

# Fukushima

*Lessons to be learned*

# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned

11.03.2011



**Tōhoku Earthquake**  
14.46 JST  
Magnitude 9 (MW)

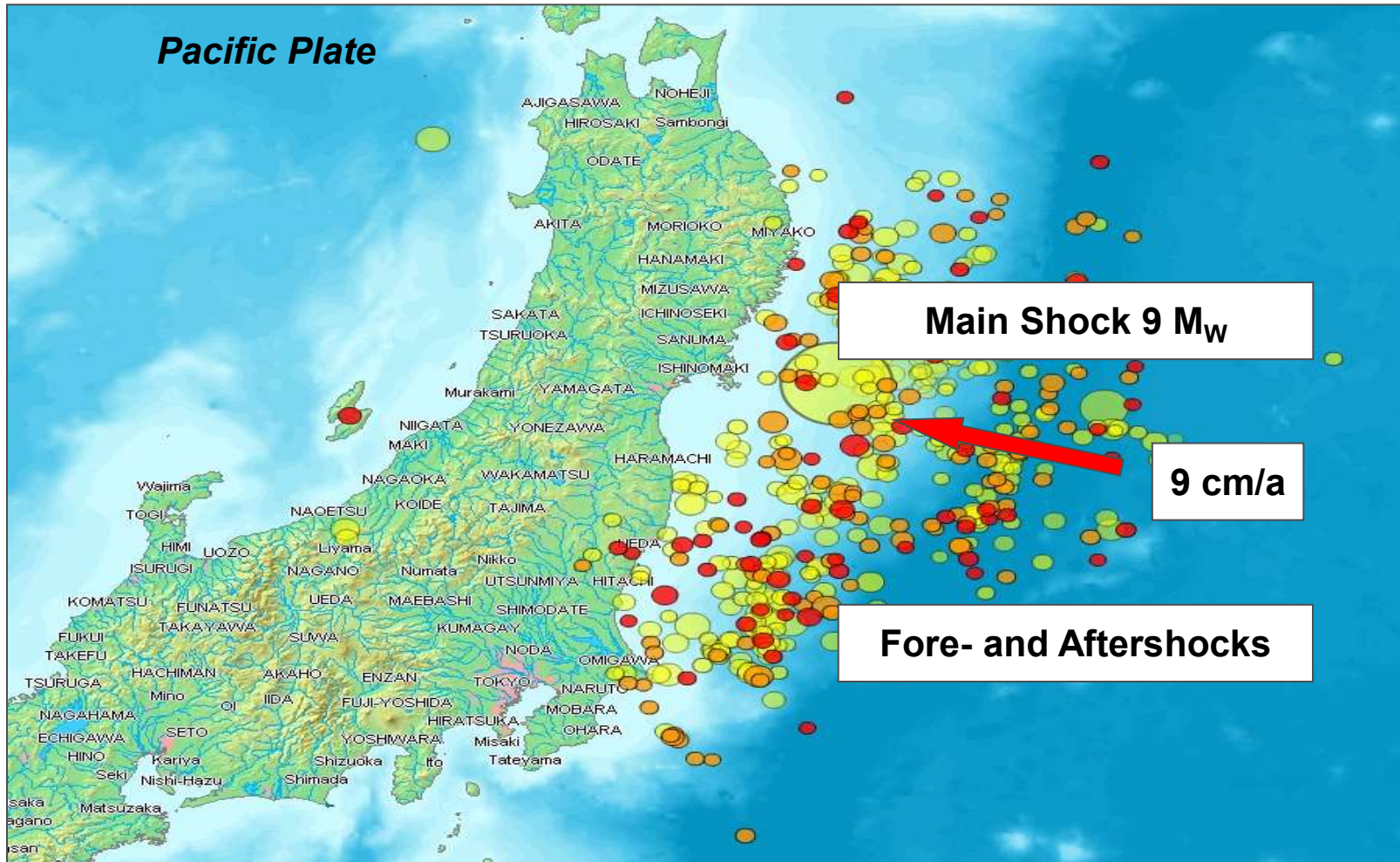


**Tsunami**  
14 m Height



**Station 1,2,3,4**  
Black-out

# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned



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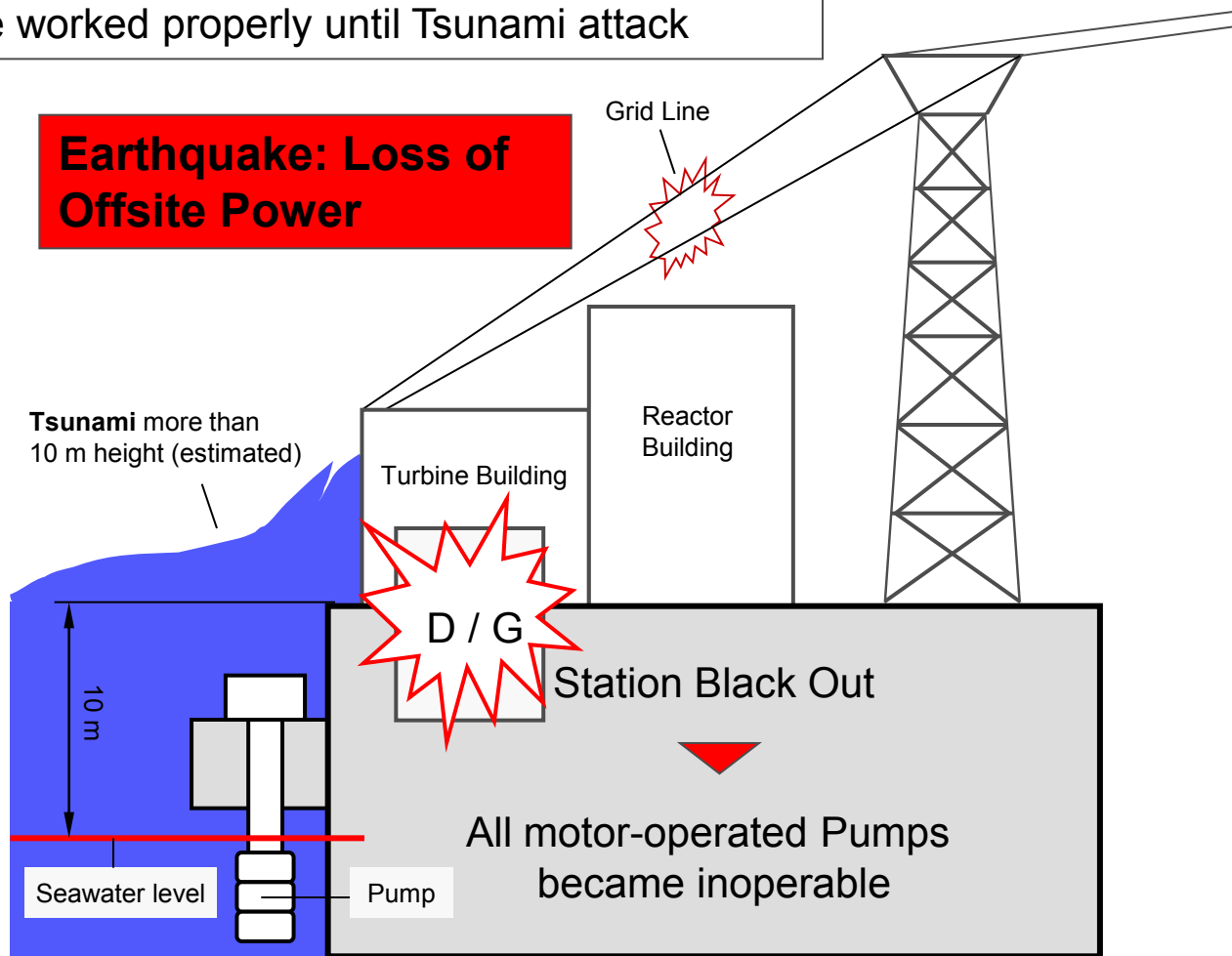
- All operating units were automatically shut down
- Emergency D/Gs have worked properly until Tsunami attack



