



Warning: Water inside Ft Calhoun Nuclear Plant (video)

Proejct Flood 2011: Fort Calhoun under two feet water June 27, floodwater seeping inside cut power on 26th
 By [Deborah Dupre](#), Human Rights Examiner
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Credits: Dark Politricks

Nuclear critic concern heightening, "high alert"

Monday morning, a nuclear watchdog group sounded a warning alarm on ABC News about **flood water now in Fort Calhoun Nuclear Plant** that, [according to AP](#), is seeping into the plant's turbine hall. The hastily erected 2,000 foot long, eight foot high rubber "aqua-dam" around the reactor site to keep water out of the atomic reactor "**was punctured**" and collapsed early Sunday morning and once again, the electricity was cut, this time requiring the emergency back-up systems that are now in use, a last line of defense.

ABC News Good Morning America today included [Beyond Nuclear's](#) Paul Gutner expressing concern about the flood water potentially penetrating into the reactor building causing **electrical short circuits, halting accident management systems** and potentially **igniting fires**.

Rushing flood water is **up around the walls of Fort Calhoun's reactor building, turbine hall, and other auxillary buildings onsite** [according to KETV](#).

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission says emergency generators "did power the plant" Sunday as workers tried to restore power. This could reflect that cooling the fuel continued.

"High alert" is how ABC referred to the status at Nebraska's other nuclear atomic energy plant, Cooper Nuclear Plant that is also battling flood water. (See embedded Youtube video of the report on this page left)

Inspectors say the "flooding has had no impact on the reactor shutdown cooling water or the spent fuel pool cooling water," [according to KETV News](#).

AP [reports](#) that Missouri River's floodwater seeped into the turbine building at a nuclear power plant Monday. That was to be expected according to plant officials who claim that the posed no safety risk because that building contains no nuclear material.

It is unknown if water has seeped into any other buildings but Omaha Public Power District spokesman Jeff Hanson said pumps were managing "the problem" at Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station and "everything is secure and safe."

Without its regular electricity as of Sunday , the pumps are dependent on emergency electricity, the back-up generators.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman Victor Dricks described the situation as stable.

KETV subtitled one of its reports today, "**OPPD: No immediate cause for concern.**"

Nuclear Watchdog groups are warning about Fort Calhoun Station flooding.

Today, on *ABC News, Good Morning America*, Paul Gunter of Beyond Nuclear warned of the flooding at Ft. Calhoun nuclear plant. (See video embedded on this page, "*Nuclear Plant Swamped by Nebraska Floodwaters.*," ABC)

Fort Calhoun Station failed to maintain flood procedure safety tests last year. A new document evidences that only 11 days ago, Ft. Calhoun workers were **still trying to plug holes at the facility to keep the rushing water out**. There efforts failed. Water is now inside the plant.

ABC reported from Blaire, Nebraska where locals are reporting to Dupré that there are now frequent power outages since the flooding.

"If water does penetrate into the [Fort Calhoun] reactor itself, it could encroach on electrical circuits, junction boxes and safety related equipment," said Gunter.

Beyond Nuclear's Gunter warned that, if Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station's back-up generators fail, "the final line of defense, in terms of running vital reactor cooling systems would be direct current (DC) emergency batteries."

"At most U.S. atomic reactors, such batteries only have 4 hours of life." [After four hours, a core meltdown would begin](#). The plant has lost power for cooling twice in days.

KETV [reports](#), that the atomic energy plant has as much as two feet of water in places.



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