



Produced in association with NHK-TV Japan

# POWER STRUGGLE

An inspiring story of a grassroots citizens' effort to shut down an aging nuclear power plant in Vermont

A film by Robbie Leppzer



“**POWER STRUGGLE** is a hopeful story that reminds us that citizen activism is not just possible, it is essential to saving our endangered planet.”

— **David Goodman**, best-selling author, journalist and radio host, **THE VERMONT CONVERSATION**

[www.PowerStruggleMovie.com](http://www.PowerStruggleMovie.com)





# TURNING TIDE FILMS

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## **POWER STRUGGLE Now Available for Virtual Cinema Screenings** **A Fundraising Opportunity For Organizations** **Around the Fukushima 10th Anniversary, Chernobyl 35th Anniversary and Beyond**



**POWER STRUGGLE** (86 minutes, 2019), an inspiring story about grassroots citizen activists who succeed in shutting down a problem-plagued nuclear reactor in Vermont, is now available for virtual cinema screenings.

Turning Tide Films is seeking partner organizations to host virtual cinema screenings, which can be both a fundraising and educational outreach opportunity for your group. See details below!

March 2021 marks the 10th anniversary of the triple nuclear meltdowns at Fukushima, Japan — a nuclear catastrophe that is on-going and continues to threaten people in Japan and around the world with releases of radioactivity into the environment. April 2021 marks the 35th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

### **ABOUT THE FILM**

As the world marks the 10th anniversary of the triple nuclear meltdowns at Fukushima, Japan, this nuclear disaster had a profound impact in the small state of Vermont, as it occurred in the midst of a years-long citizens' campaign to close a problem-plagued nuclear reactor of the same design.

Filed over five years by filmmaker Robbie Leppzer, **POWER STRUGGLE** portrays a heated political battle to shut down the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, located on the banks of the Connecticut River in southern Vermont. The film follows the unfolding drama as citizen activists and elected state officials—alarmed at increasing safety violations—take on the federal government and one of the biggest power companies in the United States and eventually win.

The film captures perspectives on all sides of the controversy, including from local residents both for and against nuclear power, elected officials (including U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders), nuclear engineer Arnie Gundersen, a Vermont Yankee spokesperson, federal nuclear regulators, and many activists.



*Nuclear engineer Arnie Gundersen testifies at the Vermont Legislature, revealing safety cover-ups at Vermont Yankee.*

**POWER STRUGGLE** is a timely, inspiring story of democracy in action; about whether citizens' voices will be heard against big moneyed interests, and what people are doing to make a difference for a sustainable energy future.

**POWER STRUGGLE** is also a warning about the toxic legacy of high-level radioactive waste that will remain at the Vermont Yankee site – and at every nuclear power plant around the country and the world – indefinitely into the future.

To watch a trailer and for more info: [www.PowerStruggleMovie.com](http://www.PowerStruggleMovie.com)

## REVIEWS

“**POWER STRUGGLE** is the remarkable story about how people power overcame corporate power and government cover-ups to finally shut down an aging and dangerous nuclear plant. We see how small town citizens were transformed into tenacious environmental activists who triumphed against the odds. **POWER STRUGGLE** is a hopeful story that reminds us that citizen activism is not just possible, it is essential to saving our endangered planet.”

— **David Goodman, best-selling author, journalist and radio host, THE VERMONT CONVERSATION**

“A genuine David vs. Goliath battle. A rich story of whether grassroots democracy, in the form of citizens and local government, can triumph over entrenched, powerful interests like the nuclear energy industry. Through a story with many twists and turns, Leppzer keeps the film's focus on the individuals caught up in the drama.”

— **Steve Pfarrer, DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE**

“For more than four decades, filmmaker Robbie Leppzer has been combining a mastery of the craft of storytelling through documentary films with an incisive analysis of how power operates. **POWER STRUGGLE** is journalism at its best.”