Tsunami: 14 m  
Design: 5,7 m  
Protection: 6,5 m



**Earthquake: Loss of Offsite Power**

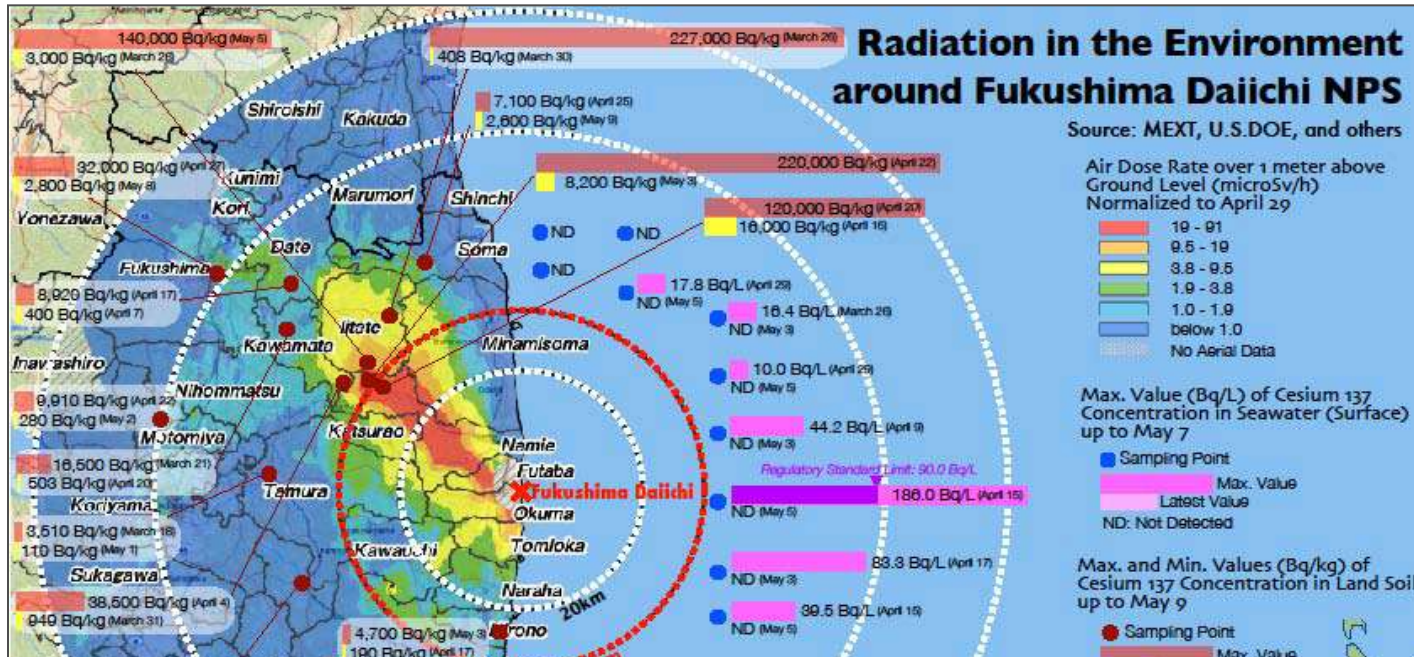


# *Fukushima – Lessons to be learned*

***“Three of the reactors at Fukushima I overheated, causing meltdown that eventually led to explosions, which released large amounts of radioactive material into the air”***



# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned



The events have been rated at **Level 7** on the International Nuclear Event Scale INES

(major release of radioactive material with widespread health and environmental effects requiring implementation of planned and extended countermeasures)

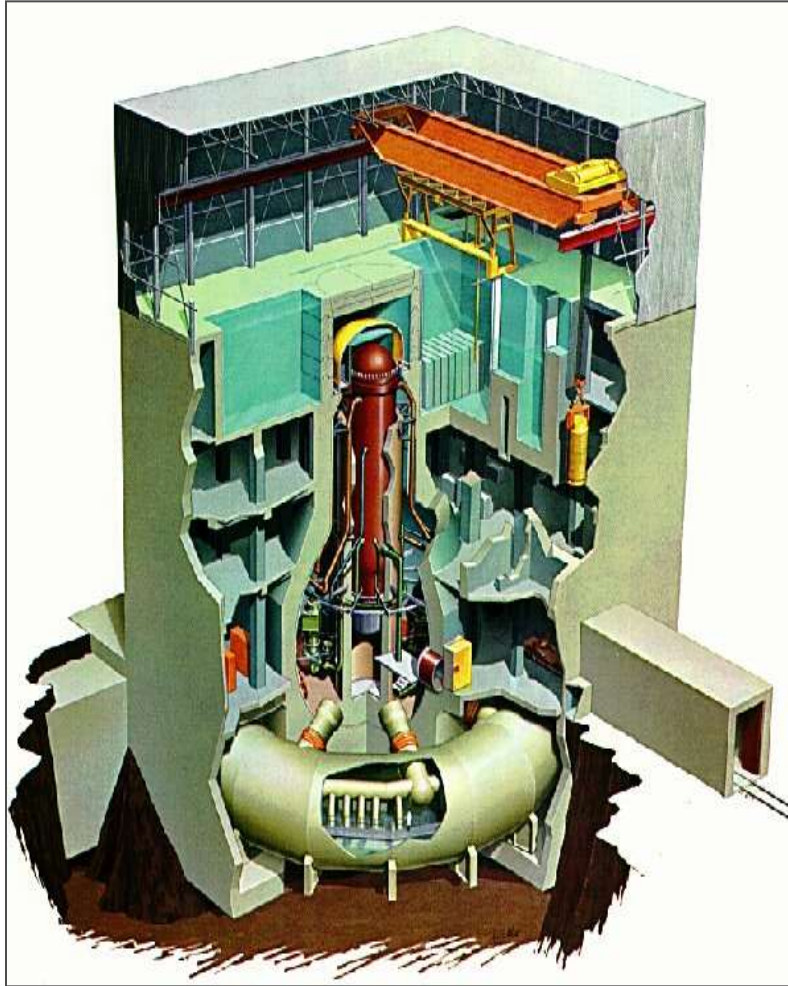
***We feel deep sympathy with the Japanese People***

***We  
the international nuclear community,  
the engineers, authorities, owners, and media  
are concerned and take the responsibility***

***We  
have to learn the lessons from Fukushima***



# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned



# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned

▶ Reactor Service Floor  
(Steel Construction)

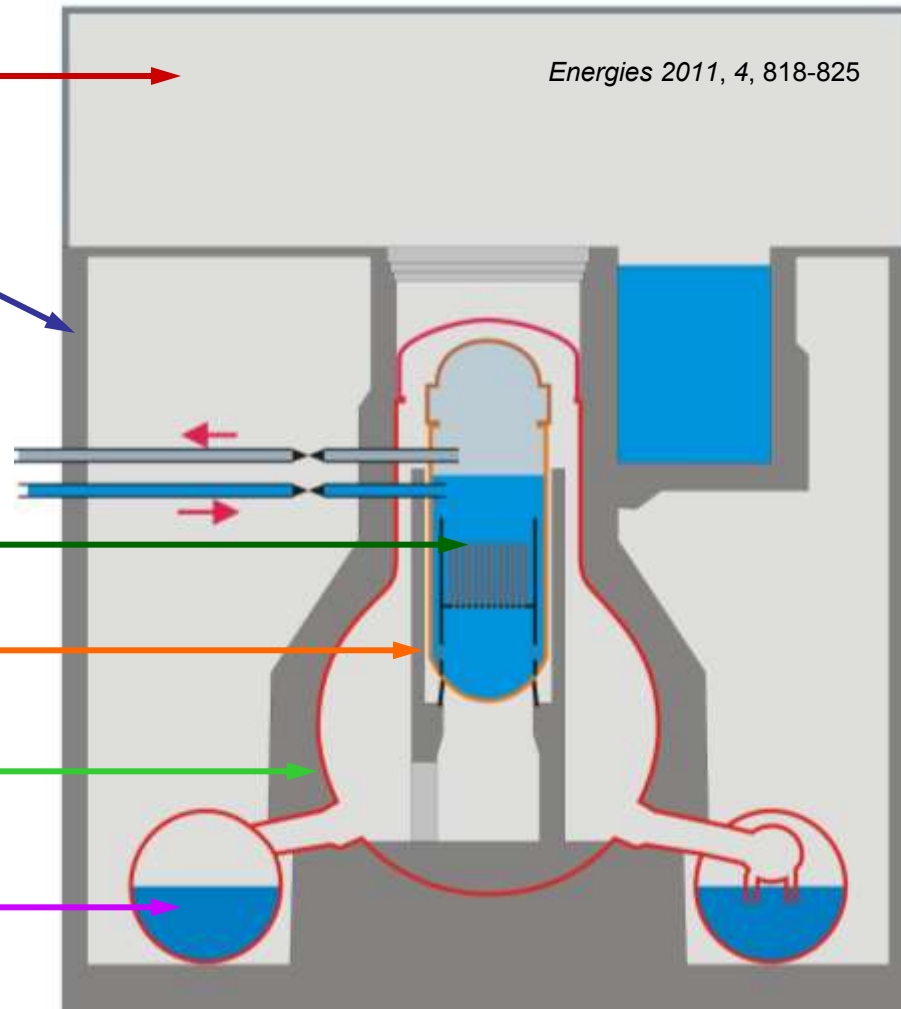
▶ Concrete Reactor Building  
(secondary Containment)

