ABSTRACT

In Japan, the emergency response team at the Fukushima Nuclear Station responded to rising temperatures by dumping sea water (later fresh water) onto the reactors in an attempt to cool them down. The IAEA reported that as of May 13, 2011, TEPCO had poured about 100 million liters of water onto the reactors in an attempt to prevent a meltdown.

What are the consequences of these actions?

- If we assume that the costs of properly capturing, processing, and disposing of the added water (coolant) are about $5 per liter, then the costs associated with disposing of the wastewater total about $500 million.
- Furthermore, the dumping of sea water onto the reactors caused irreversible damage to the reactors, rendering them useless for future power generation, thereby foisting huge costs upon the nuclear station’s owners and investors.
- Finally, the dumping of sea water onto the reactors caused steam and water to spread radioactivity to air, land, and sea, thereby inflicting enormous social costs upon the region’s economy.
Environmental strategic planners and radiation officers have wrestled with how best to respond to nuclear emergencies to stop uncontrolled criticality in reactors. Mr. Leung will present a new approach to critical decision-making by using a pollutant valuation methodology.

BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Eddie Leung is the CEO and Founder of Secured Environment, a Silicon Valley-based environmental economic consulting company founded in 2001, serving the Alternative Energy, Clean Tech and Investment industries. Prior to founding Secured Environment, Mr. Leung led the global environmental strategies in General Electric Company where he applied his creative technical skills to pursuing cleaner and more sustainable business opportunities by leveraging GE’s combined resources. He received three General Manager Awards and a GE Invention Award during his GE career.

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All are welcome!

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