

Physical Security of Nuclear Facilities in the Post-9/11 Era

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Abstract. Despite efforts to strengthen security in the years following the tragic events of 9/11, nuclear power plants today remain all too vulnerable to attacks by terrorist groups. A well-planned sabotage attack on a reactor or spent fuel storage facility could cause a radiological release to the environment as bad or worse than the outcome of the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi accident. This talk will discuss the evolution of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's requirements for physical protection of nuclear facilities in response to escalating threats and why more needs to be done to reduce the risk of harm to public health, the environment and the economy from a radiological sabotage event.

Biography. Edwin Lyman is a senior scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, DC. He earned a doctorate in physics from Cornell University in 1992. From 1992 to 1995, he was a postdoctoral research associate at Princeton University's Center for Energy and Environmental Studies (now the Science and Global Security Program). His research focuses on the prevention of nuclear proliferation, nuclear and radiological terrorism, and nuclear accidents. He has published in journals including *Science*, *Nature*, *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, *Science and Global Security*, *Arms Control Today*, *Nuclear Engineering International*, *New Scientist* and *Energy and Environmental Science*. He is a co-author (with David Lochbaum and Susan Q. Stranahan) of the book *Fukushima: The Story of a Nuclear Disaster* (The New Press, 2014).