▶ Reactor Core

▶ Reactor Pressure Vessel

▶ Containment (Dry well)

▶ Containment (Wet Well) /  
Condensation Chamber



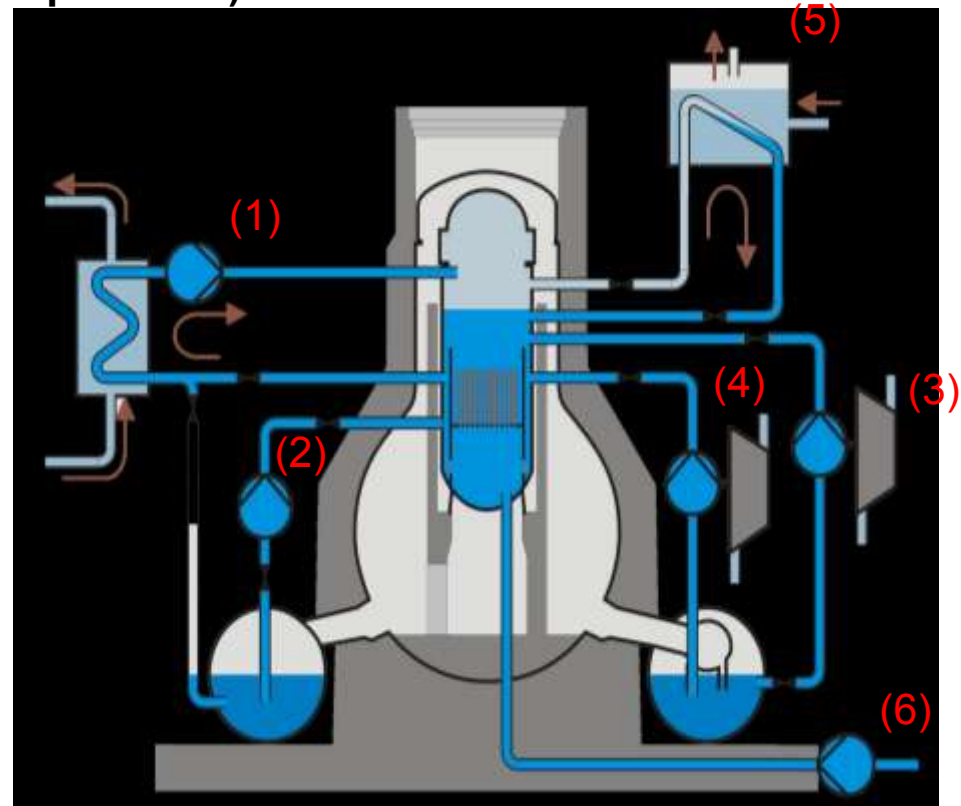
## Course of Events

**Heat generation: (due to decay of fission products)**

After SCRAM ~6%    After 1 Day ~1%

### Emergency Core Cooling Systems

- 1) Residual Heat Removal System
- 2) Low-Pressure Core Spray (for LOCA)
- 3) High-Pressure Core Injection (for LOCA)
- 4) Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (Unit 2,3 [BWR4])
- 5) Isolation Condenser (Unit 1 [BWR3])
- 6) Borating System



## Course of Events

### Fukushima I Unit 1

#### (1) Isolation Condenser

- Steam enters heat exchanger
- Condensate drains back to reactor pressure vessel
- Secondary steam released from plant

**Need pumps for water supply**

### Fukushima I Unit 2 and 3

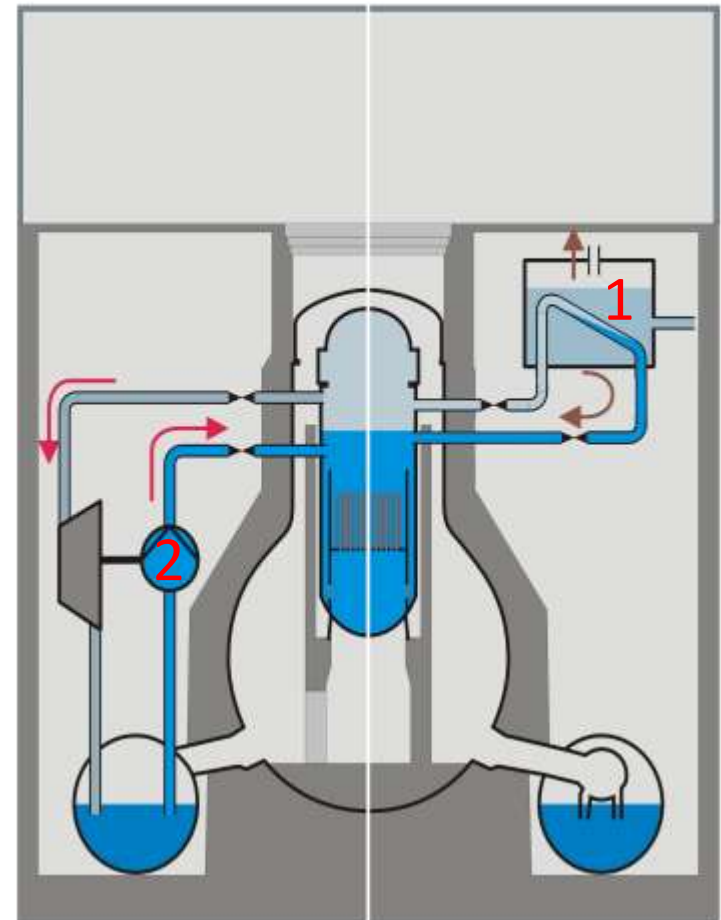
#### (2) Reactor Core Isolation Pump

- Steam from reactor drives turbine
- Turbine drives a pump, pumping water from the wet-well in the reactor
- Steam gets condensed in wet-well

