


 [Gallery: The World's Top 25 Companies](#)

 [Make Your Kid Rich With a Roth IRA](#)

 [Apply For Our List Of Most Promising Cos.](#)

 [AdVoice: Recovery In The Cloud](#)

[Free Issue >](#)

hours ago  
**Corporate IT & iPad Demand Rise, Dell's Up, HP's Down**

**PETER COHAN** *The Startup Economy*

6 hours ago  
**Will LinkedIn's IPO Open The Floodgates?**

**TOMIO GERON** *Social Markets*



## Osha Gray Davidson

EDISON 2.0

[MY PROFILE](#) [MY HEADLINE GRABS](#) [MY RSS FEED](#)

### INNOVATION

## Conditions May Be Deteriorating at Japanese Nuclear Power Plant

Apr. 16 2011 - 2:58 pm | 1,698 views | 0 recommendations | 0 comments

Five weeks after the crisis at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station (FDI) first began, there is new evidence that the situation may have taken a turn for the worse.



Reactors 2 (left) and 1 (right), April 10, 2011 (TEPCO)

Intensely radioactive water from reactor Unit 2 is filling a nearby tunnel faster than workers can empty it, and radioactive levels of seawater near the plant increased sixfold following an aftershock on Saturday.

According to Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) owner/operator of the 6-reactor power plant, radioactive contamination of groundwater by Unit 2 is 17-times higher than it was just one week ago. The problem is

45

Share

33



31

0

0

Share

### MY ACTIVITY FEED

Show all activity

OSHA'S NEW POST Yesterday  
**New Video of Nuclear Power Plant Doesn't Give the Real Picture**

OSHA'S NEW POST Yesterday  
**Chinese Solar Giant, SunTech, Boosts Production at Arizona Plant**

OSHA COMMENTED Yesterday  
"Thanks for your comment. I report on solar power -- I don't work for the industry. I guess we'll have to disagree..."

Posted to **THE JAPANESE NUCLEAR POWER CRISIS DEEPENS**

OSHA'S NEW POST Yesterday  
**Ten Companies Using 100% Renewable Power**



### MOST POPULAR

[MY POSTS](#) [All Posts Last 24 Hours](#)

thought to be caused by an unknown leak or leaks in the basement of the unit's turbine building or in the tunnel itself.

A spokesman for Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Commission [told reporters that](#) "We want to determine the origin and contain the leak, but I must admit that tracking it down is difficult."

On Friday, workers dumped more sandbags of zeolite, a radiation absorbing material, into the sea by Unit 3.

### Radiation Threat to Marine Life

Little is known about the effects of radiation on marine life, despite a long history of such human-caused contamination from using the ocean as a dumping ground for nuclear waste from France, the U.K., and the former Soviet Union. An unknown amount of radiation also came from US nuclear weapons testing in the South Pacific. The explosion and fire at the only previous nuclear power disaster on this scale, at Chernobyl in 1986, deposited a significant amount of radiation in the ocean.

[A recent article by journalist Elizabeth Grossman](#) quotes Ken Buesseler, a senior scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution:

Given that the Fukushima nuclear power plant is on the ocean, and with leaks and runoff directly to the ocean, the impacts on the ocean will exceed those of Chernobyl, which was hundreds of miles from any sea....My biggest concern is the lack of information. We still don't know the whole range of radioactive compounds that have been released into the ocean.

TEPCO moved 660 tons of radioactive water from the Unit 2 tunnel to a giant cask on Wednesday, lowering the water level in the tunnel by about three inches. By Saturday morning, however, the water level in the tunnel had returned to its previous position and then rose another inch.

Also, the Japanese public television network NHK reports that radiation in underground water is 38-times higher than it was a week ago.

### How Far Away is Safe?

Despite assurances from the government that areas outside of designated evacuation zones are safe, debate continues over the safety of areas farther from the plant and when it will be safe for evacuees to return.

Part of the debate stems from the mixed signals sent by other nations. The U.S. told American nationals to evacuate from a 50-mile zone around FDI. France instructed its citizens to leave Japan entirely.

