

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

FukushimaResponse Campaign  
Media Contact: John Bertucci  
707-775 8617 [jobertu@gmail.com](mailto:jobertu@gmail.com)

### **“Fukushima Is Here”**

A human mural on Ocean Beach in October

(Petaluma 8/20/13) On Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013, FukushimaResponse will host a human mural event at 11:00am on Ocean Beach in San Francisco. The message, spelled out on sand by a multitude of people, will read “Fukushima Is Here.” This event is intended to raise public awareness about the deteriorating situation at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan. Organizers hope to assemble people from all over California to join in a collective gesture of public recognition: that the radioactive contamination released daily from Fukushima, for two years already and many more yet to come, poses a serious threat to the global ecosystem. A helicopter has been reserved for a photographer.

FukushimaResponse is a group of concerned Sonoma County residents who have been meeting regularly for two years, working together to understand, inform others and lobby elected officials for action in response to the ongoing threat of Fukushima contamination. In the summer of 2012, FukushimaResponse organized numerous public informational events, hosted guest speakers from Japan and prepared a resolution approved by the California Democratic Party calling for an international response equal to the crisis. This year they have doubled their efforts to reach a broader public.

The surge of alarming Fukushima news coverage this summer revealed a number of disturbing problems at the plant: uncontrolled releases of steam, an inundation of radioactive groundwater, more contaminated water to keep three melted cores cool, and massive leaks of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean that have apparently been going since the beginning of the disaster.

Expressing her frustration at how this crisis has been handled, event coordinator Jina Brooks holds the Tokyo Electric Power Company accountable, “TEPCO’s rationalization for not telling the public about the continued leaks reminds me of my six year old, but then he would make better decisions. He lives and breathes the ocean. We share this ocean with Japan, one ocean connects us all. And Fukushima is not over no matter what they say.”

FukushimaResponse recognizes that the entire west coast is particularly vulnerable should rising levels of nuclear contamination from Japan reach our shore. The Fukushima Is Here human mural is a symbolic statement meant to stimulate greater public discussion of this crisis in the hope that, from greater discussion, possible solutions will appear or urgent mitigations be instituted. A threat of this magnitude to the health, economy and culture of California is certainly grounds for concern.

Given the extraordinary impacts of steady global fallout for generations to come, ignoring the threat of Fukushima is simply not a reasonable way to respond. For those who already know about this nuclear crisis, joining others to make the “Fukushima Is Here” human mural will have a healing effect. Those who aren’t sure and have questions will find a friendly opportunity to begin getting their answers. There is merit in the argument that the people who face the risks have a right to know what they’re facing.

Event coordinator Jina Brooks continues, “Organizing people to spell our message is not meant to spread fear and panic. It’s more like Paul Revere’s ride, citizens trying to alert other citizens to a real danger on the horizon. My heart breaks when I think of what mothers must be experiencing in Japan.”

**“Fukushima Is Here”** human mural is Saturday October 19, 2013, 11:00am on Ocean Beach, San Francisco.

More information and a form to pledge participation are available at: [fukushimaishere.info](http://fukushimaishere.info)

Event Coordinator: Jina Brooks: 707-577-7359

[FukushimaResponse.org](http://FukushimaResponse.org)

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