#### Necessary:

- Battery power
- Wet-well temperature < 100°C

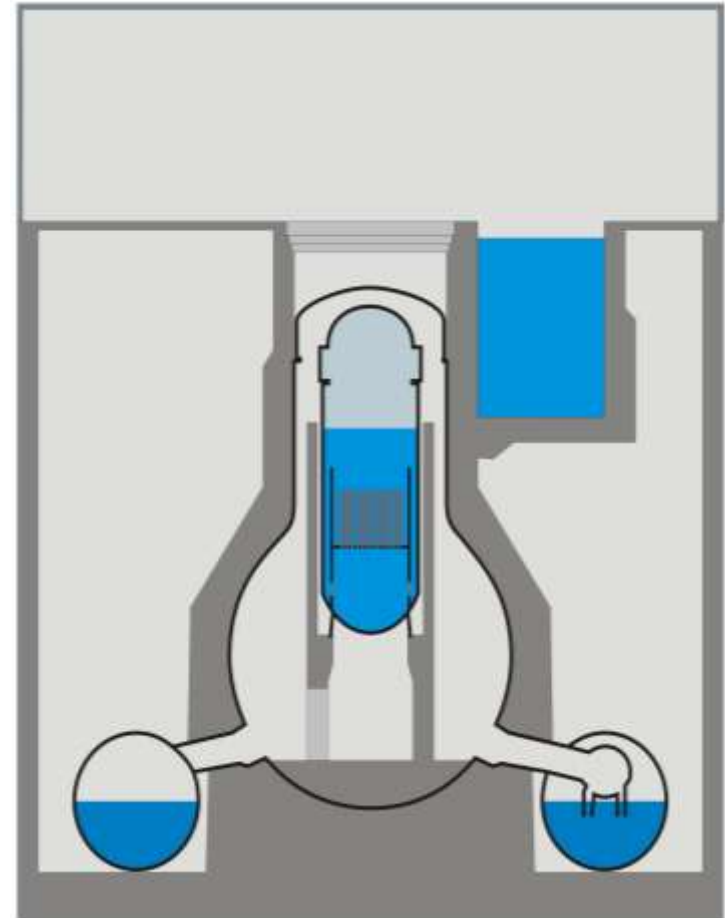
**No heat sink from the buildings**



## Course of Events

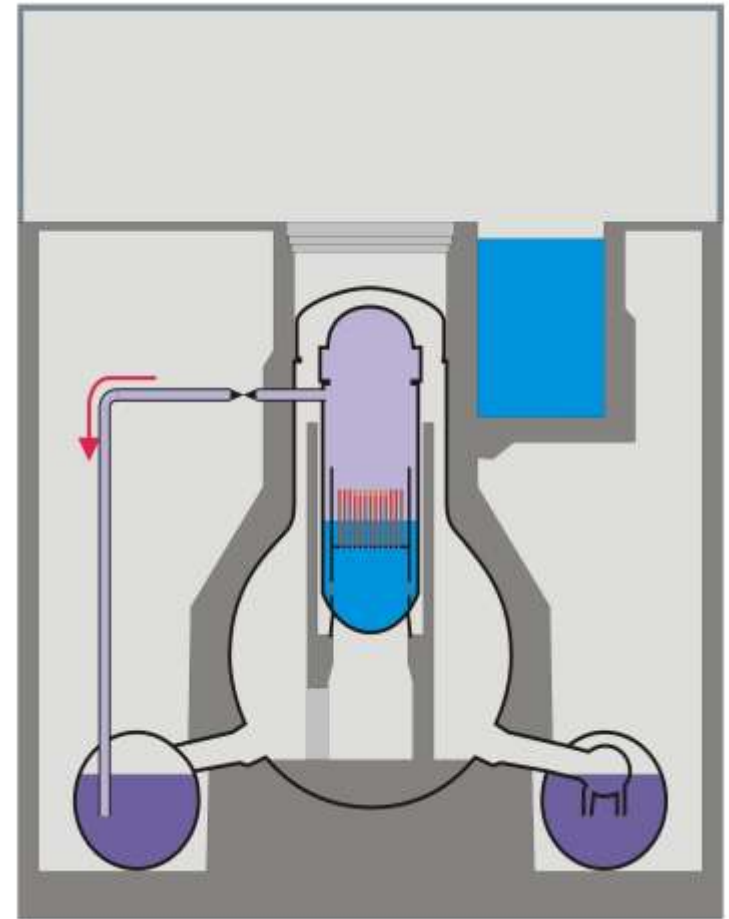
### Loss of Coolant Accident LOCA

- ▶ **11.3. 16:36 in Unit 1**
  - ◆ Isolation condenser stops
- ▶ **13.3. 5:30 in Unit 3**
  - ◆ Reactor Isolation pump stops
- ▶ **14.3. 13:25 in Unit 2**
  - ◆ Reactor Isolation pump stops
- ▶ **Reactors of Units 1-3 are cut off from any kind of heat removal**



## Course of Events

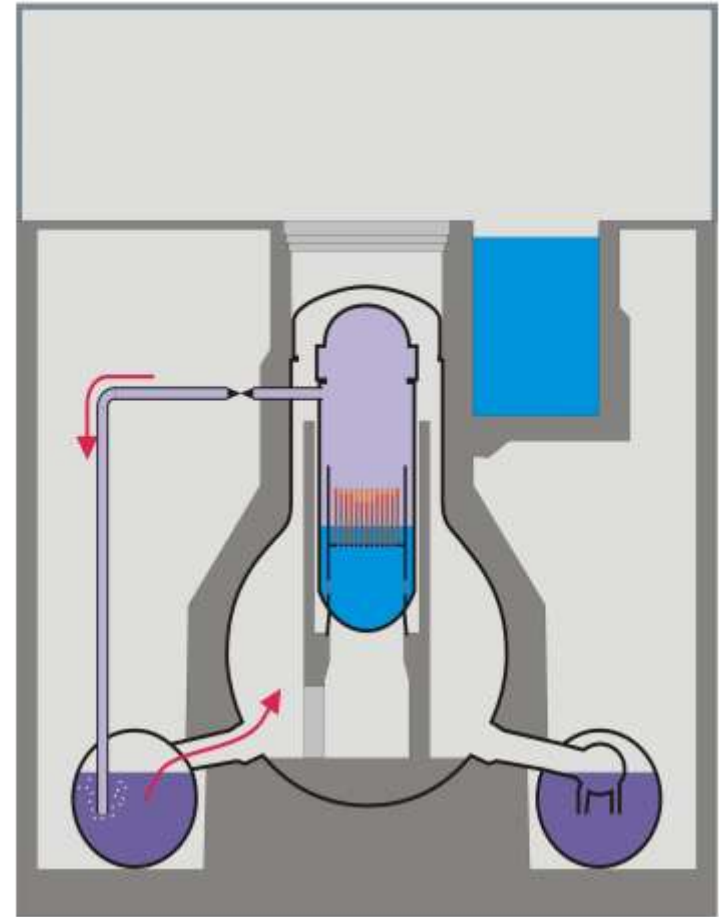
- ▶ **~50% of the core exposed**
  - ◆ Cladding temperatures rise, but still no significant core damage
  
- ▶ **~2/3 of the core exposed**
  - ◆ Cladding temperature exceeds  $\sim 900^{\circ}\text{C}$
  - ◆ Ballooning / Breaking of the cladding
  - ◆ Release of fission products from the fuel rod gaps



## Course of Events

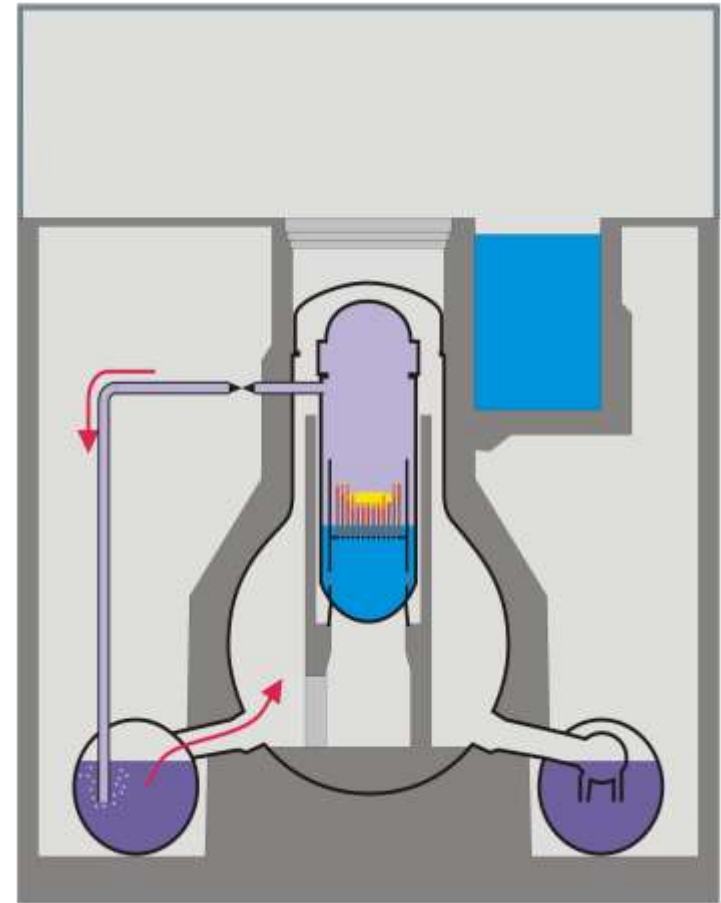
### ~3/4 of the core exposed

- ◆ Cladding exceeds ~1200°C
- ◆ Zirconium water reaction starts under steam atmosphere  
$$\text{Zr} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{ZrO}_2 + 2\text{H}_2$$
- ◆ Exothermal reaction heats the core additionally
- ◆ Generation of hydrogen
  - Unit 1: 300-600kg
  - Unit 2/3: 300-1000kg
- ◆ Hydrogen gets pushed via the wet-well, the wet-well vacuum breakers into the dry-well