[Changing instructions](#) by the Japanese government itself is another factor contributing to confusion and alarm among the Japanese people.

[An opinion piece published in yesterday's Kyodo News](#) is generating more debate on what actions need to be taken to deal with the nuclear crisis. The editorial was written by Alexey Yablokov, a Russian scientist who edited a book about the public health and environmental effects of the Chernobyl disaster.

"Based on Chernobyl experiences," says Yablokov, "it is necessary to understand that it may be impossible to quickly get back to life before the catastrophe and to accept the post-Fukushima realities as soon as possible."

His editorial includes suggestions such as expanding the exclusion zone around FDI to "at least" 30-miles, mass distribution of chemicals such as potassium iodine so that people can protect themselves against some

1. [The Man Who Shot Osama bin Laden](#) 2. 15,332 views
- Update: [Seven Weeks After First U.S. Full-Face Transplant: a Kiss](#) 10,418 views
3. [Mapping Osama Bin Laden](#) 9,825 views
4. [Texas Man Receives First U.S. Full-Face Transplant](#) 8,695 views
5. [The Japanese Nuclear Power Crisis Deepens](#) 8,213 views

### ABOUT ME

I've covered energy and other issues for over two decades, writing for publications including The Washington Post, Rolling Stone, Salon, The New Republic, Popular Science, the New York Times and Woman's Day.

Essentially, I'm a nosy guy who got lucky finding a somewhat socially acceptable means to justify asking total strangers any number of questions.

"Moments in Journalism" I'll never forget include getting thumped on the chest by Jesse Jackson during the 1988 primaries (he didn't like my question), riding with a government "mobile squad" as they freed modern-day slaves on a cattle ranch in the Brazilian outback, and the time former Secretary of the Interior James Watt drew a pyramid chart on a napkin in an Arizona coffee-shop while justifying his stormy (and brief) tenure under President Reagan.

[See my profile »](#)

Followers: 36  
 Contributor Since: October 2010  
 Location: Phoenix, Arizona

[MY PROFILE](#) [MY RSS FEED](#)  
[MY HEADLINE GRABS](#) [EMAIL ME TIPS](#)

[Merrill Lynch FAs](#) [www.totalmerrill.com/careers](http://www.totalmerrill.com/careers)  
 Opportunity Is Right In Front Of You. Become A Financial Advisor.

[Offshore Asset Protection](#) [OffshoreCompany.com/Ass](http://OffshoreCompany.com/Ass)  
 Learn how to actively protect your assets from litigation. Call today!

[Modesto First Aid Supplies](#) [SafeTLite.com/FirstAidSup](http://SafeTLite.com/FirstAidSup)  
 Your One-Stop Shop For Effective First Aid Supplies. Call Us Today.

[CPR & First Aid Training](#) [www.thelpgroup.com](http://www.thelpgroup.com)  
 Adult, Child & Infant CPR+First Aid Next to BART (877) 457-4669

Ads by Google

forms of radiation, and the creation of a special government committee to deal exclusively with “problems of contaminated territories during the first most complicated years.”

Recommend  Buzz Up!  Reddit  StumbleUpon  Facebook  Twitter  Email this

Previous Post:

[Kyl Aide: 'Not Intended to be a Factual Statement' Was Meant to be a Factual Statement, but it Wasn't, So Can We Just Drop it Now, Please?](#)

Next Post:

[The Nature Conservancy's Win-Win-Wind Interactive Map](#)

## More on Forbes Right Now

### Related Posts

[TEPCO: Radiation From Fukushima May Be Worse Than Chernobyl](#)

[Japanese Commission: Nuclear Crisis as Bad as Chernobyl](#)

[Full Scale Nuclear Catastrophe May Be Imminent](#)

[\[Update\] Japan Stops Radioactive Water From Leaking Into The Sea](#)

[Radiation Levels Near Fukushima Up, Tokyo Unchanged, Says IAEA](#)

### LIVE STREAMS

#### Related streams

[Business](#)

[Energy](#)

## Comments

DISPLAY

[Called-Out Comments](#)

[All comments](#)

No Comments  
[Post your comment »](#)

[Log in for notification options](#)

[Comments RSS](#)