



Background Paper on

PUBLIC OPINION DEBATES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY:

The Views of “Pros”, “Skeptics” and “Opponents”

Compiled by





INTRODUCTION

This paper provides a short summary of Key Debates on Nuclear Energy and the Rise and Fall in its support as a solution to both **Security** (*against scarcity*) and **Sustainability** (*Environmental and Climate Change concerns*) problems.

It contains the following two parts. In addition to them, we have provided links to several other sources for those who wish to access them.

Part 1: An Outline of Key Debates

A Summary of Key Debates compiled by Gilani Research Foundation on behalf of WIN-Gallup International Opinion Research Group. It provides summary of Post-Japan Earthquake discussions on the subject.

Part 2: Media Monitoring by WIN-GIA Country Representatives in 15 countries across the globe

Media Monitoring on “**Japan Earthquake And Nuclear Energy**”

This part comprises Reports provided by the country Representatives of WIN-Gallup International which they have scanned from the media in their country (*the efforts of all contributing members are greatly appreciated. Exact details and credit to them at page 12 of this Report*)

Additional Links:

In addition to the above, links are provided to the following documents to facilitate those who may wish to consult them as a Background to the subject.

- 1- **Internet Chatting Analysis:** How Japan Earthquake Swayed Opinion on Nuclear Energy, reported by Social Reader on internet chatting analysis after the Japan Earthquake – Click here:
- 2- **Key World Energy Statistics:** International Atomic Energy Association IAEA – [Click here:](#)
- 3- **Nuclear Monitor (2005)** (Nuclear Power: No Solution to Climate Change” in *Nuclear Monitor*, February 2005. Nuclear Information and Resource Services) – Click here
- 4- **Carnegie Endowment (2009)** (Squassoni, Sharon. Policy Brief, “Nuclear Renaissance: Is it Coming? Should It”, October 2008. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) – Click here:
- 5- **Council on Foreign Relations (2007)** (Ferguson, Charles D. “Nuclear Energy: Balancing Benefits and Risks”, April 2007. Council on Foreign Relations) – Click here
- 6- **Gallup International Global Opinion Poll on Nuclear Energy in 47 countries:** April 19, 2011 – [Click here](#)



Part 1

Key Debates



Part 1

DEBATES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

Ever since the 1950s, the various debates surrounding nuclear energy have been extremely politicized and often intertwined with national and international security concerns as well as economic arguments; meanwhile public opinion on the issue has fluctuated over the years often following marked trends in the wake of **nuclear accidents such as the Three Mile Island accident (USA, 1979), the Chernobyl disaster (now Ukraine, 1986) and the still unfolding series of Fukushima 1 accidents (Japan, 2011).**

Online Debate on Fukushima/Nuclear Plant and Japan Earthquake

Within three days (March 10-13, 2011), the tide of online conversations about Nuclear Energy turned from 62% **Positive** to 62% **Negative**: Japan Earthquake Swayed the opinion of online conversation.

As an example, a preliminary analysis of sway in public opinion following the Japan tsunami and the resulting Fukushima accidents was conducted by **Social Radar**, a tool developed by Infegy which is "a social analytics application that collects billions of articles and messages from millions of sources such as blogs, social networks, news sources, microblogs, forums, and more to provide instantaneous insights and measurement into online chatter."¹ **The analysis report released on April 1st is extremely telling as it reveals dramatic shifts in the public perception of nuclear power before and after the Japan earthquake:**

*After analyzing more than 40 million "online conversations," Infegy concluded that public perception of nuclear energy prior to the earthquake was high; it took a sharp turn on the 11th. **Seventy-six percent of online conversations concerning nuclear energy were positive leading up to March 10, according to the report. By March 13, 62 percent of all conversations were negative.** A few days later, public sentiment had evened out a bit, with Infegy's analysis showing a **near 50/50 split between negative and positive perception.** "As news of conditions at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant worsened, negative sentiment*

¹ Social Radar <http://www.socialradar.net/>



grew, though positive sentiment regained the lead in conversations by the end of the month,” according to the press release.²

Opponents of Nuclear Energy as a Solution:

The stronger dissent on this issue comes from those who believe that pursuit of nuclear energy development could actually be deleterious to the goals of GHG emission reductions and mitigating climate change. A report titled **Nuclear Power: No solution to climate change** notes that the most effective way of addressing climate change is through demand-side intervention and that other renewable energy options such as solar and wind are more sustainable in the long run; huge investments in nuclear energy detract from investment in these options.³

Skeptics of Nuclear Energy:

However, there is significant dissent on the actual potential of nuclear power for climate change mitigation. Most of this dissent is based on economic skepticism surrounding the ability to invest in, build and switch to nuclear energy fast enough to make any significant contribution to reductions in GHG emissions. In a report titled **Nuclear Energy: Rebirth or Resuscitation** Sharon Sossquini poses the following questions: “(1) How much more nuclear energy would be needed to have a significant impact? (2) Could that much nuclear energy be brought online in anywhere near the time required from a climate perspective? (3) Are the opportunity costs of such an expansion acceptable?” She casts doubts on the figures for potential carbon “savings” via nuclear energy on the basis that these figures assume that nuclear power plants would only be replacing high-carbon coal electric plants; if they are to displace natural gas, wind or other types of plants the figures for projected impact are much lower. She also looks at current trends in nuclear power development and is doubtful that the future pace of development can be fast enough to have an impact:

The IEA estimates that without significant policy changes, nuclear energy could grow annually by 0.7 percent, for a total 15 percent increase by 2030. This would equal about 415 GWe, up from the current 371 GWe, or an annual build rate of three reactors per year. At this rate, nuclear energy would actually decline from a 16 percent market share to 10 percent as electricity demand increases. CO₂ concentrations would go up, despite this nuclear energy capacity’s ability to offset between 11 and 13 Gt of carbon through 2030. In this business-as-usual projection, no big policy changes would be implemented,