## Course of Events

- ▶ at  $\sim 1800^{\circ}\text{C}$  [Unit 1,2,3]
  - ◆ Melting of the cladding
  - ◆ Melting of the steel structure
  
- ▶ at  $\sim 2500^{\circ}\text{C}$  [Unit 1,2]
  - ◆ Breaking of the fuel rods
  - ◆ debris bed inside the core
  
- ▶ at  $\sim 2700^{\circ}\text{C}$  [Unit 1]
  - ◆ Melting of Uranium-Zirconium eutectics
  
- ▶ Supply of seawater to the reactor pressure vessel stops the core melt in all 3 Units
  - ◆ Unit 1: 12.3. 20:20 (27h w/o water)
  - ◆ Unit 2: 14.3. 20:33 (7h w/o water)
  - ◆ Unit 3: 13.3. 9:38 (7h w/o water)





## Venting

### ▶ Containment (MARK I)

- ◆ Last barrier between fission products and environment
- ◆ Wall thickness ~30 mm
- ◆ **Design pressure 4-5 bar**

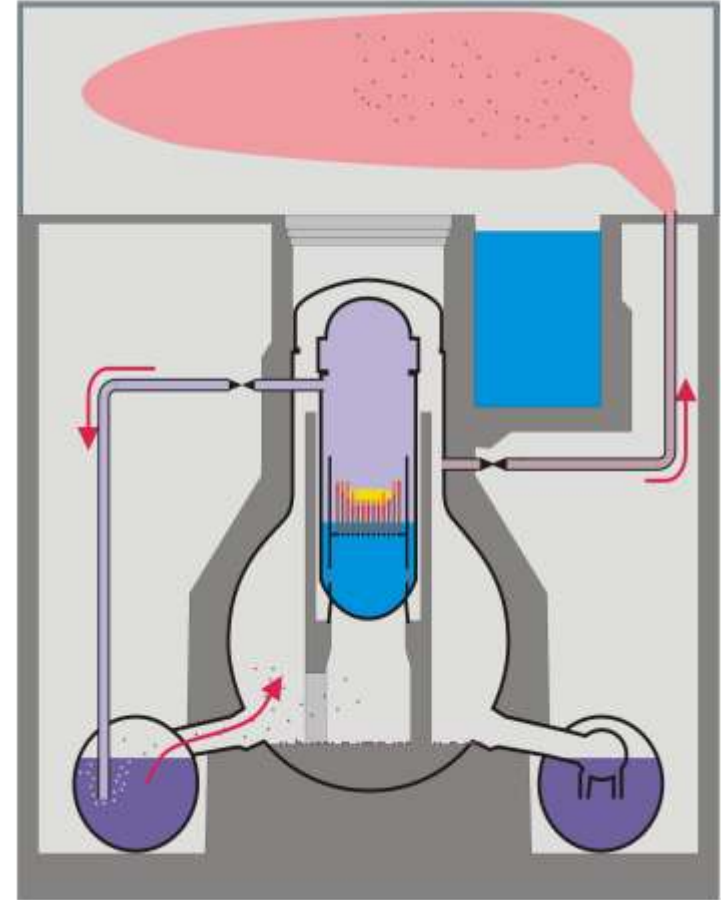
### ▶ Pressure reached up to 8 bars

- ◆ Normal inert gas filling (Nitrogen)
- ◆ Hydrogen from core oxidation
- ◆ Boiling in the condensation chamber
- ◆ Possible leakages at containment head seal

### ▶ Depressurization of the containment

- ◆ Unit 1: 12.3. 4:00
- ◆ Unit 2: 13.3 00:00
- ◆ Unit 3: 13.3. 8:41

## Course of Events

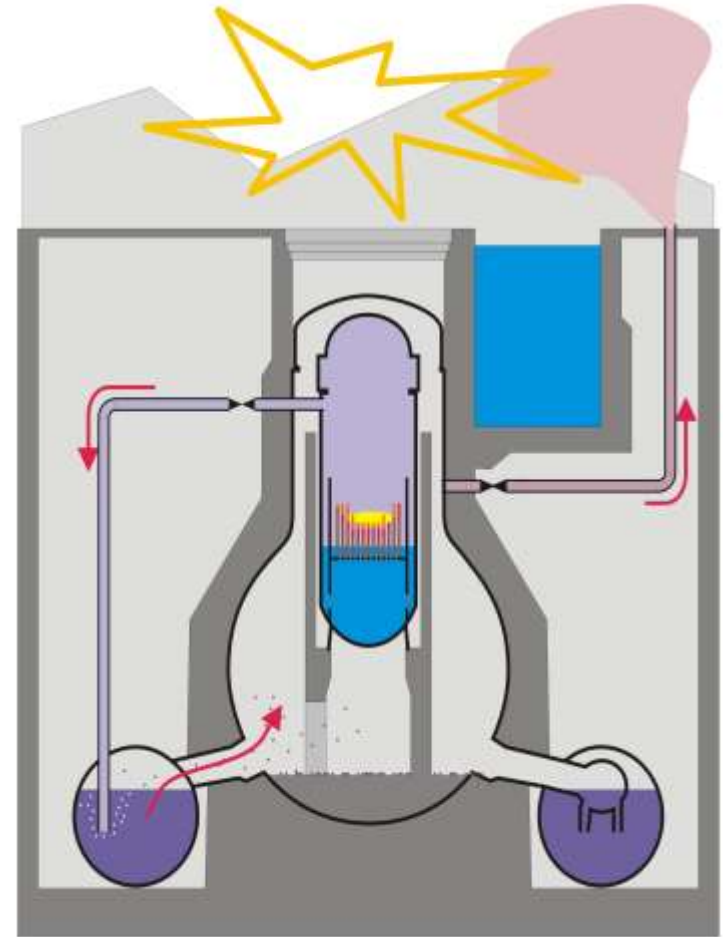


## Course of Events

### ► Unit 1 and 3

#### Hydrogen explosion inside the reactor service floor

- ◆ Destruction of the steel-frame construction
- ◆ Reinforced concrete reactor building seems undamaged



## **Mark of Respect**

**We pay full respect for the accident management  
to  
the technicians, engineers, and management,  
for their  
reasonable, professional, and eventually successful commitment  
under the  
concurrence of extremely severe circumstances**

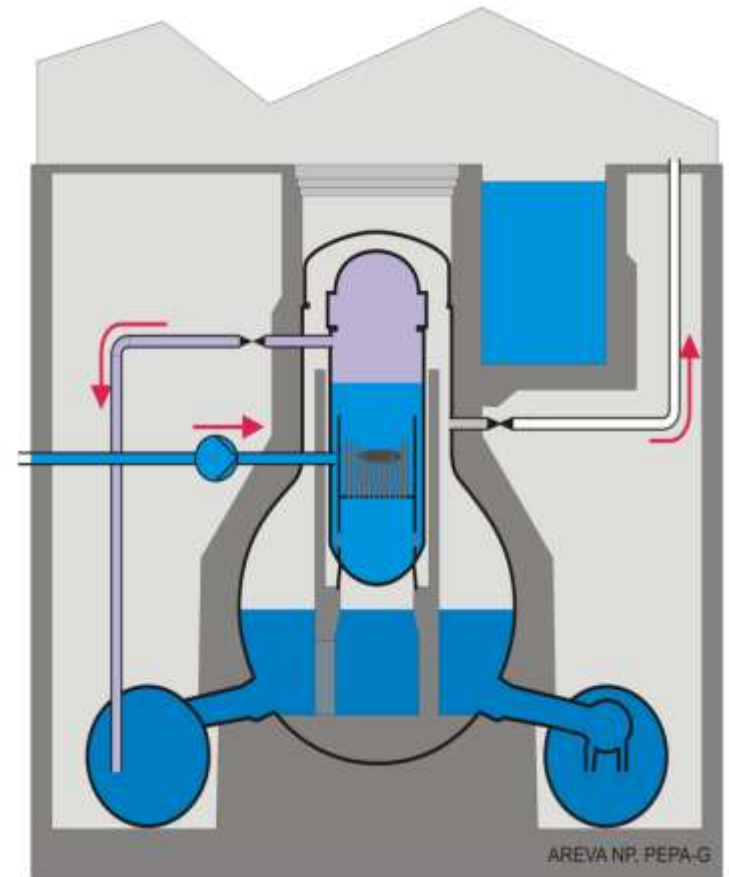
## Accident Mangement

### ▶ **Sea water stopped accident progression**

- ◆ No further core degradation
- ◆ RPV temperatures decline
- ◆ No further releases from fuel

