



EDITOR - TIME Magazine
TIME/LIFE Building
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(Via U.S. Mail and E-mail) letters@time.com

cc: Dan Hirsch CBG, Christina Walsh CLEANUPROCKETDYNE dot org, Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks, Los Angeles City Council Member Greig Smith, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Assembly Member Julia Brownley, Senator Fran Pavley.

Dear Editor,

Regarding photo essay: <http://www.time.com/time/photogallery/0,29307,1887705,00.html> I am very disturbed that your reporting of the "The Worst Nuclear Disasters" did not include the Sodium Reactor Experiment (SRE) on July 13th, 1959 at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) in the hills above Los Angeles County. The worst nuclear accident in U.S. history was *not* Three Mile Island if the measure of 'worst' is the amount of radiation released into the environment and exposing humans to deadly radionuclides. 13 out of 43 fuel rods experienced melting point in the summer of '59 and we are still paying for it today with higher rates of Cancers than anywhere else in the County according to Thomas Mack's "Cancers in the Urban Environment."



In the year 2006 it was front-page news in the Los Angeles Times after U.C.L.A. released their in-depth study of what products were released into the atmosphere during the SRE incident in 1959. Several researchers on this panel concluded that the release from the SRE is as high as 240 times the radiation release in comparison to the Three Mile Island accident in 1979. The San Fernando and Simi Valley's are home to the Worst Nuclear Disaster on U.S. Soil. Due to the fact that the SRE was an experimental reactor and did not have the large containment dome that we see at many Nuclear Power Plants across the Nation. Another fact is, this was research, they shut of and turned on the reactor several times over a two week period before they decided to take a look inside the reactor with one of the first ever video cameras. Not only was this the Worst Nuclear Disaster, it was the longest running Nuclear Disaster on U.S. Soil.

In February of this year Cal EPA Secretary Linda Adams issued a letter to the recently appointed Federal EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson (Below) that the SSFL "is Contaminated with Radioactive and Chemical Substances that Seriously Threaten Public Health and the Environment.

http://acmela.org/images/Feb_2009_EPA_SSFL_Letter.pdf

Here are two links to familiarize you with the SRE. The first one is from our local KCRW radio personality Warren Olney who in 1979 did a four part series on our NBC affiliate channel 4 when he was a television journalist. Second you will find a more recent program from the History Channel program MODERN MARVELS titled "Engineering Disasters Number 19."

<http://www.cleanuprocketdyne.org/video/Olney-SRE.mov>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRdC5lOYn2k>

In 2008 ACME was contacted by a former reactor trainee who was working at the SRE site during the 24 hour period of the Meltdown and then 4 months after during cleanup. The information that was given to us by quite possibly the only known survivor of this incident should be made public as from what we were told the cleanup process was far more dangerous to the surrounding communities than the actual Meltdown. You can view a portion of his interview here... http://www.cleanuprocketdyne.org/movie_night_at_acme_will_include.htm

TIME Magazine and all of it's affiliates, such as CNN need to make this public. I ask that you make this letter public and we can have renewed faith in the ever-dwindling field of Investigative Journalism. Many American's trust what they read and hear from TIME and CCN, take the lead and report the WHOLE-TRUTH not just the HALF-TRUTH. I invite you to visit ACME to learn the truth. I also ask that you report July 13th, 2009 as the 50th Anniversary of the SRE Meltdown.

William Preston Bowling - Founder/Director
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