² Jackson, Nicholas “Internet Chatter: Maybe We’re Not Actually Afraid of Nuclear Energy” *The Atlantic*, April 7, 2011. Available at: <http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2011/04/internet-chatter-maybe-were-not-actually-afraid-of-nuclear-energy/236957/>

³ “Nuclear Power: No Solution to Climate Change” in *Nuclear Monitor*, February 2005. Nuclear Information and Resource Services



carbon emissions would rise, and nuclear energy’s share of electricity generation would decline.⁴

These concerns are echoed by Charles Ferguson’s report on **Nuclear Energy: Balancing Benefits and Risks** in his discussion of the limitations of nuclear energy as part of a solution to climate change:

In the foreseeable future, nuclear energy is not a major part of the solution to further countering global warming or energy insecurity. Expanding nuclear energy use to make a relatively modest contribution to combating climate change would require constructing nuclear plants at a rate so rapid as to create shortages in building materials, trained personnel, and safety controls. Furthermore, while the nuclear industry is only structured to produce electricity, the existing abundant and cheap fossil fuels provide readily usable energy for electricity, heating, and transportation needs.⁵

Recent Renaissance (2001-2011)

In the recent past, specifically since 2001, the notion of a “nuclear renaissance” or revival of the nuclear power industry has gained a lot of traction. A policy brief from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace states:

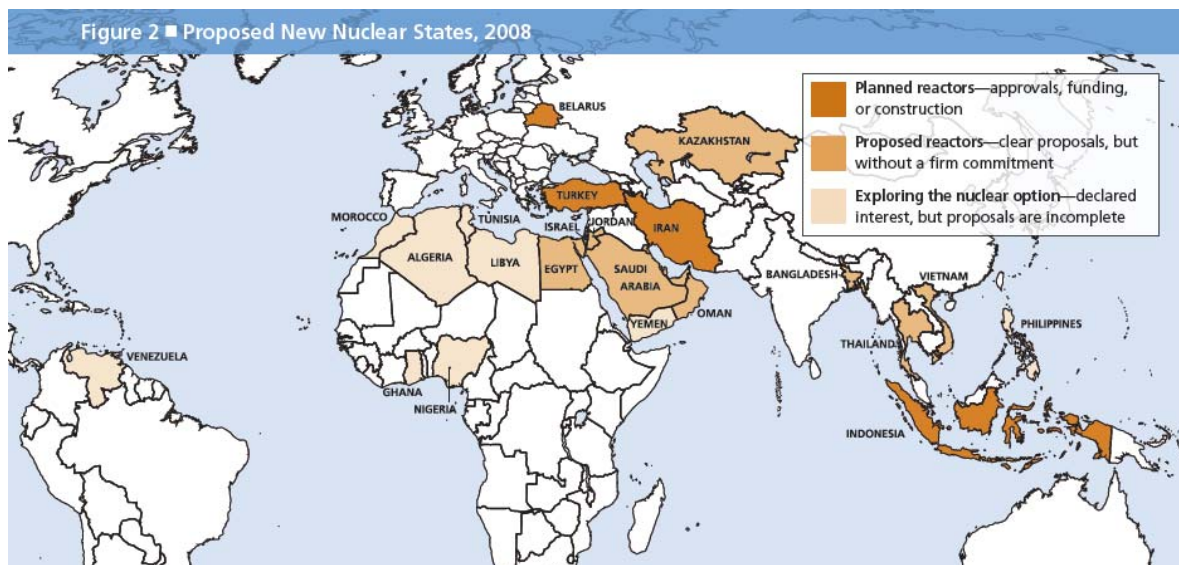
*After several decades of disappointing growth, nuclear energy seems poised for a comeback. Talk of a “nuclear renaissance” includes perhaps a doubling or tripling of nuclear capacity by 2050, spreading nuclear power to new markets in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, and developing new kinds of reactors and fuel-reprocessing techniques. **During the George W. Bush administration, the United States has promoted nuclear energy both at home and abroad. Programs like the 2006 Global Nuclear Energy Partnership and President Bush’s 2007 joint declaration with then-Russian president Vladimir Putin to facilitate and support nuclear energy in developing countries have helped to promote the notion of a major worldwide nuclear revival.**⁶*

⁴ Sossquini, Sharon. “Nuclear Energy: Rebirth or Resuscitation”, 2009. [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](#)

⁵ Ferguson, Charles D. “Nuclear Energy: Balancing Benefits and Risks”, April 2007. [Council on Foreign Relations](#)

⁶ Squassoni, Sharon. Policy Brief, “**Nuclear Renaissance: Is it Coming? Should It**”, October 2008. [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](#)

The following map from the same brief shows proposed new nuclear states as of 2008:



However, there is still a significant lack of common consensus on:

- whether this nuclear renaissance will actually take place, and
- if it should take place at all

WIN-Gallup International Poll: Net Favor for Nuclear Energy falls from 25% to only 6%

The Global Poll being conducted by Gallup on the issue of nuclear energy and views in the aftermath of Japanese Tsunami and radiation leaks is intended to provide a substantial look at opinions of a cross section of people in some 40 countries. This document serves as an accompaniment to this poll and gives a broad overview of the arguments made in favor of and against nuclear energy over the years.

OPINION ABOUT DESIRABILITY OF NUCLEAR ENERGY: From Low (1950-2000) to High (2001-2011) to Low (?) after March 2011

Initial Fears (1950-2000)

The initial publically stated impetus for the development of nuclear energy was tied in with a need to quell international anxiety surrounding the destructive potential of nuclear technology in the wake of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. The support for nuclear energy



development for civilian use and the requisite **research provided a reason to take nuclear research out of the exclusive control of the military and encourage greater civilian participation.**

Key Debates on Nuclear Energy:

The main issues in the debate surrounding the pros and cons of a potential surge in nuclear energy development can be summarized as follows:

Does Nuclear Energy Help or Hurt?

1. Climate change and environmental protection
2. Energy security and independence
3. Sustainable development

How Does Nuclear Energy compare with competing Sources of Energy on:

1. Cost, funding and economic competitiveness
2. Safety and risk factors
3. Waste management

What are Nuclear Energy specific Fears?

