

## Traffic of Radioactive Material Denounced

*Escoffery is portrayed here as an engineer and an ISCA expert. Instead he is a **professional activist**. plying his trade of intervention.*

Prensa Latina  
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Panamanian environmental organizations denounced the dangerous traffic of nuclear fuel through the Panama Canal, which puts the lives of thousands of people in real danger.

The transfer of such material is extremely threatening, because if they are set loose by accident or terrorist attack, more than 50 percent of the Panamanian population would immediately suffer the consequences, said engineer Raul Escoffery on Tuesday.

Escoffery, representative of the Initiative of the Civil Society for Environment (ISCA) said that a disaster of this kind would cause immediate contamination of the main sources of drinkable water in the center of Panama.

"If the waters of Lakes Alajuela, Gatun and Miraflores were to be contaminated, nearly 1.5 million people would be deprived of water for thousands of years," he said.

The protest refers to the traffic of highly radioactive material, like irradiated uranium or plutonium, coming from Japanese nuclear reactors to be reprocessed in France or Great Britain.

The ISCA expert also said the regulations established by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are insufficient for the packing in which the radioactive material is transported.