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Senator Ted Cruz Warns of Electromagnetic Pulse Threat After North Korean Rocket Launch; Resilient Societies Experts on Electromagnetic Pulse Available for Media Interviews

Nashua, NH—February 6, 2016—At 7:30pm ET on February 6th, North Korea launched a rocket on a southern trajectory with a satellite payload that reached orbit, according to South Korean government sources. Approximately one hour later, during the Republican presidential debate, Senator Ted Cruz described how a North Korean satellite could be used to conduct an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack against the United States, bringing down its electric grid. Previously, other presidential candidates have also made public statements on the EMP threat to the United States.

In a June 28, 2013 letter to President Obama, directors of the Foundation for Resilient Societies described in detail how a satellite launched toward America's unprotected south by North Korea or other nations could be used to conduct an electromagnetic pulse attack against the United States. This letter is available on the Resilient Societies website at:

http://www.resilientsocieties.org/images/EMP_Threats_Letter_to_President_6_28_2013_Final.pdf

The directors of Resilient Societies, including some of America's foremost experts on electromagnetic pulse, are available for media interviews.

A nuclear weapon detonated in the upper atmosphere by North Korea would create a series of electromagnetic pulses radiating downward and impacting electrical equipment within line-of-sight of the blast. The "E1" or early-time pulse can burn out devices that use semiconductor chips. The "E3" or long pulse can permanently disable hard-to-replace transformers used for long-distance electricity transmission. A single nuclear weapon detonated over Kansas could disable critical infrastructure in most of the continental United States, including all three major electric grid interconnections. An extended blackout could stop America's "just-in-time" economy, resulting in widespread starvation and potential societal collapse.

In 2000, the U.S. Congress authorized formation of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack, commonly referred to as the "EMP Commission." In 2008, the EMP Commission released its Critical National Infrastructures Report, which concluded, "the electromagnetic pulse generated by a high altitude nuclear explosion is one of a small number of threats that can hold our society at risk of catastrophic consequences" and "broad band, high amplitude EMP, when coupled into sensitive electronics, has the capability to produce widespread and long lasting disruption and damage to the critical infrastructures that underpin the fabric of U.S. society."

Ambassador Henry Cooper, a director of Resilient Societies, helped negotiate international nuclear arms control treaties and has been a strong proponent of defense against EMP attacks on the United States.

The nuclear triad of the military, including land-based ballistic missiles, submarines, and strategic bombers has been protected against EMP. Dr. George Baker, a director of Resilient Societies, managed the development of MIL-STD-188-125, the military standard for EMP protection.

The [Foundation for Resilient Societies](http://www.resilientsocieties.org) is a Nashua, New Hampshire-based non-profit group that advocates for protection of critical infrastructure against nuclear EMP and naturally occurring EMP from solar storms. For more information or interviews with our EMP experts, contact Melissa Hancock at media@resilientsocieties.org or telephone 855-688-2430, extension 2. ###.