Proliferation and political challenges.

These issues are comprehensive in that they have been addressed in detail by those staunchly in favor of nuclear energy and the skeptics alike. Furthermore opinion on each of these issues has been shaped greatly by particular world events and political climates in certain states. The remainder of this document examines the major arguments made both for and against nuclear energy within each of these issues.

Climate Change and Environmental Concerns: Arguments For and Against Nuclear Energy

“Pros” of Nuclear Energy:

While climate change is by no means a new phenomenon, scientific consensus regarding the attribution of recent and future widespread climate change to anthropogenic causes is



relatively recent. In its Fourth Assessment Report of 2007: Summary for Policymakers, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concludes the following:

- Warming of the climate system is unequivocal.
- Most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations.⁷

One of the principal sources of GHG, especially carbon dioxide, is the burning of fossil fuels in the energy sector for electricity production. With a projected increase in global energy demand, the potential for increased GHG emissions from increased fossil fuel burning is huge. An article commenting on the IPCC report states: “Many energy and environment experts see such a doubling, or worse, as a foregone conclusion after 2050 unless there is a prompt and sustained shift away from the 20th-century pattern of unfettered burning of coal and oil, the main sources of carbon dioxide, and an aggressive expansion of nonpolluting sources of energy.”⁸

Nuclear power is one of the widely promoted alternatives to conventional fossil fuels. A report titled **Climate Change and Nuclear Power** (2000) from the International Atomic Energy Agency i.e. the organization set up with the mission to “promote safe, secure and peaceful nuclear technologies”⁹ stresses the development of nuclear power as a strategy to reduce GHG emissions and respond to the looming climate change crisis.

*Nuclear power generation produces virtually no GHG emissions, and the entire nuclear chain has among the lowest emissions per kilowatt-hour (kW.h) of any generating option including renewables. Countries with large nuclear and hydroelectric capacities have markedly lower carbon dioxide emissions per unit of energy than do countries relying heavily on fossil fuels. Currently, nuclear and hydroelectric power each annually avoid GHG emissions equal to about 8% of the total global emissions from fossil fuels*¹⁰

⁷ IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA.

⁸ Rosenthal, Elizabeth and Revkin, Andrew C. “Science Panel Calls Global Warming ‘Unequivocal’” [The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/03/science/earth/03climate.html?ex=1328158800&en=61f42312221df544&ei=5090&partner=rssuserland&emc=rss%3Cbr%20/%3E), February 3, 2007. Available at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/03/science/earth/03climate.html?ex=1328158800&en=61f42312221df544&ei=5090&partner=rssuserland&emc=rss%3Cbr%20/%3E>

⁹ About the IAEA <http://www.iaea.org/About/about-iaea.html>

¹⁰ “Climate Change and Nuclear Power” IAEA. Austria: November 2000



An report from the Nuclear Energy Agency, a specialized agency within the OECD, titled **Nuclear Power and the Kyoto Protocol** (2008) similarly notes the role of nuclear energy development in reducing GHGs and thus its role for helping countries meet reduced emissions targets set by the Kyoto Protocol.

A comprehensive analysis of GHG emissions from different electricity generation chains shows that nuclear power is one of the least carbon intensive generation technologies, with emissions from the full energy chain (FEC) amounting to only about 2.5-5.7 grams of GHG (expressed as grams of C-equivalent) per kWh of electricity produced (gCeq/kWh), compared to some 105 to 366 gCeq/kWh for fossil fuel chains and 2.5-76 gCeq/kWh for renewable energy chains.¹¹

NUCLEAR POWER BY COUNTRY

S #	Country	Megawatt Capacity	Nuclear Share of Electricity Production
	World	376313	0.14
1	Argentina	935	0.07
2	Armenia	376	0.45
3	Belgium	5943	0.517
4	Brazil	1901	0.03
5	Bulgaria	1906	0.359
6	Canada	12679	0.148
7	China (PRC)	10234	0.019
8	Croatia		0.08
9	Czech Republic	3686	0.338
10	Finland	2721	0.329
11	France	63236	0.752
12	Germany	20339	0.261
13	Hungary	1880	0.43
14	India	5780	0.029
15	Japan	47348	0.289
16	Korea, South (ROK)	18716	0.311
17	Mexico	1310	0.048
18	Netherlands	485	0.037
19	Pakistan	400	0.027
20	Romania	1310	0.206
21	Russia	23084	0.178
22	Slovakia	1760	0.535
23	Slovenia	696	0.379
24	South Africa	1800	0.048
25	Spain	7448	0.175
26	Sweden	9399	0.374
27	Switzerland	3252	0.395
28	Taiwan (ROC)	4927	0.207
29	Ukraine	13168	0.486
30	United Kingdom	10962	0.179
31	United States	101229	0.202

¹¹ “Nuclear Power and the Kyoto Protocol” 2008. Nuclear Energy Agency, OECD Publications, France



Part 2

Media Monitoring

Media Monitoring by WIN-GIA country
Representative in 15 countries across the globe



Part 2

MEDIA MONITORING ON Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Energy

Reports provided by Members of WIN – Gallup International and scanned from the media in their country. The efforts of all contributing members and greatly appreciated.

