

Earthquakes, tsunamis and nuclear fallout: Is California at risk like Japan?

**DATE:**

Tuesday, March 29th 2011

TIME:

5:30-7:00 pm

LOCATION:

Sutardja Dai Hall, Banato Auditorium,
UC Berkeley

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:

bie.berkeley.edu/japanquakesymposium
rsvp recommended due to limited seating

SPONSORED BY:

The Berkeley Institute of the Environment
College of Letters and Sciences
Berkeley Seismological Laboratory
Department of Earth and Planetary Science

*This event is free and open to the public

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM:

As Japan grapples with the effects of a massive earthquake, devastating tsunami, and potentially catastrophic meltdown of multiple nuclear reactors, it is appropriate to consider whether California faces similar risks.

Like Japan, California sits on the so-called “Ring of Fire”, the boundary of the Pacific Plate whose potential for seismic activity poses a serious threat to populated areas. But, how big is the risk to California in particular?

A panel of experts will give their perspectives on this broad question as it pertains to the potential for large seismic activity in California, the potential for tsunami damage, the ability of our buildings and infrastructure to withstand these forces of nature, and the potential for the spread of radioactive fallout if a damaged nuclear power plant were to suffer a full or partial meltdown.

In particular, the panel will seek to address many of the questions that are on minds of Californians as we follow the calamity in Japan.