

**September 19th, 2019—the Tokyo District Court found three former TEPCO executives, Chairman Tsunehisa Katsumata and Vice Presidents Ichiro Takekuro and Sakae Mutō, NOT GUILTY of criminal negligence resulting in the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster. The verdict rewrites history to cast nuclear accidents as unavoidable, paving the way for future nuclear disasters.**

## FUTABA HOSPITAL

**JSDF-led evacuation delayed for days because of the nuclear meltdown. 44 patients died as a result.**

March 12, 2011 5:44am / Residents within a 10km radius of Fukushima Daiichi ordered to evacuate. This includes 436 patients at Futaba Hospital and an adjoining nursing home.

March 12, 2011 3:36pm / Reactor 1 explodes. JSDF departure delayed over 24 hours until radioprotective gear arrives.

March 14, 2011 morning / JSDF arrive. 132 people evacuated. Evacuation takes over 10 hours. No food or drink. 6 people die during it.

March 14, 2011 9:15pm / JSDF ordered to leave because of high radiation levels, abandoning 89 patients.

March 15, 2011 9:00am / Rescue operations restart, but cancelled after 2 hours because of radiation levels.

March 16, 2011 / Evacuation completed. 44 dead because of delays caused by the nuclear meltdown.

## TSUNAMI SAFETY

**Trial evidence proved that TEPCO knew of a tsunami risk 9 years before 3.11. They made plans to implement tsunami safety measures in 2008, but cancelled them after learning the associated costs.**

2002 (NINE YEARS before 3.11) / MEXT's Headquarters for Earthquake Research Promotion (HERP) publishes a longterm evaluation of earthquake activity in the area. It concludes there is a 20% chance that a M8.2 earthquake will strike in the next 30 years. Based on this report, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) regulating the Japanese nuclear industry orders TEPCO to calculate the height of any resulting tsunami. TEPCO says it will comply, then does nothing.

September 2006 / NISA orders all nuclear power plants in Japan to evaluate how safe their facilities are from earthquakes and tsunamis based on the HERP study, and report the results.

July 16, 2007 / TEPCO's mega-plant, Kashiwazaki-Kariya, goes offline due to extensive damage from the Chūetsu earthquake. TEPCO finances dive into the red.

January 2008 / TEPCO requests tsunami height calculations from its daughter company.

February 16, 2008 / First meeting with TEPCO executives on tsunami safety measures.

March 18, 2008 / Detailed tsunami height calculations reported to TEPCO. Predicted tsunami height: 15.7 meters.

June 10, 2008 / Meeting with Mutō explaining tsunami safety measures. Mutō requests next steps to implement measures.

July 21, 2008 / Expenses associated with earthquake safety measures reported to Mutō and Takekuro. Costs: 5237 billion yen total (about 50 billion USD). These estimates did not include costs for tsunami measures.

July 31, 2008 / Mutō's June 10 request fulfilled. Tsunami plans ready to implement. But Mutō ends the meeting by asking the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (private research foundation funded by power companies) to redo the tsunami height calculations. TEPCO cancels all tsunami preparation measures. Internal email: "They were saying what would the economic impact be if Fukushima shuts down [for construction] while even Kashiwazaki is offline."

February 11, 2009 / Meeting. Nearly all nuclear power plants besides those owned by TEPCO scheduled to finish their final NISA reports by November 2010. Only TEPCO submits its report 2 years late. TEPCO does not submit a midterm report, with handwritten notes "issues," "can't submit," "under scrutiny."

February 6, 2011 / TEPCO tries to delay its final report until March 2016. NISA requests an explanation.

**March 7, 2011—four days before 3.11 / TEPCO finally reports the 15.7 meter tsunami height prediction to NISA.**

March 11, 2011 / M9.1 earthquake and 15 meter tsunami strike Fukushima Daiichi, leading to a power outage and meltdowns in three reactors.

BY COMPARISON, tsunami safety measures implemented at the Tōkai Daini Nuclear Power Plant under the direction of a TEPCO employee prevented a nuclear disaster when the tsunami struck on 3.11.

## 9/19 VERDICT

**Denies the need to guarantee safety from nuclear disaster—in fact, argues that no such level of safety was ever sought by the public.**

This is contradicted by the basic pillar of pre-2011 national nuclear policy: absolute safety from nuclear accidents. The 1992 Ikata Supreme Court verdict also clearly states that the national government must hold power companies to a safety standard guarding against even the slightest chance of nuclear disaster. **This is a catastrophic verdict that rewrites history to legitimate nuclear negligence, and ensures that nuclear disasters will continue to occur in Japan.**

Does not discuss the severe circumstances under which Futaba Hospital patients had to evacuate. **Does not acknowledge that despite multiple attempts, JSDF could not immediately evacuate everyone because of the nuclear meltdown.**

**Denies that tsunami preparation measures were explained to TEPCO executives on trial**, despite irrefutable evidence that they had heard such explanations and made plans based on them. This upheld defendants' claims that they "did not remember" hearing information relayed to them at meetings.

**Does not make a conclusion about the fundamental argument of the trial**, which was whether the tsunami measures TEPCO considered could have prevented the nuclear disaster. **It avoids this question entirely, acquitting the defendants with the logic that (1) only shutting down the reactor could prevent a nuclear disaster, and (2) no one specifically told the defendants to shut down Fukushima Daiichi.** Ignores the fact that other power plants avoided nuclear disaster by implementing tsunami safety measures.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

SUPPORT the plaintiffs

Join the Supporters' Group:  
<https://shien-dan.org/english-form/>

Donate:

郵便振替口座

口座番号:02230-9-120291

口座名:福島原発刑事訴訟支援団

ゆうちょ銀行 (他の銀行、金庫等からの振込)  
店名(店番):二二九(ニニキュウ)店 (229)  
預金種目:当座  
口座番号:0120291

SHARE this information

Feel free to print and distribute your own copies of this flier, post on social media, or organize a teach-in. If you are an artist or have translation skills, please take the initiative to translate information about the nuclear disaster, make infographics, and otherwise help spread the word. Contact [justicefrom1f@protonmail.com](mailto:justicefrom1f@protonmail.com) to coordinate.

FOLLOW for updates

Twitter: @shien\_dan

Facebook: 福島原発刑事訴訟支援団

Youtube: 福島原発刑事訴訟支援団

ORGANIZE a solidarity action

Demonstrate at TEPCO offices and Japanese embassies/consulates  
Send public messages of support  
Boycott TEPCO investors

LEARN more

Read plaintiffs' statements at [epubfukushima.com](http://epubfukushima.com). See [fukushima311voices.com](http://fukushima311voices.com) for news.

# TEPCO

## CRIMINAL TRIAL

### September 19, 2019 Verdict

# "NOT GUILTY"

////////////////////

# MAKING WAY

# FOR THE NEXT

# NUCLEAR

# DISASTER