MEDIA REPORTS FROM MEDIA OF:

- BRAZIL, provided by **Laure Castelnau** of **IBOPE Inteligência**
- CAMEROON, provided by **Zeufack Nguessong** of **TNS RMS**
- CHINA, provided by **Zhou Xin** of **CRC-Research Center**
- CZECH REPUBLIC, provided by **Jan Trojacek** of **Mareco s.r.o.**
- FRANCE, provided by **Céline Bracq** of **BVA France**
- GREECE, provided by **Eleftheria Xesternou** of **Centrum Research S.A.**
- HONG KONG, provided by **Christy Szeto** of **Consumer Search HK Ltd**
- ICELAND, provided by **Vilborg Helga Hardardottir** of **Capacent Gallup**
- IRAQ, provided by **Dr. Ali Abdalrazak** of **IIACSS**
- KENYA, provided by **Margit Cleveland** of **Infinite Insight (Kenya)**
- LITHUANIA, provided by **Inga Nausėdienė** of **UAB RAIT**
- NIGERIA, provided by **Tosin Ogunkunle** of **Infinite Insight (Nigeria)**
- ROMANIA, provided by **Marius Bobi** of **TNS CSOP**
- SWITZERLAND, provided by **Barbara Schumacher** of **ISOPUBLIC AG**

Important Note on Translation into English from different Languages

This material has been translated into English with the help of Google translation (*please bear with and problems of automated translation*). It must however be noted that Google translation facility is highly commendable for making it possible for Gilani Research Foundation team to translate media reports from different languages into English and present them in the pages ahead.



CHINA

- Japan nuke plant leaks radiation into groundwater



Japan nuke plant leaks radiation into groundwater

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2011-04/01/content_12263240.htm

TOKYO, Japan - Radiation exceeding government safety limits has seeped into groundwater under a tsunami-crippled Japanese nuclear plant, according to the operator, but has not affected drinking supplies.

The leak announced late Thursday could pose a long-term problem, however, and at the very least it is a concerning indicator of how far Tokyo Electric Power Co. is from bringing its plant under control. Workers have been battling to stabilize dangerously overheating reactors after cooling systems were knocked out in the March 11 tsunami.

TEPCO has increasingly asked for international help in its uphill battle, most recently ordering giant pumps from the U.S. that were to arrive later this month to spray water on the reactors.

The groundwater contamination _ 10,000 times higher than the government standard for the plant _ is the latest setback at the Fukushima Dai-ichi complex, where leaks have already contaminated food and hindered workers' ability to bring the plant under control. Iodine-131, a radioactive substance that decays quickly, was found nearly 50 feet (15 meters) below one of the reactors, according to TEPCO spokesman Naoyuki Matsumo.

While the contamination does not appear to have caused an immediate problem, there are two ways it could eventually affect drinking water if concentrations were high enough. One is if it were to seep into wells in the area. For now, a 12-mile (20-kilometer) radius around the plant has been cleared, though residents of the area are growing increasingly frustrated with evacuation orders and have been sneaking back to check on their homes.

The other concern is whether contaminated water from the plant could seep into underground waterways and eventually into rivers used for drinking water. It's not yet clear if this is possible.

Seiki Kawagoe, an environmental science professor at Tohoku University, also noted that radiation tends to dissipate quickly in the ground, as it does in the ocean.

Radiation concerns have rattled the Japanese public, already struggling to return to normal life after the earthquake-borne tsunami pulverized hundreds of miles (kilometers) of the northeastern coast. Three weeks after the disaster in one of the most connected countries in the world, 260,000 households still do not have running water and 170,000 do not have electricity.

In the latest report of food becoming tainted, the government said Friday that it planned more tests on a cow slaughtered for beef that had slightly elevated levels of cesium, another radioactive particle. Officials stressed that the meat was never put on the market.



Health Ministry spokesman Taku Ohara said the cesium was found in a cow slaughtered March 15 more than 40 miles (70 kilometers) from the plant.

Radioactive cesium can build up in the body and high levels are thought to be a risk for various cancers. It is still found in the soil of Germany, Austria and France 25 years after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and is found in wild boar in Germany, making the pigs off-limits for eating in many cases.

Contamination has also affected work at the plant itself, where radioactive water has been pooling, often thwarting the vital work of powering up the complex's cooling systems.

Despite the leaks, TEPCO hasn't had enough dosimeters to provide one for each employee since many were destroyed in the earthquake. Under normal circumstances, the gauges, which measure radiation, would be worn at all times. But officials said Friday that more meters had arrived and they now had enough to everyone.

TEPCO has repeatedly relaxed safety standards during the crisis in order to prevent frequent violations. That is not uncommon during emergencies.

Though the company has acknowledged that it was initially slow to ask for help in dealing with the nuclear crisis, experts from around the world are now flooding in. French nuclear giant Areva, which supplied fuel to the plant, is helping figure out how to dispose of contaminated water and American nuclear experts are joining Japanese on a panel to address the disaster.

Japan has also ordered two giant pumps, typically used for spraying concrete, from the U.S. They are being retrofitted to spray water first, according to Kelly Bickle, a spokeswoman at Putzmeister America Inc. in Wisconsin. At least one similar pump is already in operation at the plant.

U.S. troops are also involved in the search for the dead. Japan's defense ministry said, starting Friday, the two militaries will create joint teams to look for bodies from the air. So far 11,500 people have been confirmed dead, though that figure is expected to exceed 18,000. Another 16,400 are missing, and many may never be found.

Hundreds of thousands more people are living in evacuation centers, most because they lost their homes in the tsunami. But others have been forced to leave their houses near the plant because of radiation concerns.

Some residents are growing angry and frustrated with the government and are increasingly violating the bans to return to their homes to gather whatever they can find.

Fukushima officials have put up posters in all evacuation centers urging residents not to violate cordon but are also pressing Tokyo to arrange trips in for the residents as soon as possible.

"There is no doubt in my mind that it is dangerous in the video. For global distribution. This story is part of AP's general news and financial services. AP Photo TOK804, TOK809,



TOK808, TOK807, TOK805, TOK803, TOK806 By RYAN NAKASHIMA and SHINO YUASA= Associated Press=

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Some residents are growing angry and frustrated with the government and are increasingly violating the bans to return to their homes to gather whatever they can find.

Fukushima officials have put up posters in all evacuation centers urging residents not to violate cordon but are also pressing Tokyo to arrange trips in for the residents as soon as possible.

"There is no doubt in my mind that it is dangerous in there," said Kazuko Hirohara, a 52-year-old nurse from Minami Soma. "I just wish they would have thought about safety before they ruined our lives."