— **Robert Jensen, Professor Emeritus of Journalism, University of Texas at Austin**



*Activists march to the gates of Vermont Yankee.*



## HOST A VIRTUAL SCREENING

“Virtual cinema screenings” have become the new norm for distributing films in the COVID era, given that most movie theaters are closed indefinitely for in-person screenings. This situation and the resulting online video technology make it very accessible for people to digitally stream movies in their homes — and expands the potential for films about social issues and partnering grassroots organizations to reach wider audiences and have greater impact.

Local, regional, national and international organizations can create a fundraiser and educational outreach opportunity for your group by partnering with us to host a virtual cinema screening of **POWER STRUGGLE**. Net proceeds will be split 50/50 between your group and Turning Tide Films.

It's incredibly easy and **there are no upfront costs**. All you would have to do is promote the virtual screening to your members and supporters through your email newsletters, email blasts, social media postings and on your own website.

We will supply you with the promotional text, graphic images and a unique URL for a custom webpage highlighting that the screening is hosted by and will benefit your group.

The virtual cinema screening will be hosted on the video platform Vimeo OTT VHX.TV, which provides a state-of-the-art, HD digital viewing platform, as well as handles the credit card processing.

### Here's how it works:

- **Email us** your contact information, and start dates of your exhibition period (which can be for a set time period or open-ended). In order to generate a buzz, we suggest initially promoting the virtual screening as a limited time event (say for 2 weeks, or one month), then extending the period for another couple of weeks or a month near the end of the first period.
- Please contact us at least two weeks in advance of your exhibition start date, and preferably 3 weeks in advance, to allow for you to have as much time as possible to promote your virtual screening, and record an optional post-screening Q & A video.
- We will email you promotional text, graphic images and a unique URL for a custom webpage highlighting that the screening is hosted by and will benefit your group.
- To see an example of a custom webpage with a unique URL to promote a virtual screening for a community group, click here: <https://turningtide.vhx.tv/products/power-struggle-your-organization>
- The virtual cinema screening is hosted by Vimeo OTT VHX.TV, one of the leading online video platforms, which many independent film distributors use for virtual cinema screenings in association with local independent cinemas. Vimeo OTT provides a state-of-the-art, industry-standard HD digital viewing platform and handles the credit card processing.
- With a \$12 customer ticket fee (the same price as charged at independent cinemas), after platform hosting fees and other administrative costs, the net proceeds are \$10 per ticket, which would be evenly split between your group and Turning Tide Films. For example, if 200 screening tickets were sold, then \$1,000 would be generated for your group.
- Consider the option of pre-recording a post-screening video discussion panel that you host with panelists of your choice and/or a Q & A with filmmaker Robbie Leppzer that you conduct in advance on Zoom. This video file would be posted to YouTube or Vimeo in advance of your first screening date. This link would then be included on the same page as the **POWER STRUGGLE** virtual screening, so that viewers could watch this following the film. Alternatively, a live Zoom event inviting audience participation in a Q & A could be held mid-way during a screening run to generate more buzz.



*A protest at the front entrance of Vermont Yankee.*



*Robbie Leppzer filming at Vermont Yankee.*



Dairy farm next door to Vermont Yankee.

- In order for your virtual screening to be a successful fundraiser and educational outreach opportunity for your organization, you will need to promote it as widely as possible to your members and supporters through your email newsletters, email blasts, social media postings and on your own website.
- Free full-length previews of **POWER STRUGGLE** are available for organizations interested in hosting a virtual screening.

**For bookings or to request a free full-length preview,** contact filmmaker Robbie Leppzer:  
[robbie@turningtide.com](mailto:robbie@turningtide.com)  
 (978) 544-8313

## DISCOUNTS FOR DVDs

In addition, we offer organizations a significant discount for bulk purchases of **POWER STRUGGLE** on DVD or Blu-ray that you could re-sell to your supporters or give away as “premium gifts” in your donor fundraising campaigns.

- 5 – 24 DVDs: 40% discount off of our regular \$30 home video price:
  - \$18 per DVD or Blu-ray Disc, plus shipping
- 25 DVDs or more: 50% discount off of our regular \$30 home video price:
  - \$15 per DVD or Blu-ray Disc, plus shipping

**For bulk DVD or Blu-ray orders,** contact filmmaker Robbie Leppzer:  
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