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## #Radioactive Japan: Former NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko Visits Fukushima, Meets Evacuees

I haven't watched the entire program myself, but will do so tomorrow, before NHK finds the video and takes it down.

NHK BS-1 documentary "原発の"安全"を問い直す 米NRC前委員長 福島への旅 (NRC former chairman's trip to Fukushima - to re-examine the safety of nuclear power plants)", first aired on December 22, 2012. The program is in Japanese, but you can hear Jaczko's comments in English, and you can catch the interpreter.

Jaczko visited Japan in August this year, soon after he resigned from the NRC.



原発の"安全"を問い直す ~米NRC前委員長 福島... by tvpickup

While walking in Namie-machi with a former resident in Tyvek suits and mask, Jaczko says,

*I see many different people with views about nuclear power. Some people try and say that really because no one was killed from radiation or appears to have received lethal doses of radiation that there's... such hype. But I think it is certainly very difficult to walk around here and see the livelihood that's just no longer there.*

The town is frozen at March 11, 2011.

At the end of the program, Jaczko says,

*"In the end, everyone has to keep in mind that the safety of the public is the number one responsibility, whether you are a power plant owner, whether you're a worker at the power plant, or a local or state or national government official, everyone has to recognize that safety of the people is the most important issue."*

Well, it wasn't, in case of Japan. What came first and foremost was to tell people it was safe, and kept repeating it like a mantra.

Jaczko certainly does not come across as arrogant, bullying chairman that he was accused of being, by his colleagues.

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Jaczko's main crime was not bowing to his masters in congress and industry when it came to OKing the Yucca mountain waste disposal facility but calling for a 50 mile evacuation at Fukushima sealed his fate. When was the last time a government official was charged with being an arrogant bully and pushed out of office? If being an arrogant jerk were grounds for dismissal from public office there wouldn't be a government. Jaczko was railroaded by pro-nuclear force on the commission because he wasn't playing ball with their industry master.

"WASHINGTON -- Bill Magwood, the man at the center of an effort to overthrow the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and his most likely successor if the move is successful, served as a consultant for Tepco, the Japanese company that owns the Fukushima nuclear power plant, according to information provided by Magwood as part of his nomination and confirmation process, which was obtained by The Huffington Post."

Anytime an industry organ like the NEI issues a statement against someone regulating them you know the regulator is doing their job. The NRC and the industry it regulates should have an adversarial air about regulation if the NEI likes their regulator then you can be pretty sure the regulator isn't doing their job.

"On Monday, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the lobby for the nuclear energy industry, issued a statement expressing confidence that Congress and the White House "will take the steps necessary to ensure that the NRC is an efficient, effective regulator."

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/12/nrc-coup-leader-worked-fo\\_n\\_1143895.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/12/nrc-coup-leader-worked-fo_n_1143895.html)

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