



**Mr. Shima (inset)**

The secretariat made this drawing while looking at a photo posted at R\*RIGHTS Law Office's website. He thinks he should have drawn him looking "cooler".

# "The Reactor Suppliers Lawsuit"

## Opinion of The Plaintiff's Attorney

### -- Vol. 1 --

Dear friends,

We, the No Nukes Asia Actions-Japan (NNAA), are striving to file a lawsuit against the three reactor suppliers to Fukushima I in November 2013 at the Tokyo District Court – we call it the "Reactor Suppliers (a.k.a. "nuke monsters") Lawsuit."

This flier will be highlighting legal issues to be debated in the upcoming lawsuit. One of the lawyers in the plaintiff team, Mr. Akihiro Shima, is kindly going to provide his opinions in several volumes to come.

This time, we start off with some basic background information, including reasons behind the birth of the "Reactor Suppliers Lawsuit"

For an outline of the litigation, please read a separate pamphlet and our weblog.



Ever since March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Fukushima I's severe accident involving hydrogen explosions, has been spreading radioactivity and its damages, on a scale never known before, frightening people all over the world. Currently, many lawsuits are in progress against TEPCO for compensations to the damages caused by the accident.

Automobile manufacturers are held responsible to compensate asthma patients for their problems attributed to exhaust gas emitted from vehicles. Those manufacturers' responsibility is heavier than those of car drivers. Likewise, for damages caused by a nuclear plant accident, not just its operator but its reactor manufacturer(s) should be also held responsible. Alas, those manufacturers of Fukushima I have not even taken the blame.

The reason is obvious: Japan's Act on Compensation for Nuclear Damages holds the power plant's operator (power company) alone legally responsible. Worse still, those reactor manufacturers, held blameless by the Act, are now trying to sell their "products" outside Japan for more profits. Furthermore, the existing legal system has set up inconsequential laws where protection of the nuclear industry takes precedence over protection of its victims. Such a system has no justice in it.

Intending to rectify such injustice, designed to protect the nuclear industry, we have decided to bring up this lawsuit.



We, the No Nukes Asia Actions-Japan (NNAA), will present to you more opinions from our attorneys.

Mr. Akihiro Shima runs his law office, **R\*RIGHTS**, in Chuo Ward, Tokyo. He has also been the lead vocalist of "The Jumps," a legendary band in Japan's punk rock scene. So long, until our next issue!

(Original Japanese text by Attorney A. Shima; translation and introduction by Heeday Francis, NNAA-Japan Secretariat; English proofread by Asera Lim)



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