

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER NAOTO KAN TO JOIN NUCLEAR
PANEL DISCUSSION IN NEW YORK AND BOSTON**

**Seminars to focus on ongoing lessons from Fukushima–Daiichi nuclear catastrophe
as applied to the Indian Point and Pilgrim nuclear power stations**

Seminar Tuesday, Oct. 8 in NYC

Seminar Wednesday, Oct. 9 in Boston

BOSTON – **Naoto Kan**, the former Japanese Prime Minister, has been added to a panel of esteemed speakers to address the future of nuclear power and the lessons to be learned from the Fukushima–Daiichi nuclear accident. Additional speakers on the panel include former Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), **Dr. Gregory Jaczko**; former NRC Commissioner **Peter Bradford**; and nuclear engineer, **Arnie Gundersen**, and are scheduled to share their perspectives on nuclear safety and the future of nuclear power. The panel in New York will be moderated by the President of Riverkeeper, **Paul Gallay** and in Boston by WGBH's **Sean Corcoran**. The panel will specifically address concerns regarding Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant, now operating with an expired license in Buchanan, New York and Pilgrim Nuclear Generating Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts. There are multiple concerns regarding both plants' overcrowded storage of spent nuclear fuel rods. Indian Point contains almost three times the amount of radioactive material in its spent fuel pools as Fukushima–Daiichi. The seminars will be held in New York City on Tuesday, Oct. 8 and in Boston on Wednesday, Oct. 9.

U.S. citizens are now questioning the safety of the Indian Point and Pilgrim nuclear power plants. Pilgrim's crowded storage pools are currently holding up to almost four times more spent fuel rods than they were designed to handle and can potentially be more dangerous than the nuclear reactors themselves.

Earlier this year, a plant manager at Indian Point falsified test data on generator emissions due to high levels of particulate pollution which would cause the plant to close. In the event of a catastrophe like the Fukushima–Daiichi nuclear accident, these plants would threaten millions. A nuclear disaster at Indian Point would threaten the entire population of New

York City and the outlying metropolitan area. A crisis at Pilgrim poses similar danger to millions within 50 miles of the Plymouth plant including Boston, Cape Cod and surrounding areas.

Newest panel addition, former Japanese Prime Minister Kan was in office in March 2011 when an earthquake and tsunami triggered the catastrophe at the Fukushima–Daiichi nuclear plant. He was confronted by three reactor meltdowns and a nuclear crisis that persists to this day.

Jaczko was the Chairman of the NRC during the earthquake and tsunami that triggered the catastrophe at the Fukushima–Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan. In 2012, Jaczko cast the lone dissenting vote on plans to build the first new nuclear power plant in the U.S. in more than 30 years.

Earlier this year on June 4, 2013, Jaczko, Bradford and Gunderson were joined by Japan's former Prime Minister, Naoto Kan, where they spoke at the San Diego County Administrative Center about their concerns regarding the safety of the San Onofre nuclear power plant. Three days after the panel, the plant was closed permanently.

The panel discussion is open to the public and news media.

For media and the public who are unable to attend, the New York panel can be heard on a live feed at <https://new.livestream.com/FukushimaLessons/newyork> and the Boston panel can be heard at <https://new.livestream.com/FukushimaLessons/boston>, these webcasts will be archived at the link for at least 30 days once live. More information can be found at www.Facebook.com/FukushimaLessons.

Boston Event:

What: The panel, The Fukushima–Daiichi Nuclear Accident: Lessons for Boston, will include **Naoto Kan**, the former Japanese Prime Minister, former NRC Chair **Gregory Jaczko**, who led the commission during the Fukushima–Daiichi accident, along with former NRC Commissioner **Peter Bradford**, and nuclear engineer **Arnie Gunderson**.

When: Wednesday, Oct. 9

10:00am – 1:30pm

Where: Massachusetts State House, 24 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02133 (Gardner Auditorium)

Why: The Pilgrim Nuclear Generating Station is located in Plymouth, MA, 40 miles outside Boston. Last summer, Jaczko and the community presented legal appeals and environmental warnings to shut down Pilgrim, however, the NRC renewed the 40-year-old nuclear plant's license for another 20 years despite these oppositions. A nuclear crisis at Pilgrim would pose a danger to millions of people who live within 50 miles of Pilgrim, including those in the city of Boston.

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