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The Effects of Nuclear Waste Disposal and Contamination in the United States and the Former Soviet Union

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Poster Presentation P43

**THE EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL AND CONTAMINATION IN
THE UNITED STATES AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**

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Although the United States and the Former Soviet Union have had two very different political systems over the years, the way in which the nuclear weapons industry was dealt with in both countries was very much the same. From the beginning of the Cold War, the secrecy surrounding the nuclear industry in both the United States and the former Soviet Union had devastating effects on both the environment and the citizens of the countries. This presentation will examine the nuclear contamination and the effects on the countries that the nuclear industries had. It will draw upon similarities and differences in the two countries and how each country dealt with the problem, leading up to the situation today where both countries still are facing the lasting negative effects. The outlook and any progress that either country has made is hindered by constraints, both financial and governmental, that are forcing citizens to take action.