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Environment

Revealed: catalogue of atomic leaks

The Observer, Sunday June 21 2009
Terry Macalister and Rob Edwards

The scale of safety problems inside Britain's nuclear power stations has been revealed for the first time in a secret report obtained by the Observer that shows more than 1,750 leaks, breakdowns or other "events" over the past seven years. The damning document, written by the government's chief nuclear inspector, Mike Weightman, and released under the Freedom of Information Act

(...)Britain's nuclear power stations has...of atomic plants. And it...In an accident at (...)

Business

Safety scares at Sellafield threaten to undermine nuclear 'renaissance'

guardian.co.uk, Sunday May 17 2009
Terry Macalister

New safety scares at Britain's largest atomic site – including a 14-month radioactive leak and the loss of two toxic containers – are threatening to undermine confidence in the government's nuclear renaissance. Nuclear Management Partners, which runs Sellafield complex, admitted a spillage found in January, the day before Gordon Brown visited, was "level two", the worst since

(...)government's nuclear renaissance. Nuclear...a 2005 accident that saw...home to power plants and (...)

Environment

Britain's farmers still restricted by Chernobyl nuclear fallout

guardian.co.uk, Tuesday May 12 2009
Terry Macalister and Helen Carter

Nearly 370 farms in Britain are still restricted in the way they use land and rear sheep because of radioactive fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident 23 years ago, the government has admitted. Environmentalists have seized on the figures as proof of the enormous dangers posed by nuclear power as the UK moves towards building a new generation of plants around

(...)the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident 23 years...generation of plants around (...)

World news

Russia to build floating Arctic nuclear stations

The Observer, Sunday May 3 2009
John Vidal in Tromsø, Norway

Russia is planning a fleet of floating and submersible nuclear power stations to exploit Arctic oil and gas reserves, causing widespread alarm among environmentalists. A prototype floating nuclear power station being constructed at the SevMash shipyard in Severodvinsk is due to be completed next year. Agreement to build a further four was reached between the Russian state nuc

(...)production. "It is highly risky. The risk of a nuclear accident on a floating power plant is increased. The plants' potential impact on the (...)

Environment

Failure after failure at home of Trident fleet

The Guardian, Monday April 27 2009

Rob Edwards and Severin Carrell

They are devastating admissions about one of Britain's most significant nuclear sites, the sprawling and heavily defended base for the UK's nuclear deterrent at Faslane, which dominates the coastline on a quiet sea loch north-west of Glasgow. Detailed within 400 pages of internal reports, emails and letters released under the Freedom of Information Act are startling admission

(...)s most significant nuclear sites, the sprawling...for the legal power to inspect and...processing and disposal plants had been (...)

Global

Country profile: Ukraine

The Guardian, Saturday April 25 2009

Potted history of the country: Kyivan Rus, the 9th century East Slavic state that would also give rise to Russia, was partly situated on the territory of modern day Ukraine. The Mongols sacked Kiev in 1240. The following centuries saw the country controlled by Lithuania and then Poland, before being split between Russia and the Austro-Hungarian empire. From 1922, it was part (...)

(...)as a result of the global financial crisis. Main industries: Coal, electric power, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, agriculture, (...)

Environment

Fallout from the fire of 1957: radioactive plume led to 200 cancer cases

The Observer, Sunday April 19 2009

Sellafield is the site of Britain's worst nuclear accident. A blaze in 1957 in the reactor of Pile 1 released a massive plume of radioactive caesium, iodine and polonium that spread across Britain and northern Europe. Up to 200 cases of cancer - including thyroid and breast cancer and also leukaemia - may have been triggered by the fire's emissions, according to estimates whi

(...)s worst nuclear accident. A blaze...the nuclear plant's core...near the power station. (...)

Environment

Sellafield: the most hazardous place in Europe

The Observer, Sunday April 19 2009

Robin McKie, science editor

Building B30 is a large, stained, concrete edifice that stands at the centre of Sellafield, Britain's sprawling nuclear processing plant in Cumbria. Surrounded by a three-metre-high fence that is topped with razor wire, encased in scaffolding and riddled with a maze of sagging pipes and cabling, it would never be a contender to win an architectural prize. Yet B30 has a powerfu

(...)Britain's sprawling nuclear processing plant in Cumbria. Surrounded...anxiously promoting nuclear power as the (...)

Environment

Possibility of new nuclear power plants in Lake District sparks eco concerns

guardian.co.uk, Wednesday April 15 2009

Terry Macalister

Two sites close to the Lake District National Park have been listed as potential locations for a new generation of nuclear power plants by the government today. Braystones and Kirkstanton in Cumbria have already attracted strong local opposition to being nominated by German company RWE Power but have been included alongside existing atomic sites such as Sizewell in Suffolk and

(...)generation of nuclear power plants by the...due to accidents such (...)

Environment

Away with the grey

The Guardian, Wednesday March 25 2009

John Vidal

Twenty years ago, Chattanooga was a rust-belt, basket-case city near Lake Chickamauga in Tennessee. The old railroad town had one of America's most polluted rivers and a depressed economy. Today, it is widely seen as one of the most attractive places to live in America, and as a laboratory for new urban ideas. According to Ed McMahon, author, conservationist and authority on

(...)to clean up its drinking water supplies. The cost of new filtration plants was more than \$6bn (£4.2bn), but the city bought (...)

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