

# Decommissioning: A New Era in the U.S. Nuclear Power Industry: a Critical Need for Congressional Oversight

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## Speaker Bios



**The Hon. Gregory Jaczko, Ph.D.** served as Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission from 2009-2012, and as a commissioner from 2005-2009. As Chairman, he played a lead role in the American government's response to the Fukushima nuclear accident in Japan. Immediately prior to assuming the post of Commissioner, Dr. Jaczko served as appropriations director for U.S. Sen. Harry Reid and also served as the Senator's science policy advisor. He began his Washington, D.C. career as a congressional science fellow in the office of U.S. Rep. Edward Markey. He is now an adjunct professor at Princeton University and Georgetown University, and an entrepreneur with a clean energy development company. He is the author of *Confessions of a Rogue Nuclear Regulator*.



**Rear Admiral Leendert "Len" Hering Sr., United States Navy (Retired)** is a prominent military and civilian sustainability leader with a broad background in energy and environmental issues. While in the Navy, Hering instigated wind, thermal, photovoltaic, conversion technology and alternative fuel use at all levels in Navy facilities. President Bush awarded Hering a 2005 Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management. From 2009-12, Hering joined the University of San Diego, where as vice president for business services and administration he initiated numerous sustainability measures on campus. From 2012-18 Hering was Executive Director of the Center for Sustainable Energy™ (CSE) which works with policy makers, public agencies, local governments, utilities, business and civic leaders and individuals to transform the nation's energy marketplace. Today, Hering serves as Executive Director of "I love a Clean San Diego" a non-profit focused on making San Diego America's cleanest, most environmentally conscious city. He also proudly serves on a number of non-profit boards and is an active military advisor to the Center for Climate and National Security.



**Leona Morgan** is an indigenous community organizer and activist who has been fighting nuclear colonialism since 2007. She is focused on preventing new uranium mining, nuclear waste dumping, and transport of radioactive materials in the Southwestern United States. She co-founded and works with **Haul No!** ([www.fb.com/HaulNo](http://www.fb.com/HaulNo)), **Radiation Monitoring Project** ([www.radmonitoring.org](http://www.radmonitoring.org)), and **Nuclear Issues Study Group** ([www.fb.com/NuclearIssuesStudyGroup](http://www.fb.com/NuclearIssuesStudyGroup)). Leona is Diné from the Navajo Nation and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



**Bennet Alemayehu** is staff scientist with the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) Climate & Clean Energy Program. He concentrates on issues relating to the environmental monitoring of radiation and advanced detection systems. He received his PhD in radiation health physics from Oregon State University, where his dissertation focused on designing and developing advanced radiation spectrometers and new digital-pulse processing techniques for monitoring nuclear weapon tests. During the course of his doctoral studies, Alemayehu also worked at Oregon State's Radiation Detection and Dosimetry Laboratory.



**Marvin Resnikoff, Ph.D.** is an international consultant on radioactive waste management issues. He is Senior Associate at Radioactive Waste Management Associates (RWMA) and Principal Manager for dose reconstruction and risk assessment studies of radioactive waste facilities and transportation of radioactive materials. A nuclear physicist and a graduate of the University of Michigan, Dr. Resnikoff has worked on radioactive issues since his first project at West Valley, New York in 1974. His recent research focus has been on the risk of transporting and storing radioactive nuclear reactor fuel, decommissioning nuclear facilities and the health impact of radioactive waste from oil and uranium production. Throughout his career, he has assisted public interest groups and state and local governments across the US, Canada, Germany and England on radioactive waste storage and transportation issues. He has authored or co-authored four books on radioactive waste issues including *Living Without Landfills*, regarding low-level waste landfills, and *The Next Nuclear Gamble*, regarding transportation of radioactive waste.



**Kevin Kamps** has served as a Beyond Nuclear's Radioactive Waste Specialist since 2007, and previously served at Nuclear Information and Resource Service. He has also been a board member of Don't Waste Michigan since 1993 and has long served on the Great Lakes Nuclear-Free/Green Energy Task Force, including watch-dogging Entergy's Big Rock Point site and Palisades atomic reactor, writing about decommissioning, and advocating for a just transition. Kamps' focus has been community organizing to prevent radioactive waste generation; blocking environmentally unjust, scientifically unsuitable, and non-consent based dump-sites, and their associated high-level radioactive waste transport risks; and promoting Hardened On-Site Storage, as close as possible, as safely as possible, to the point of origin, as a necessary interim measure.



**Mary Olson** is the director of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service's (NIRS) Southeast office. She joined the NIRS staff in 1991, and has worked primarily on highly radioactive spent nuclear fuel policy. Olson's background in biology, biochemistry and her own experience with radioactive contamination during her final biological research job, lead her to study radiation health consequences with leading radiation researchers of the 20th Century including Bertell, Stewart, Caldicott and Wing. She serves as an educator on ionizing radiation impacts for impacted communities, the concerned public and decision-makers. The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster caused Olson to follow on questions from the concerned public about greater harm to women from ionizing radiation exposures. Olson did her own independent review in 2011 of the data presented by the National Academy of Sciences, Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation VII. Olson's findings are published in a short briefing paper entitled "Atomic Radiation is More Harmful to Women." She has spoken before the UN General Assembly (three times), the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons, and was the featured speaker at a side session at the United Nations during the Review of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In 2016 she toured Japan speaking on ionizing radiation and its impacts on the human lifecycle.