### ▶ **Further cooling of the reactors via**

- ◆ Unit 1: Isolation Condenser
- ◆ Unit 2 & 3: Containment Venting



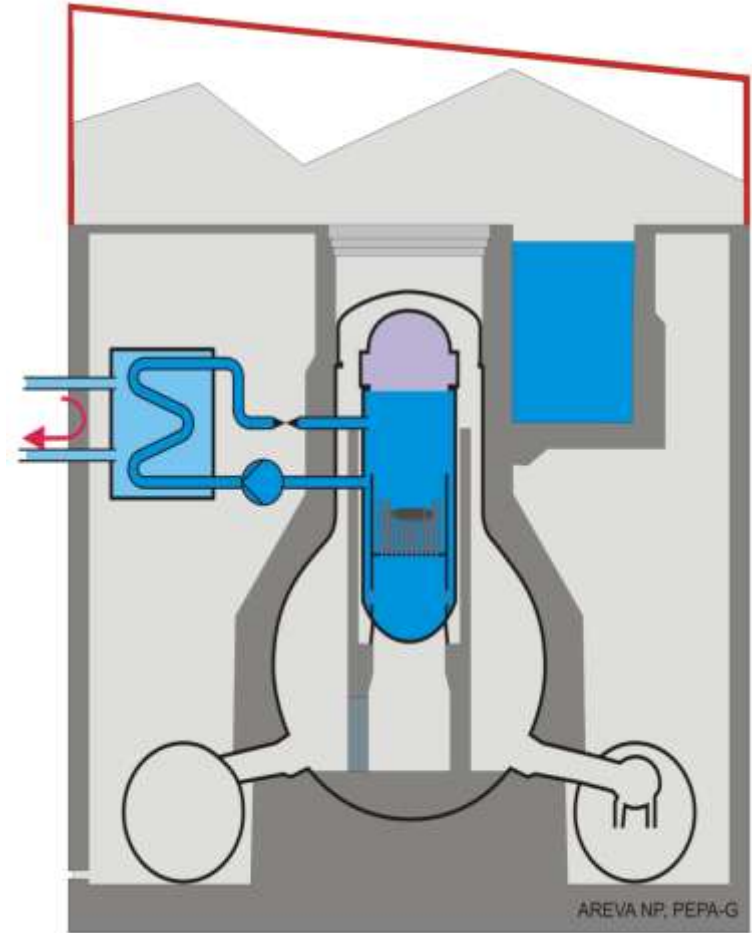
## Accident Mangement

### ▶ Short-term recovery steps

- ◆ Trap fission products on ground with dust binders (Epoxy)
- ◆ Install closed cooling cycles
- ◆ Decrease the water inventory in the Reactor buildings
- ◆ Build storm-prove shelters around the reactors (especially a roof)

### ▶ Long-term recovery steps

- ◆ Build a water cleansing facility to decontaminate the stored water
- ◆ Remove Salt from Reactors
- ◆ Empty the spent fuel pools
- ◆ Wait 10 Years that radioactivity declines [see TMI2]
- ◆ Remove Core inventory



## Accident Mangement



### Happy Moments:

Recovery of Main Control Room Light

Unit 3: March 22    Unit 2: March 26

Unit 1: March 24    Unit 4: March 29



## **Accidental Damage**

### **Earthquake & TSUNAMI**

**a natural disaster of historic magnitude**

**Death Count: 25,000 People**

**Economic Loss: \$ 250 billion**

### **FUKUSHIMA**

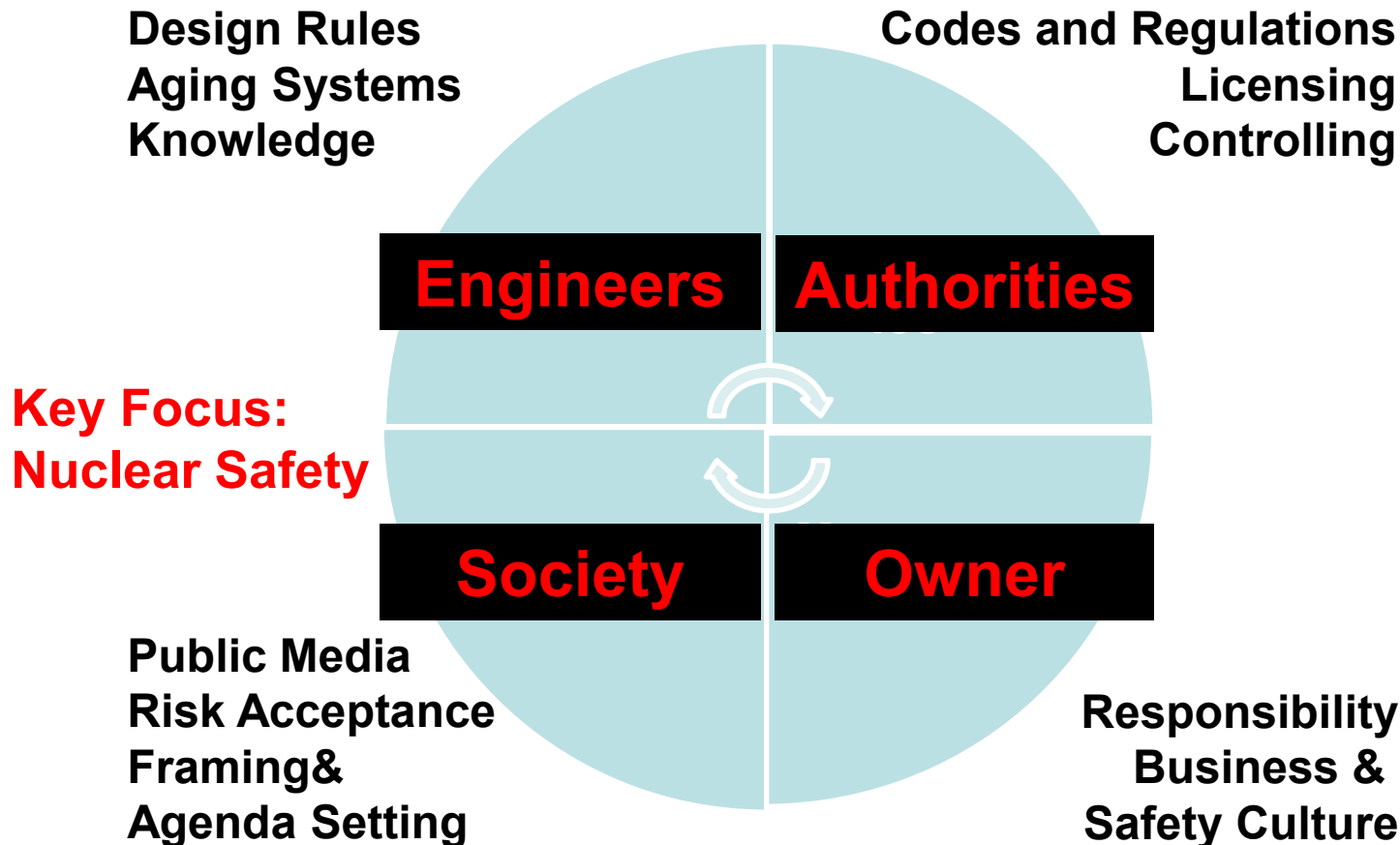
**a man-made disaster of cat. 7 on INES**