Associated Press writers Eric Talmadge in Fukushima, Mari Yamaguchi and Mayumi Saito in Tokyo, and Jeff Martin in Atlanta, Georgia, contributed to this report.



KENYA

- No 'business as usual' on nuclear after Fukushima: IAEA
- Grave danger in nuclear power

No 'business as usual' on nuclear after Fukushima: IAEA

<http://www.nation.co.ke/business/news/No+business+as+usual+on+nuclear+after+Fukushima+IAEA/-/1006/1138390/-/e885qy/-/index.html>



Civic groups protest in Tokyo over use of nuclear power at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), the operator of the crisis-hit nuclear power plant in Fukushima on April 3, 2011. Photo/AFP

Posted Monday, April 4 2011 at 12:42

The world cannot take a "business as usual" approach to nuclear power in the wake of the current disaster in Japan, UN atomic watchdog chief Yukiya Amano said Monday.

"The crisis at Fukushima Daiichi has enormous implications for nuclear power and confronts all of us with a major challenge," Amano said in an opening address to a special conference here on nuclear safety.

"We cannot take a 'business as usual' approach," said Amano, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is hosting the 10-day meeting at the watchdog's Vienna headquarters. The six-reactor nuclear power plant at Fukushima Daiichi, located 250 kilometres (155 miles) northeast of Tokyo, was hit by a 14-metre (46-foot) tsunami on March 11, triggering the world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

Emergency workers have been struggling ever since to bring the situation under control and prevent a catastrophic meltdown

At the moment, the most immediate concern is a radioactive leak into the ocean through a cracked concrete pit.

"The situation at Fukushima Daiichi remains very serious," Amano told the Fifth Review Meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety or CNS.

The CNS is a treaty -- currently with 72 signatory countries -- drawn up after the Chernobyl disaster to ensure the safety of the world's atomic reactors.

The regular review conference takes place every three years and the latest meeting was planned long in advance, before the dramatic events in Japan.

Amano said the immediate priority at Fukushima "is to overcome the crisis and stabilise the reactors.



"But we must also begin the process of reflection and evaluation," he said.

"The worries of millions of people throughout the world about whether nuclear energy is safe must be taken seriously. Rigorous adherence to the most robust international safety standards and full transparency, in good times and bad, are vital for restoring and maintaining public confidence in nuclear power," Amano said.

The Vienna-based IAEA had been working at full stretch since March 11 to help Japan overcome the crisis.

It has already dispatched expert teams to help monitor radiation release from the damaged reactors and has most recently sent two reactor experts to visit the on-site emergency control room at Fukushima Daiichi "to get first-hand information" of the situation there.

The IAEA, set up in 1957, is responsible for drawing up international safety standards for nuclear power plants, but has no powers to legally enforce those standards.

As soon as the situation permitted, the IAEA wanted to send an international expert mission to conduct an assessment of the accident, Amano said.

"It is clear that more needs to be done to strengthen the safety of nuclear power plants so that the risk of a future accident is significantly reduced," he said.

Amano said that many countries were reviewing their plans to set up nuclear power programmes in the wake of Fukushima.

As of the end of last year more than 60 countries had informed the IAEA that they were considering starting nuclear power programmes and almost all of the 29 countries which already had such programmes said they planned to expand them.

Amano insisted that the basic drivers behind the interest in nuclear power -- which included rising global energy demand, concerns about climate change, volatile fossil fuel prices and energy security - - "have not changed as a result of Fukushima."

He said he was "confident that valuable lessons will be learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident which will result in substantial improvements in nuclear operating safety, regulation and the overall safety culture."

The IAEA will also host a ministerial-level conference on nuclear safety of all its 151 member states from June 20-24 in Vienna to discuss the lessons to be learned from the Fukushima disaster.

Grave danger in nuclear power

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Grave+danger+in+nuclear+power+/-/1056/1142244/-/d74pub/-/index.html>



Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai of Kenya attends the opening of the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009, also known as COP15, at the Bella center in Copenhagen. Photo/FILE

By JOY WANJA jwanja@ke.nationmedia.com

Posted Sunday, April 10 2011 at 21:53

Nobel laureate Wangari Maathai has called for the phasing out of atomic power reactors and abolition of nuclear weapons globally.

A statement issued with 49 other laureates of the Right Livelihood Award and members of the World Future Council cited the hazardous nature of nuclear material to humans and the environment.

“Grave as these dangers are, they are not as great as those arising from the possession, threat and use of nuclear weapons — weapons that have the capacity to destroy civilisation and end most life on the planet,” laureates of what is also known as the Alternative Nobel Prize warn.

They said the Japanese disaster had raised global awareness of the dangers that nuclear power generation posed.

A debate has been raging globally about the safety of nuclear energy in the wake of the massive earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan last month, destroying nuclear reactors at the Fukushima power plant and triggering radiation fears.

“The spread of nuclear power plants will not only make the world more dangerous, but will make more difficult, if not impossible, the goal of a nuclear weapons-free world,” reads the statement by experts, activists, politicians, the clergy, entrepreneurs and scientists from 26 countries.



The laureates urged countries to phase out, abolish and replace such technologies with alternatives that do not threaten present and future generations

While extending their “deepest sympathies” to the people of Japan, the laureates said the disaster demonstrated “once again the limits of human capability to keep dangerous technologies free from accidents with catastrophic results”.

The laureates warned that the large amounts of radioactive wastes that are created by nuclear power generation will remain highly toxic for many times longer than human civilisation has existed.

This is because there is no long-term solution to dealing with the threats these radioactive wastes pose to the environment and to humans.

Among the signatories of the declaration are environmental activist Vandana Shiva and Ashok Khosla, co-president of the Club of Rome, both from India, Maude Barlow, a UN consultant from Canada, and Hafsat Abiola-Costello, a human rights activist from Nigeria.

Others are Russian Alexander Likhotal, Green Cross International president, Brazilian Francisco Whitaker Ferreira, co-founder of the World Social Forum and Austrian Erwin Kräutler.



