYONDNUCLEAR.ORG](http://WWW.BEYONDNUCLEAR.ORG)

# WHY WE DO THIS WORK: A PHOTO ESSAY



Because children — the most vulnerable among us — should not be exposed to harmful radiation, released routinely from nuclear power plants. Studies in France and Germany have shown elevated rates of leukemia among children aged five and under living close to nuclear power plants.

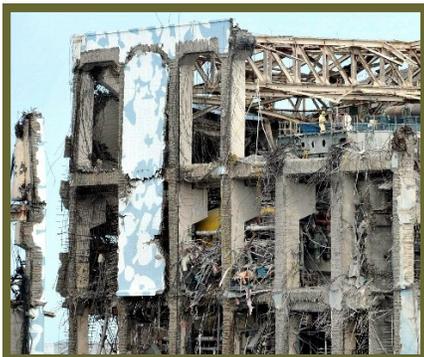
Because the global marketing of nuclear energy creates alliances like these — that can, and will, inevitably lead to the development of nuclear weapons. This, in turn, encourages acts of aggression, with the tensions over Iran's "civilian" nuclear program a case in point.



Because a safe and secure future will be powered by renewable energy, supported by energy efficiency and conservation. It is our responsibility to ensure such a future, for our children and theirs.



Because nuclear power generates radioactive waste — a mountain of waste 70 years high in the US. With no waste management "solution" in sight, it is unacceptable, and immoral, to continue to generate more.



Because nuclear reactors are inherently dangerous. Safety fixes are sacrificed in favor of industry profit. But a nuclear accident anywhere is a nuclear accident everywhere.

Because no one should have to live in a house made of radioactive debris. Yet from uranium mining to waste dumps, nuclear power violates human rights, often targeting indigenous peoples around the world to bear the burden of risk and disease.



Photos clockwise from top left: Child and cooling tower, Hard Rain Project; Col. Gaddafi and Nicolas Sarkozy; Old waste dump, Asse, Germany; Uranium miner's house Niger; Fukushima Unit 4; Painting by C-chan, 8, Fukushima, with Geoff Read, Strong Children.

