



Press Release

Scientists, Physicians, Environmental Activists and Providers of Ecologic Energy Warn of the Risks of Nuclear Energy Usage

Radioactive Tritium in our drinking water, nuclear waste in regular garbage dumps, nuclear scrap metal in cooking pots – the new German legislation on radiation protection makes it possible!

Dr. Sebastian Pflugbeil, president of the Gesellschaft für Strahlenschutz (German Society for Radiation Protection), expects thousands of deaths if the new radiation safety law remains as it is today.

The law allows for the cheap disposal of large amounts of nuclear waste on regular garbage dumps as well as the recycling of nuclear waste into construction materials and various objects of daily use.

The unlimited release of radioactive tritium into the environment also poses serious health dangers. Tritium (H-3) occurs naturally at only 0,5 Becquerel per litre water (about 2 Becquerel per gallon). A nuclear power plant is allowed to introduce water containing 1,000,000 Becquerel H-3 per litre water (or about 4 million Becquerel per gallon) in unlimited amounts without any control into the environment. Tritium containing water outside of nuclear facilities – regardless of its origin - is not covered by the rules of the radiation safety decree unless it exceeds one million Becquerel per litre water. This is a scandal.

Leukemia in children and nuclear fuel discoveries in the Elbmarsch, Germany

Dr. med. Helga Dieckmann, IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War), reports that the Elbmarsch region has the highest rate of children's leukemia in the world and that nuclear fuel particles and several fission products can be found lying openly in the surrounding countryside. For nearly two years experts on behalf of IPPNW have been analysing exactly which radioactive substances are involved. The highly toxic isotopes of plutonium and americium have been found to be present in such tiny particles that they can easily be inhaled. The Leukemia Commission of the state of Schleswig-Holstein is investigating this unbelievable affair. The ongoing investigation to find the origin of the radioactive particles is being massively hampered by the governments and the owners of the nuclear plant near the city of Geesthacht. Lies and concealments are being employed and the scientists searching for an explanation are heavily pressured and slandered.

The undersigned demand that the red-green German government:

- seriously consider the criticism of the radiation safety decree and immediately eliminate the proven deficiencies and errors
- make the immediate phase-out of nuclear energy a reality!
- support the investigation into the radioactive contamination of residential areas by accepting the facts, uncovering the background and compensating the affected population. Make sure that those responsible restore the affected areas.

We already have viable alternatives and opportunities for action to achieve a clean environment and green electricity!

Supporters of the above demands:

- signed Dr. Sebastian Pflugbeil, Gesellschaft für Strahlenschutz e.V., Berlin
- signed Dr. Angelika Claussen, IPPNW (German section of Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Physicians in Social Responsibility), Berlin
- signed Thomas Dersee, Strahlentelex magazine, Berlin
- signed Eduard Bernhard, member of the executive board and speaker on nuclear politics for the BBU (Federal Union of People's initiatives and environmental Protection, Bonn, Germany)
- signed Ursula Sladek, EWS Schönau GmbH (ecologic energy provider), Schönau, Schwarzwald, Germany
- signed Ilona Schulte, Solar Energy Center, Ostrhauderfehn, and Zukunft-Sonne e.V., Ostfriesland, Germany
- signed Francis Althoff, press secretary of the Peoples' Initiative for Environmental Protection (Bürgerinitiative Umweltschutz), Lüchow Dannenberg, Wendland, Germany
- signed Ute Schmeling, BUND-AK Atom, Peace Group, county of Harburg and ContrAtom, Niedersachsen
- signed Margret Giese, Mensch Umwelt Tierschutz (humans, environment, animal protection) – Die Tierschutzpartei – , Landesverband Niedersachsen, Wolfenbüttel
- signed Helga Linsler, Initiative für den sofortigen Ausstieg aus der Atomenergie (Initiative for the Immediate Phase-out of Nuclear Energy), Germany
- signed Maria Anna Richter/Manfred Heppner, Selbsthilfegruppe Zahnmetall, MCS und CFS (self help group dental metal, MCS, CFS), c/o Kibis Kiss, Hannover and Selbsthilfegruppe für Chemikalien-Geschädigte (self help group for those harmed by chemicals) Hemmingen
- signed Axel Köhler-Schnura, Koordination gegen Bayer-Gefahren (coordination against Bayer dangers), Düsseldorf
- signed Norbert Moch, Vegetarier-Bund Deutschlands e.V. (German vegetarian association), Hannover
- signed Wolfram Löschke, Vegetarier-Bund Deutschlands e.V., Berlin
- signed Jan Bock, ContrAtom, Niedersachsen