

Published on *zero hedge* (<http://www.zerohedge.com>)

[Home](#) > Government Responds to Nuclear Accident by Trying to Raise Acceptable Radiation Levels and Pretending that Radiation is Good For Us

---

# Government Responds to Nuclear Accident by Trying to Raise Acceptable Radiation Levels and Pretending that Radiation is Good For Us

By *George Washington*

Created 03/29/2011 - 14:17

When the economy imploded in 2008, how did the government respond?

Did it crack down on fraud? Force bankrupt companies to admit that their speculative gambling with our money had failed? Rein in the funny business?

Of course not!

The government just helped cover up how bad things were, used claims of national security to keep everything in the dark, and changed basic rules and definitions to allow the game to continue. See [this](#) [1], [this](#) [2], [this](#) [3] and [this](#) [4].

When BP - through criminal [negligence](#) [5] - blew out the Deepwater Horizon oil well, the government [helped cover it up](#) [6] (the [cover up is ongoing](#) [7]).

The government also [changed the testing standards for seafood](#) [8] to pretend that higher levels of [toxic PAHs](#) [9] in our food was business-as-usual.

So now that Japan is suffering the worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl - if not of all time - is the government riding to the rescue to help fix the problem, or at least to provide accurate information to its citizens so they can make informed decisions?

Of course not!

The EPA is [closing ranks](#) [10] with the nuclear power industry:

*EPA officials, however, refused to answer questions or make staff members available to explain the exact location and number of monitors, or the levels of radiation, if any, being recorded at existing monitors in California. Margot Perez-Sullivan, a spokeswoman at the EPA's regional headquarters in San*

*Francisco, said the agency's written statement would stand on its own.*

*Critics said the public needs more information.*

*"It's disappointing," said Bill Magavern, director of Sierra Club California. "I have a strong suspicion that EPA is being silenced by those in the federal government who don't want anything to stand in the way of a nuclear power expansion in this country, heavily subsidized by taxpayer money."*

The EPA has pulled 8 of its 18 radiation monitors in California, Oregon and Washington because (by implication) [they are giving readings which seem too high](#) [11].

Remember, for the sake of context, that the government has [covered up nuclear meltdowns for fifty years](#) [12] to protect the nuclear power industry.

And now, the EPA is considering drastically raising the amount of allowable radiation in food, water and the environment.

As Michael Kane [writes](#) [13]:

*In the wake of the continuing nuclear tragedy in Japan, the United States government is still moving quickly to increase the amounts of radiation the population can "safely" absorb by raising the safe zone for exposure to levels designed to protect the government and nuclear industry more than human life. It's all about cutting costs now as the infinite-growth paradigm sputters and moves towards extinction. As has been demonstrated by government conduct in the Gulf of Mexico in the wake of Deepwater Horizon and in Japan, life has taken a back seat to cost-cutting and public relations posturing.*

*The game plan now appears to be to protect government and the nuclear industry from "excessive costs"... at any cost.*

\*\*\*

*In 1992, the EPA produced a PAGs manual that answers many of these questions. But now an update to the 1992 manual is being planned, and if the "Dr.*

*Strangelove” wing of the EPA has its way, here is what it means (brace yourself for these ludicrous increases):*

- A nearly 1000-fold increase for exposure to strontium-90;
- A 3000 to 100,000-fold hike for exposure to iodine-131; and
- An almost 25,000 rise for exposure to radioactive nickel-63.

*The new radiation guidelines would also allow long-term cleanup thresholds thousands of times more lax than anything EPA has ever judged safe in the past.*

And see [this](#) [14].

Indeed, some government scientists and media shills are now "reexamining" old studies that show that radioactive substances like plutonium cause cancer to argue that *prevent* cancer.

It is not just bubbleheads like [Ann Coulter](#) [15] saying this. Government scientists from the [Pacific Northwest National Laboratories](#) [16] and [pro-nuclear hacks](#) [17] like [Lawrence Solomon](#) [18] are saying this.

In other words, this is a concerted propaganda campaign to cover up the severity of a major nuclear accident by raising acceptable levels of radiation and saying that a little radiation is good for us.

[Gambling](#) [Japan](#) [Mexico](#) [national security](#) [Nuclear Power](#)

---

**Source URL:** <http://www.zerohedge.com/article/government-responds-nuclear-accident-trying-raise-acceptable-radiation-levels-and-pretending>

#### Links:

- [1] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2009/04/senior-s-regulator-says-government.html>
- [2] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2010/04/proof-that-regulators-knew-of-and.html>
- [3] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2010/01/why-is-nationa-security-being-invoked.html>
- [4] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2010/11/fraud-started-at-very-top-with.html>
- [5] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2010/06/since-bp-has-broken-everything-it-has.html>
- [6] <http://www.google.com/search?q=site:http://georgewashington2.blogspot.com/ government bp cover up&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a>
- [7] <http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/305096#ixzz1HsjsqUUn>
- [8] [http://blog.al.com/live/2010/09/fdas\\_standards\\_for\\_gulf\\_seafoo.html](http://blog.al.com/live/2010/09/fdas_standards_for_gulf_seafoo.html)
- [9] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2010/09/scientists-40-times-more-cancer-causing.html>
- [10] [http://www.mercurynews.com/politics-government/ci\\_17621522?source=rss&ncklick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/politics-government/ci_17621522?source=rss&ncklick_check=1)
- [11] <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-21/some-radiation-tracking-air-monitors-may-not-be-working-properly-epa-says.html>
- [12] <http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2011/03/governments-have-been-covering-up.html>
- [13] <http://www.collapsenet.com/free-resources/collapsenet-public-access/item/723-fallout>
- [14] <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110316/NEWS08/110316027/1969/NEWS/Group-warns-EPA-ready-increase-radioactive-release-guidelines-?odyssey=nav|head>
- [15] [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7Pge9F5SpE&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7Pge9F5SpE&feature=player_embedded)
- [16] <http://probeinternational.org/library/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Plutonium-inhalation-Health-Physics.pdf>
- [17] <http://ep.probeinternational.org/2011/03/26/lawrence-solomon-avert-chernobyl-style-hysteria-in-japan/>
- [18] <http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/03/28/lawrence-solomon-plutonium-for-pluto/>