

New Radiation Level at Fukushima Dwarfs the Highest Peak at Chernobyl

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [Environment](#), [Oil and Energy](#)

The Fukushima Disaster

We noted a few days after the Japanese earthquake that the amount of radioactive fuel at Fukushima [dwarfs that at Chernobyl](#) ... and that the cesium fallout from Fukushima [already rivaled](#) Chernobyl (we also noted that Fukushima radiation could [end up on the West Coast](#) of North America. And [see this](#)).

The next month, we noted that Tepco admitted that the radiation from Fukushima [could exceed that from Chernobyl](#).

And that Fukushima's reactors had actually suffered something much worse than a total meltdown: [nuclear melt-throughs](#), where the nuclear fuel melted *through* the containment vessels and into the ground. A few months later, we reported that radiation will pollute the area around Chernobyl for 5 to 10 times longer than models predicted – between [180 and 320 years](#).

The following year, we pointed out that the operator of the Fukushima plant admitted that [they couldn't find](#) the melted fuel from Fukushima reactor number 2 ... and that the [technology doesn't yet even exist](#) to clean up Fukushima.

Highest Radiation Level At Fukushima Now Dwarfs That At Chernobyl

The highest radiation levels ever measured at Chernobyl were [300](#) sieverts per hour ... an incomprehensibly high dose which can kill a man almost instantly.

But a radiation level of [530](#) sieverts per hour has just been measure at Fukushima's number 2 reactor.

This new record at Fukushima is 70% higher than that of Chernobyl. (The highest level previously measured at Fukushima was [73](#) sieverts per hour, in [March 2012](#).)

Postscript: For background on how this could have happened, see [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#) and [this](#).

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