SWITZERLAND

- It is overreacting
- WHO certifies no danger
- Swiss cargo checks already in Japan
- Militante Attack winched AKW-Debates
- Leuthard stops nuclear power process - Aargau postpones debate
- General license applications for replacement nuclear power plant suspended



It is overreacting

Updated 03/04/2011 Since last Thursday out to Switzerland by tighter controls on imports from Japan. The Japanese Ambassador to Switzerland, explains why he does not think much of such measures.

By Switzerland on account of the disaster intensified import controls of Japanese products as well as Japan canceled flights were "overreacting. " Said there was no reason for Japan's ambassador said in Switzerland, Ichiro Komatsu, in an interview.

Since last Thursday, only more food shipments from Japan will be introduced to Switzerland, where they were by the Japanese authorities officially declared as safe. In addition, the Customs Service collects the audit. The EU has also chosen this approach.

WHO certifies no danger

This measure as well as the Swiss flights canceled after the disaster on 11 March were overreactions. International organizations like the World Health Organization, attested that there was no immediate danger to the health of people, Ambassador Komatsu said in an interview with the newspaper "Sunday".

It would vorsorglich he measures to be taken, he admitted. Can, on the basis of "unconfirmed rumors"but "are not responding. "

The top diplomat of Japan in Switzerland was very grateful for the solidarity and friendship, which were allowed to experience his countrymen by the Swiss government and people. "The support and solidarity is huge, " Komatsu said. It would "infinitely many heartfelt letters. " Also helping his country very much.

(mrs / sda) Created: 03.04.2011, 07:19 clock

Swiss überprüft Fracht bereits in Japan

Swiss cargo checks already in Japan

Updated 03/29/2011 examine Since the beginning of the nuclear accident, the Swiss aircraft arriving in Switzerland to radioactive contamination. Now be made in Japan, new security measures.

Because of the nuclear disaster in Japan with the new airline, Swiss, and baggage and cargo in Japan to radiation. Until now aircraft were tested only when they arrive in Switzerland for radioactivity. Machinery from Tokyo examines the Swiss mid-March in Zurich on radioactive radiation. In the measurements were so far found no increased values.

As of now, the airline checks the safe side cargo and container in Japan. "To this end, an expert at the Paul Scherrer Institute flown to Tokyo and is our local people for these measurements from," said spokeswoman Susan Mühlemann Swiss Zurich's local radio station "Radio 24". Passengers were not investigated. It is important to prevent that no radioactivity from Japan to Switzerland reach. Even the staff of the airline is to protect, "said radiation expert Rolf storming the station.



Switzerland has very strict guidelines for radioactivity and radiation - and these could be exceeded very quickly. This could lead some to the fact that the Swiss would have to remove a radioactively contaminated seat on the plane.

Usage remains low

In the next three days were filled on flights from Zurich to Tokyo aboard the Airbus A340 of 228 seats between 70 to 100 seats, Swiss media spokesman Jean-Claude Donzel said at the request of the news agency SDA. Japanese travel to Zurich from 40 to 60 passengers.

Usually is the Swiss on their long routes posted very good, also with regard to utilization of the flights to Japan, said Donzel. Many factors could lead to the collapse in demand. One criterion was that the passengers have to travel because of the stopover in Hong Kong about five hours longer. The Swiss flies until further notice from Zurich with a stop in Hong Kong back to Tokyo and on the same route. The company operates flights to destinations once a day.

Swiss, who were flying with Swiss mid-March from Japan back home to their ticket does not pay. The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) will take over the cost of repatriation. For evacuation in a crisis is at the EDA's annual budget of 400,000 Swiss francs. (Jak)

Created: 29.03.2011, 08:36 clock

Militante Attack winched AKW-Debates

In the industry organization Swiss Nuclear is a letter bomb explodes

The letter by bombing Olten shocked supporters and opponents of nuclear energy. With the volatile situation at the time of the NPP project Kaiseraugst can not compare the current situation anyway.

Interestingly, the reactor accident in Fukushima has not yet led to a hardening of the energy policy fronts. In contradiction to that statement, the attack is from Thursday morning in the offices of Swiss Nuclear in Olten, a trade and lobbying organization of the nuclear power plant operator, exploded when opening the mail a letter bomb. Two employees of Swiss Nuclear were injured in the attack and had to hospitalized. One could leave the hospital again on Thursday. The explosion was so strong that a subsidiary of UBS, which is in the same building, had to be temporarily closed. is evidence of their guilt, according to data of the Solothurn canton police are not present. The address on the envelope cartonlike was not written by hand, a claim of responsibility was not found. Also, the nature of the explosives, the police on Thursday made no specifications. For the investigations of the scientific service of the Canton Police of Zurich was invited to attend. Since explosives in the game, the office has opened an investigation.

Display:

At the offices of the nuclear power plant operators and companies to police vigilance. If it is the perpetrators were the militant NPP opponent is - what is obvious - have achieved this except horror and indignation, however, quite the opposite: a peaceful protest by some Greenpeace activists in front of the building of the power company Alpiq in Olten was, according to Greenpeace is terminated. The organization was dismayed, and distanced himself in any form: Nonviolence is the supreme principle, which all the Greenpeace activists were committed to the organization wrote. The Greens also condemned the act.

Urs Gasche, Chairman of the power company BKW, was "bitterly disappointed". He had in



the last few weeks get the feeling that would have defused by the events in Japan on energy policy and conflict is observed in the search for solutions are approximations, so Gasche. Even die-hard supporters of new nuclear power plant shows are seriously ready to deal with the new situation, and vice versa, are the opponents have hardly dogmatic tones heard. Many comments are of course tactically sophisticated. Perhaps the shock of reality has become residual risk, but actually led to a common denominator of nuclear power opponents and supporters.

Thus, the different mood than they were decades ago. Especially in connection with the project for a nuclear plant in Kaiseraugst there was violence. Sun 1979, a two-story information pavilion was destroyed by explosives - the ruin was not stopped for years. In the same year on the car of Michael Kohn committed an arson attack. Kohn has worked in senior positions for the power industry and also fought for the new plant in Kaiseraugst. In eastern Switzerland, committed to eco-terrorist Marco Camenisch late 1970s bomb attacks on electricity pylons.

