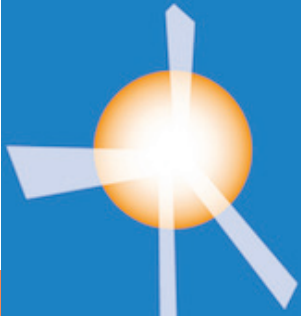


The year  
in review



WWW.BEYONDNUCLEAR.ORG

# Annual Report 2018

## Beyond Nuclear 2018 Actions and Highlights

### Helping communities across the US and the world

The mission of Beyond Nuclear is to inform, motivate and mobilize communities to resist and reject nuclear power and nuclear weapons in all their forms. The past year was a particularly active one on many fronts as we tackled new threats to health and safety from nuclear power and nuclear weapons projects. We conducted a whistle-stop speaking tour of US cities and towns located on proposed high-level radioactive waste transportation routes, as well as working with the communities in Texas and New Mexico destined to host that waste. We successfully saw through a resolution in Ann Arbor, Michigan, that would

ensure that community was provided some minimal protection in the event of a serious accident at the Fermi-2 reactor just 30 miles away. We helped educate Native American communities about how to read radiation levels around the abandoned uranium mines in their communities and what these levels might mean to their health and well-being. We wrote extensively on the need to preserve nuclear weapons treaties and for nuclear weapons states to disarm. And we produced new, accessible information urging political leaders and the public to keep nuclear power out of any climate change “solutions.” These activities are described



in more detail in this annual report. More information can always be found on the Beyond Nuclear website and on our new, narrative-driven website, Beyond Nuclear International.

### Radiation and harm to human health

The impact of radiation exposure on human (and animal) health is often over-looked and even challenged. The “burden of proof” remains with those who suffer the cancers and other harms that can be caused by the nuclear industry, even though it routinely releases radioactive gases and liquids into our air and water as part of daily operations.

Beyond Nuclear prioritized health information this year. In conjunction with the newly-created Beyond Nuclear International website (see overleaf), we produced several new, concise, handbooks. *Radiation and Harm to Human Health* explores all the ways radiation exposure from the nuclear power industry affects our health. It also lays out in simple terms what radiation exposure is, how it is measured, and why some of the so-called “safety standards” cannot be trusted or simply do not apply to some members of our society -- especially pregnant women, babies and children. Cindy Folkers, radiation and health specialist

at Beyond Nuclear, created an on-line tutorial specifically for Native American and First Nations communities about uranium mining’s negative health impacts on women, children and pregnancy. Cindy’s tutorial, and the presentation it was based on, will be used to enable other activist trainers to become fluent in the issue and give the talk themselves.

During a presentation at Oregon State University, Cindy joined other activists, academics, writers, and artists in sharing stories about the impacts of radiation exposures from both nuclear power and nuclear weapons. Cindy talked about how the disproportionate effect of radiation on children and pregnancy has been ignored in exposure standards. All of these stories will be collectively published in a peer-reviewed journal. With a renewed attempt by the EPA and others to revive the false notion that small radiation doses do no harm, all of these materials will play an essential part in informing at risk communities.

## ABOUT BEYOND NUCLEAR

Beyond Nuclear aims to educate and activate the public about the connections between nuclear power and nuclear weapons and the need to abandon both to safeguard our future.

[www.BeyondNuclear.org](http://www.BeyondNuclear.org)

**STAFF:** Cindy Folkers, Paul Gunter, Kevin Kamps, Linda Pentz Gunter.

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## Beyond Nuclear International

Beyond Nuclear launched a new, story-telling website in March 2018 -- Beyond Nuclear International (BNI). Its purpose is to connect the many stories from around the world about the impacts of the nuclear power and nuclear weapons sector but from a personal, humanitarian perspective. Using powerful imagery and evocative stories, we wanted to help more people better understand just how dangerous and destructive these technologies are, as seen through the eyes of the human beings -- and sometimes the animals and ecosystems -- affected. BNI also draws together the international activist community, enabling new partnerships and alliances, and, through this sharing of information and stories, better strengthening each individual campaign.

## Got KI?

Beyond Nuclear, in coalition with Michigan residents, Greenpeace Canada and the American Thyroid Association, introduced a municipal resolution that was unanimously passed by the Ann Arbor, MI mayor and City Council. It called on the State of Michigan and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to expand the predistribution of potassium iodide (KI) within the 50-mile emergency planning zone of the Fermi-2 nuclear power station, which extends over the international border between the US and Canada. Canadian health officials are already providing their population with KI prophylaxis to protect the thyroid -- particularly in children -- from cancer-causing radioactive iodine that could be released in the event of an accident at the Fermi-2 reactor.

## Battle to stop illegal radioactive waste dumps

With legal counsel Diane Curran of Harmon, Curran in Washington, D.C., as well as Mindy Goldstein and Caroline Reiser at Emory University's Turner Environmental Law Clinic in Atlanta, Georgia, Kevin Kamps, Beyond Nuclear radioactive waste specialist, worked to oppose so-called consolidated interim storage facilities for irradiated nuclear fuel. These are targeted at predominantly Hispanic communities in the already heavily polluted Texas and New Mexico borderlands. Both proposed dumpsites violate the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as Amended. Beyond Nuclear hopes to take the fight to federal court to prevent the transfer of reactor waste to unwilling communities.

## BEYOND NUCLEAR IN ACTION



We joined Welsh activists to defeat Wylfa (left), spoke to NRC in New Mexico about radioactive waste (center) and awarded the City of Takoma Park its UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons compliance certificate, the first in the US (right).

## Stopping nuclear reactor license extensions

Beyond Nuclear legally intervened before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to oppose Exelon's application for a Second License Renewal extension (60- to 80-years) for two Fukushima-style reactors at the Peach Bottom nuclear generating station in Delta, Pennsylvania. We contend that as more nuclear power plants are closing, owners must demonstrate how they will gather critical operating experience to assure the safety of aging reactor systems, structures and components relied upon during the renewal period. Beyond Nuclear argues that the industry should be required to "autopsy" decommissioning reactors to observe and measure the "real time" impacts of age deterioration, informing the likely dangerous conditions of reactors that are still operating. To date, the NRC has buried reactors without examination. Further, we argue that no reactor should be run for 60-80 years, well past its intended lifespan.

## Radioactive waste risks

Kevin Kamps embarked on a nationwide speaking tour through multiple states to educate corridor communities along radioactive waste transport routes. Kamps also continued his work helping to maintain the generation-long struggle against the permanent burial dump targeted at Western Shoshone Indian land at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. While canceled by the Obama administration, it remains alive on Capitol Hill, meaning continued vigilance is required against a possible revival of the scientifically and ethically unsound project.

## Macaque monkeys of Fukushima

Our BNI story about the fate of Fukushima's macaque monkeys forced to live with daily radiation exposure, sounded an ominous warning from the animal world. Research found the monkeys' bone marrows turned to "mush" and the brain sizes of their newborns reduced.