**Radiation Fatality: No  
Exposure > 250 mSv: 6  
Release ~ 10% Chernobyl**

**Decommissioning: \$ 2.53 billion  
(TEPCO Allocation)**

# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned

## Lessons learned





## Engineering Lessons



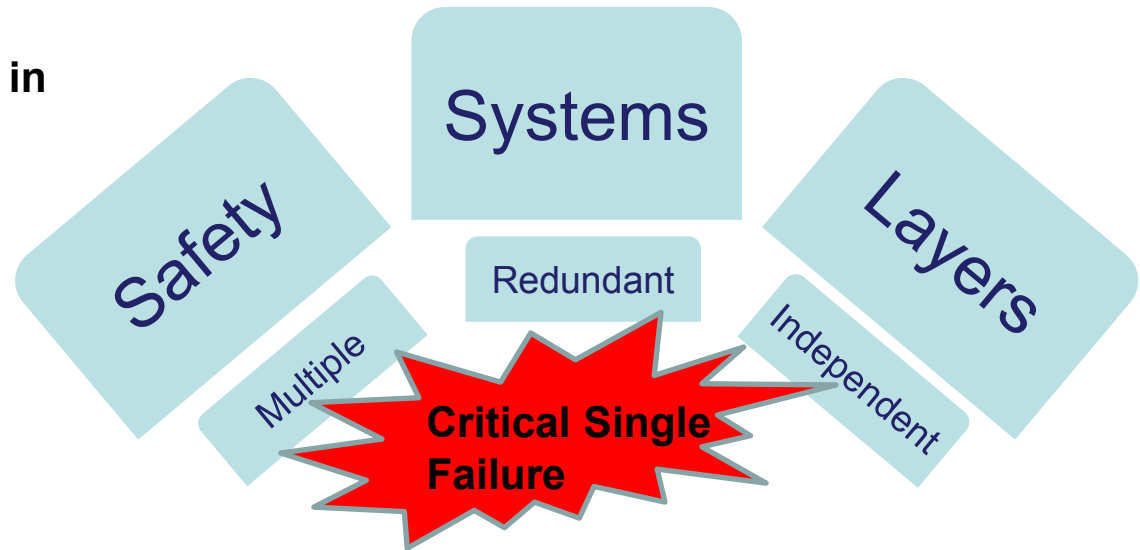
**Broad Claim on System Safety Engineering Resilient Structures  
that Mitigate & Recover from Catastrophic Failures**

## Engineering Lessons

### NUCLEAR SAFETY SYSTEMS (as defined by the NRC)

- Shut down and maintain in shut down condition
- Prevent the release of radioactive material

## Defense in Depth



## Engineering Lessons

### PROBABILISTIC RISK EVALUATION for COMPLEX SYSTEMS (SYSTEM SAFETY ANALYSIS)

**MAGNITUDE (SEVERITY)  
of  
CONSEQUENCES**

**X**

**LIKELIHOOD (PROBABILITY)  
of  
OCCURENCE**

## Engineering Lessons

### ROBUST BASIC SAFETY DESIGN

**INHERENT SAFETY DESIGN**  
of  
**CONTROL SYSTEMS**



**PASSIVE SAFETY DESIGN**  
of  
**SAFETY SYSTEMS**

“An ‘inherently safer’ approach tries to:

- Avoid or eliminate hazards
- Reduce their magnitude and severity and likelihood of occurrence by careful attention to the fundamental design and layout”

## **Engineering Lessons**

### **WEAKNESS:**

**Probabilistic Risk Assessment does not account for  
UNEXPECTED FAILURE MODES**

**Difficult Modeling  
of  
“COMMON-CAUSE” FAILURES**

### **SYSTEM SAFETY RESEARCH (MIT):**

**“Any complex system,  
no matter how well it is designed and engineered,  
cannot be deemed failure-proof”**

## Engineering Lessons

### CATASTROPHIC NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS ARE INEVITABLE

**Safety Indicator:**  
**Frequency  $f$  of Core Melt Accidents**

NRC (**Mandated**):  $f < 1$  in 10,000 years  
Modern design:  $f < 1$  in 100,000 years

***“First and most elementally, nuclear accidents happen...we can never have confidence that we will succeed absolutely.”***

*(John Ritch, Director General, WNA)*

### NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SYSTEM SAFETY DESIGN PRINCIPLES

After lessons we know better:

#### 06-11: IAEA Ministerial Conference

- External Hazards
- Accident Management
- Emergency Preparedness

#### Report of Japanese Government

*IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, Vienna, 21 June 2011*

## Engineering Lessons

**NO OVERCONFIDENCE - SEVERE ACCIDENTS MAY HAPPEN**

**GLOBAL COOPERATION IN SAFETY ENGINEERING**

**APPROPRIATE EVALUATION AND PROTECTION  
AGAINST EXTERNAL HAZARDS**

**CONTROLLED SYSTEM SAFETY DESIGN RULES (INSAG)  
-DEFENCE IN DEPTH & INHERENT/PASSIVE SAFETY-  
ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STATE-OF-THE-ART**

## SAFETY CULTURE

**DEFENSE IN DEPTH  
with  
PROBABILISTIC RISK ANALYSIS**

**INHERENT SAFETY DESIGN  
with  
HIGHEST BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

*Report of Japanese Government to the IAEA Ministerial Conference*

External Hazard / Common  
Mode Failure

Flooding

Black-Out

Loss of Heat Sink

H<sub>2</sub> in the Service Floor

Loss of Spent Fuel Pool Cooling

NPS and Component Design

TSUNAMI Height: 14 – 15 m

Seawater Pump

Switchboard

Diesel Generators

Battery Life

MARK I Containment

# SAFETY CULTURE





## Safety Culture

Report of Japanese Government to the IAEA Ministerial Conference  
Japan will Establish a Safety Culture ...

Pursuing Defense-in-Depth by Constantly Learning Professional Knowledge on Safety



**THOROUGHLY INSTIL A SAFETY CULTURE**

**A Safety Culture that Governs the Attitude and Behavior in Relation to Safety of all Organizations and Individuals Concerned must be Integrated in the Management System**  
*(IAEA: Fundamental Safety Principles, SGF-1, 3.13)*

## Safety Culture

# POST FUKUSHIMA WORLD

### INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY:

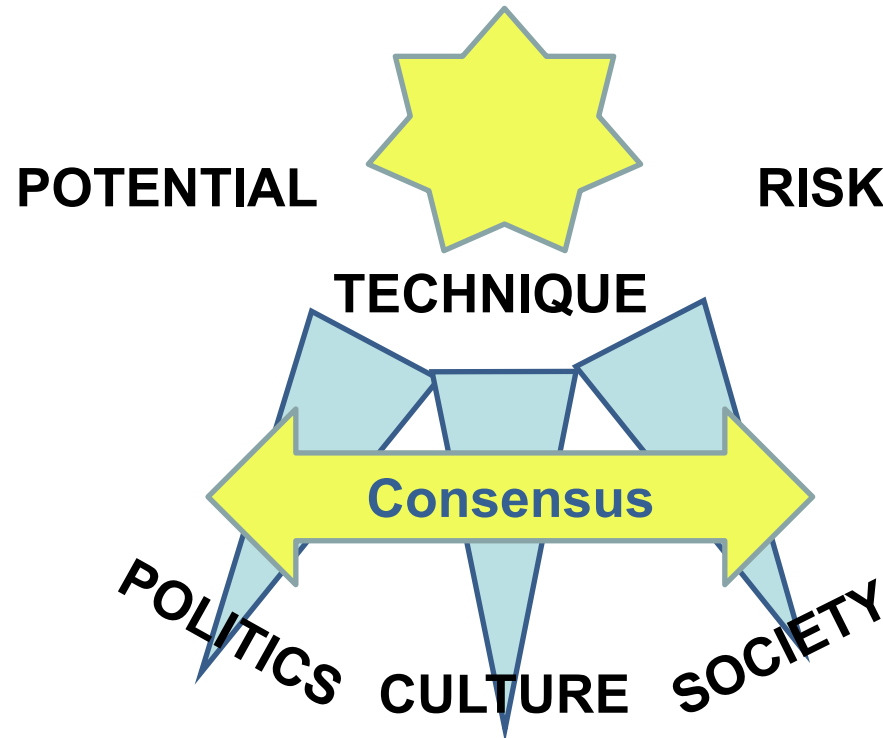
**NATIONAL OPERATIONAL TRANSPARENCY**  
**- INDEPENDENT , EFFECTIVE NUCLEAR REGULATION**  
**RE-VISITATION of THREATS of EXTERNAL HAZARDS**  
**BINDING INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS**