Leuthard stops nuclear power process - Aargau postpones debate

Updated 03/14/2011 The Federal response to the serious problems with nuclear power plants in Japan. What about the nuclear power plant cooling in an emergency situation and the earthquake? Uncertain one is the power plant-Canton Aargau.

Doris Leuthard on Monday suspended the proceedings by the general license applications for new nuclear power plants in Switzerland. And the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate HSK initiates an existing nuclear plant early security check. Nuclear power plants in Switzerland were designed so that they can withstand an earthquake of magnitude 7, Leuthard said on Monday at noon in front of the media Bern. The generators of the new generation would be better described by the manufacturers for earthquakes or plane crashes prepared.

Perhaps after the events in Japan were adjustments to the safety of Switzerland needed. EXIST until fully studied, were the requests and the ongoing consultation with the cantons on ice. It was important to come to what conclusions the experts, as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA assessed the Japanese incidents. As it stands with the already scheduled referendums, could not say Leuthard.

No deadline set

How long the requests remain suspended, is also open. Leuthard set no deadlines. In the Japanese power plant in Fukushima, the problems with the cooling of the reactors were probably not by the quake itself, but triggered by the following tsunami. For the hour to be told any details.

Confidence in nuclear technology in Switzerland whether by the events in Japan struck ensure acknowledged Leuthard, who had made their support for nuclear power never made a secret. Switzerland, however, need large power stations, they would not fall into a power gap. The security but before going in any case, the suspension was reasonable given the situation.

Leuthard will better inform

Next announced Leuthard, to intensify in the media as alleged insufficient information. Lich daily would be a situation report on the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate on the



web.

In the morning, already the DETEC informed about the suspension of the proceedings. "The safety and welfare of the population have the highest priority," the energy minister left in a statement from the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) quote.

Federal Councillor Leuthard is severable from the agencies regularly informed on developments in Japan and orienting the entire Federal Council on the situation, sources said. Due to the recent assessment of the ENSI exists for the population in Switzerland is still no direct threat.

Inform people

Leuthard received on Monday morning, the Director of the Federal Office of Energy, Walter Steinmann, and ENSI-director Hans Wanner and other government officials. It also requested the ENSI to inform the population regularly sig.

Based on the latest development and the internal discussion decided Leuthard, to suspend the current proceedings about the three general license applications for replacement nuclear power plant until safety standards would be reviewed and modified if necessary. NPP Muhlenberg BE is already running a security check.

Earthquakes and cooling

Leuthard commissioned the ENSI, the causes of the accident in Japan to analyze precisely and to derive any new or more stringent safety standards, in particular issues concerning the seismic safety, and cooling.

The findings and conclusions from these studies should be incorporated into the assessment of the situation of existing and planned new nuclear plant. The general license applications for the replacement of existing nuclear power could only be aware of such investigations be assessed comprehensively.

Aargau adjourned debate

The federal Fachler ute are in constant contact with experts at the international level, notably with the experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the OECD and the EU. Federal Councillor Leuthard by the ENSI of the development in Japan kept up to date.

The government wants to postpone Aargauer after the accidents at Japanese nuclear power plants planned for Tuesday in the cantonal parliament debate on the adjustment of the structure plan for a new nuclear plant Beznau. Now you have the office of the Grand Council to decide.

Shops removed from the agenda

The unclear situation in Japan and the cases where securities under the federal government approval process have led to this decision, as the Government announced on Monday. Two shops to be removed from the agenda and provisionally suspended.

On the agenda of the Great Council to adapt the structure plan for a nuclear plant in Beznau ne ues and a hydroelectric plant on the river island Beznau were listed. Whether they are removed from the list, now decides the Office of the Great Council.

Waiting for report on problems in Japan

The government wants to bring these items on the agenda again as soon as a supplementary report is available on the consequences of the events in Japan for nuclear



power plant replacement projects. In addition, the government wants to see how the process of general license shall be continued.

Already on Sunday had the SP Aargau an immediate stop of all planning work for the construction of further nuclear power stations required in Switzerland. The Swiss Democrats also announced an interpellation concerning safety in nuclear power plants. (Oku / cpm / sda)

Created: 14.03.2011, 11:20 clock

General license applications for replacement nuclear power plant suspended

Federal Councillor Leuthard announces safety review of existing power plants

Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard on Monday down in response to the incidents in Japan under the permit applications for three new nuclear power stations in Switzerland on ice. Investigations should show whether a need for more stringent safety regulations.

(Sda) The seismic safety and reactor cooling to these investigations are important, said the head of the Department of Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) to the media in Bern.

In addition to the suspension of the applications associated Leuthard at the early safety testing of all existing nuclear plant. In this study nuclear Muhlenberg BE is already running. The tests, the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ensi) before.

Currently, Switzerland is not threatened with danger from Japan, said Leuthard. ENSI will provide people with information every day with a management report, the Federal Councillor responded to criticism of the information policy of the authorities.

Display:

Accurate analysis is arranged

Nuclear power plants are in Switzerland according to Leuthard designed so that they can withstand an earthquake measuring 7th The previous disastrous earthquakes in Switzerland - that of Basel 1356 - was subsequently estimated at 6.5 to 7. Such a quake is true for Switzerland as a millennium event.

Leuthard ENSI entrusted with a detailed analysis of the accident in Japan. The experts from the federal to this work with experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the OECD and the EU.

For the work Leuthard was no respite. It is unclear when the Federal Council decides on the general license. Originally it was planned in mid-2012.

Analysis before the sun will, identify themselves, whether Switzerland should adopt more stringent safety regulations, said Leuthard. The findings would be incorporated in the assessment of existing or planned nuclear power plant.

Shattered trust

Confidence in nuclear technology in Switzerland whether by the events in Japan struck ensure Leuthard admitted that has made its support for nuclear power never made any secret. Switzerland, however, need large power stations, they would not fall into a power



gap. The security but before going in any case, the suspension was reasonable given the situation.

