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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **U.S. NUCLEAR PLANTS VULNERABLE TO LOSS OF POWER FROM ELECTRIC GRID**

#### **EMPACT AMERICA TO CONDUCT ONLINE PRESS BRIEFING ON LEGISLATIVE AND TECHNICAL FIXES FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY**

##### **ONLINE PRESS BRIEFING AND Q&A:**

**Wednesday, June 8, 12 Noon Eastern Time**

<http://empactamerica.org/links/1m>

**Call in number: (917) 388-4499**

Events in Japan after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami have demonstrated the vulnerability of nuclear power plants to loss of power from the electric grid. A recent report by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory discloses a 1% annual probability of long-term and widespread electric grid failure due to natural disaster from solar flare activity. Over the standard 40-year license term of nuclear power plants, this equates to a 33% chance of long-term power loss, a risk far greater than most other natural disasters, including major earthquakes and tsunamis.

EMPact America is pleased to present a special press briefing by Dr. Peter Vincent Pry, staff member of the congressionally-chartered EMP Commission and Thomas Popik, founder of the Foundation for Resilient Societies. Dr. Pry and Mr. Popik will discuss legislative and technical fixes to the closely connected issues of electric grid reliability and nuclear safety. Dr. Pry will discuss the SHIELD Act currently pending in Congress. Mr. Popik will discuss a safety petition, PRM-50-96, that his group submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. PRM-50-96 is the only Petition for Rulemaking on the NRC docket for 2011.

During the online press briefing, also open to other interested parties, members of the press will be given priority for call-in questions. The call-in number for questions is (917) 388-4499. Questions can also be submitted by email to [radio@empactamerica.com](mailto:radio@empactamerica.com).

For more information contact Tracy Bianchi at EMPact America, email [TBianchi@empactamerica.org](mailto:TBianchi@empactamerica.org), phone (716) 435-7873.

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