

RELEASE IN
FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
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To: H
Subject: Fw: Japan Tuesday 3/15 SVTS report

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Sent: Tue Mar 15 12:25:50 2011
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All:

Below is a quick summary of the Japan SVTS chaired by Denis McDonough.

The current situation at Daiichi-Fukushima Plant

--The winds have changed direction and are heading out toward the sea at 15-25 mph. This positive development is likely to continue until Sunday, when winds will shift and head back toward Tokyo. Rain or snow is expected tonight. Skies will clear tomorrow.

--DOE continues to lament the poor quality of information coming from the Japanese. We had earlier thought that the containment barrier ruptured in reactor 2 and that the blaze in building 4 was a spent rod fire. The Japanese have informed us that it was a lube oil fire in building 4, but the picture is still incomplete because we do not know if there is decreased water in the spent fuel pool. The Japanese have still not restored reliable cooling in reactors 1, 2, and 3. We do not know if the containment vessel in reactor 2 is intact.

--State will coordinate on a strategy to get timely and useful information about the reactor from Japanese authorities and to persuade Jim Trapp's participation in Japan's crisis management center.

Measuring Radiation Data and Plume Assessments

--The Aerial Measurement System pod and its crew will arrive in Tokyo at 1330 EDT. DOE confirmed via Secretary Chu's call this morning with his Japanese counterpart that the GOJ will allow us to deploy the system. Crew will position themselves at our various posts in Japan to gather atmospheric data.

--A critical element to our decision-making and operations will be plume data that DOE and NRC are calculating. This will inform decisions on statements to the American community and military operations. We want to share this information broadly with the interagency and with the Japanese.

--NRC will also work with PACOM to deploy devices that measure radiation dosimetry to determine contamination levels of those conducting missions. Involvement of a DoD consequence management response force (CCMRF), a team that confronts mass radiation incidents, is being considered in the event of a worst case scenario.

USAR and Press

--Search and rescue teams and a disaster assistance team are on the ground. The urban search and rescue teams have deployed. They have recovered 6 bodies but have made no live rescues yet.

--White House press will issue two statements about Japan this morning.

--All statements, particularly those to American citizens, US military personnel, and other U.S. officials, must be coordinated through the WH.