**Yukiya Amano, IAEA (June 21):**

**- Safety Checks on a regular basis by IAEA Inspectors -**

## Public Opinion

*Respect for the negative Stance on Nuclear Power*  
*We all feel the task of mastering the future*



# Fukushima – Lessons to be learned

## Public Opinion

57 ↘ 49

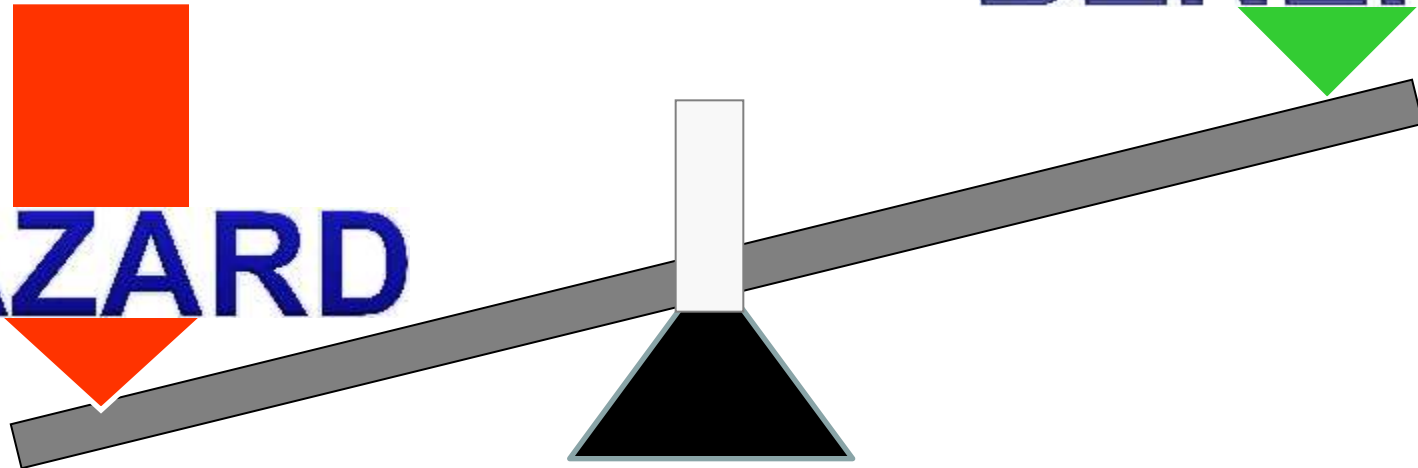
REFRAMING OF AGENDA SETTING

MEDIA  
POLITICS

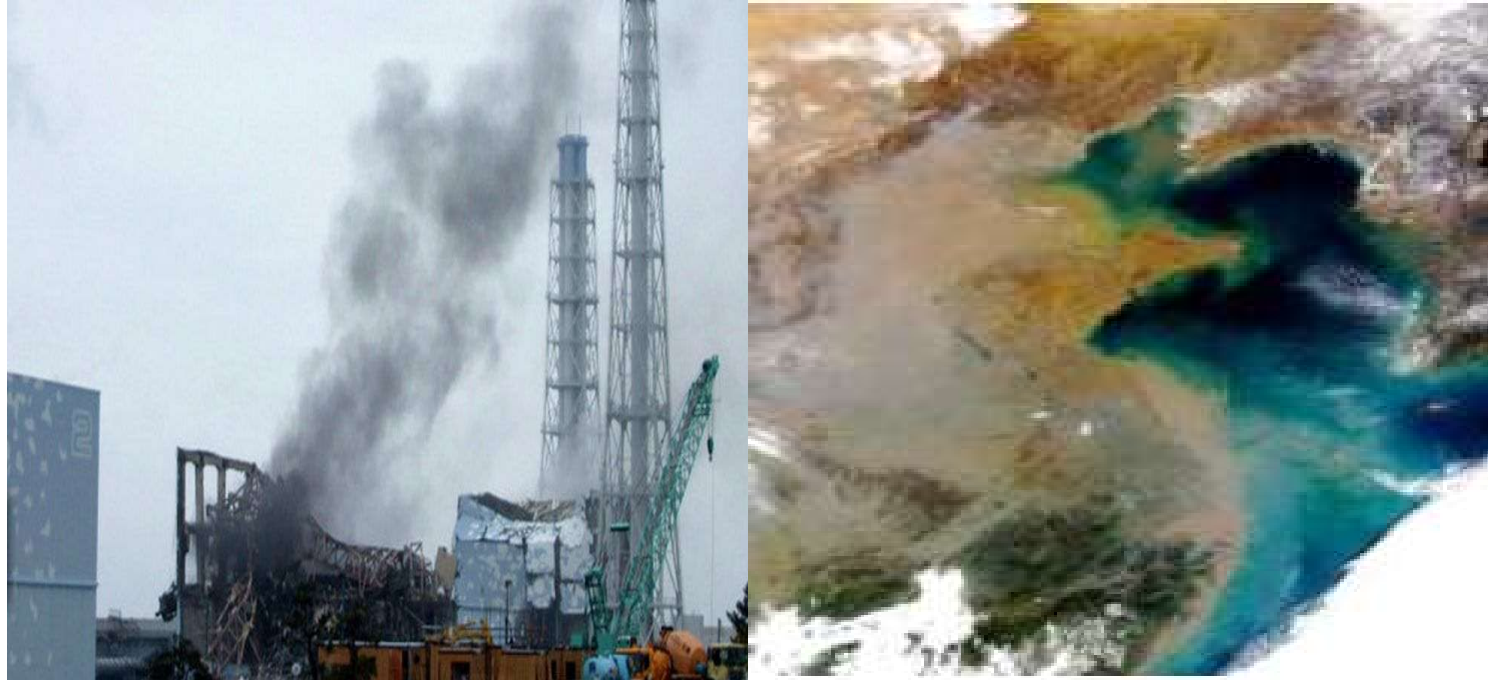
**BENEFITS**

*We were right  
after all*

**HAZARD**



## Public Opinion



# DEVIL'S BARGAIN

# THE BEST LESSON

## LET US WORK TOGETHER FOR ONE WORLD



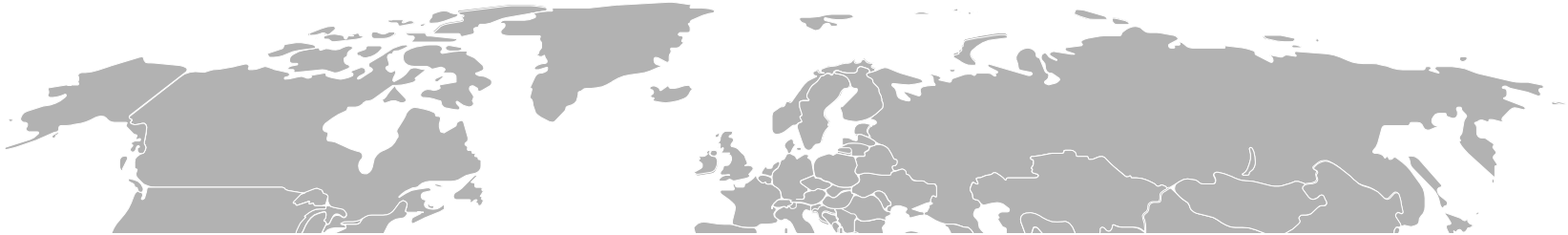
**ANYBODY OF MORE THAN 9 BILLION  
PEOPLE  
WILL GET A FAIR CHANCE  
FOR A SAFE AND GOOD LIFE,  
EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD**

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION  
ENJOY THE CONFERENCE  
AND THE CHARM OF  
VALENCIA**





## The Best Lesson: Let Us Work Together for One World



**ANYBODY OF MORE THAN 9 BILLION PEOPLE  
WILL GET A FAIR CHANCE FOR A SAFE AND  
GOOD LIFE, EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD**