In extending the operating license for the nuclear power plant Muhlenberg BE, a boiling water reactor like the one in Fukushima, the ball is currently in the judiciary. Federal Councillor Leuthard said the permit was challenged and therefore not the subject of debate. If the current review revealed safety deficiencies, the operation was stopped.

The three general license applications were filed in 2008. To apply for a permit at the location of the power company Alpiq Gösgen and corporations Axpo and BKW Beznau and Muhlenberg. ENSI all sites assessed as safe.

Atomic Energy critics happy - not civil

The parties have reacted differently to the decision Leuthard. For the FDP, the step is premature, in-depth analysis would have been appropriate. The People's Party said that it was natural that inspire insights from the events in Japan in existing nuclear power projects. Plans for new nuclear filibuster going, but did not.

SP and the Greens took the decision with satisfaction. The Swiss Energy Foundation (SES) described the suspension as a first step. Now the retreat was ordered to the contrary.

Support of Axpo

(sda) The power company Axpo supports the action by Federal Councillor Leuthard to suspend after the events in Japanese nuclear power plants under the new permit applications for Swiss nuclear power plants. As long as the exact facts about the nuclear accident in Japan and the reasons for the failure of the systems are not known, could the process of general license applications are not continued, it is stated in a press release by Axpo.

Whether it is justifiable to replace the nuclear power plants and Muhlenberg Beznau with new nuclear power plants could only be fully determined, if there is any evidence from Japan would be held the Axpo. Axpo include nuclear Beznau I and II, the energy group is also involved in the nuclear body area Gösgen.

The three groups Axpo, BKW Alpiq and had passed in December its plans for replacement of a joint nuclear planning company. The trio is now independent of the location of any new nuclear power plant involved. At federal requests for Beznau III, Gösgen II and Muhlenberg are pending.



ROMANIA

- Romanian exporters have formed the National Association of Exporters and Importers in Romania (ANEIR) cell intervention to support the reconstruction of Japan, local firms can provide estimates ANEIR, wooden materials of about \$ 200 million.
- President Traian Basescu said on Tuesday he talked with the director of the Institute of Physics of the Earth, Marmureanu, and argued that an earthquake is not likely to affect the Cernavoda nuclear power reactors.
- Nuclearelectrica operates at the Cernavoda plant safe for environment and population, and procurement of spare parts have complied with the legislation, representatives of the plant said Wednesday, refuting some of the information conveyed in the media.
- The criteria underlying the calamity resistance tests will be conducted at all nuclear power plants in the EU will be developed over the next six months, told AFP the president of the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control Borbala Vajda.
- Radioactive cloud from the nuclear plant arrived in Romania Fukushima Japan, experts say the "German Institute for Environmental Research, which says that particles are now at 2,500 meters altitude

Romanian exporters have formed the National Association of Exporters and Importers in Romania (ANEIR) cell intervention to support the reconstruction of Japan, local firms can provide estimates ANEIR, wooden materials of about \$ 200 million.

"In partnership with the Department of Foreign Trade of Romania, the Romanian Embassy in Tokyo, Japanese Embassy in Bucharest, JETRO and other organizations and private associative Japanese ANEIR took the initiative sent an offer of Romanian products in wooden building materials for maximum needed in areas destroyed during this period. In parallel are identified potential suppliers of such products from Romania, who have expressed readiness to organize their work through restructuring or additional work extended shifts or postponement of orders in progress with partners in other countries (with their consent) to prioritize deliveries to Japanese companies, "it said in a statement ANEIR. ANEIR Waiting for members of the Japan Association of timber importers to see which products are needed for reconstruction.

From initial estimates, ANEIR considers that the Romanian suppliers could deliver construction materials of wood, particularly from the resin, worth about \$ 200 million.

Source: Mediafax 31/03/2011

President Traian Basescu said on Tuesday he talked with the director of the Institute of Physics of the Earth, Marmureanu, and argued that an earthquake is not likely to affect the Cernavoda nuclear power reactors.

"I know our passion is to create problems and you do not have. I have all the information that indicates that the Cernavoda plant is safe. I talked with Mr. Marmureanu on seismic risks and being in Dobrogea, so the other side of the Danube than Vrancea earthquakes have a damper to the two nuclear reactors, "said Traian Basescu.

"There is the risk that an earthquake is currently difficult or unsafe to operate the two reactors operating," said Basescu.

Director of the Institute for Earth Physics, Marmureanu said Sunday, in the show "After 20 years" on Pro TV that President Traian Basescu called on to settle in the plant at Cernavoda, assuring him that he worked staff there and no problems.

"I spoke with President and I said to stay calm, because I did Cernavoda the earthquake, we used a lot - 32,000 pages of calculation, working with colleagues in the United States and from my point of view , there are problems with the NPP in any form, "said Marmureanu.

Source Mediafax 20/03/2011

Nuclearelectrica operates at the Cernavoda plant safe for environment and population, and procurement of spare parts have complied with the legislation, representatives of the plant said Wednesday, refuting some of the information conveyed in the media.

"The plant in Cernavoda is able to respond to events such as those in Fukushima, but we can not question the tsunami. There can be flooding, blizzards, gales. (...) Plant stability was checked, our ability safe to operate the plant was verified by international missions, the last in November 2010, "said Director General of Cernavoda, Ionel Bucur.

Nuclearelectrica, the operator of the Cernavoda nuclear plant, then announced that the unit has been designed to withstand earthquakes of magnitude eight on the Richter scale, and earthquakes can be produced in Romania may have a maximum intensity within 7-7, 5 degrees.

The plant's two nuclear reactors in Cernavoda provides almost 20% of national electricity needs.

Source: Mediafax 18/03/2011



The criteria underlying the calamity resistance tests will be conducted at all nuclear power plants in the EU will be developed over the next six months, told AFP the president of the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control Borbala Vajda.

"Stress tests will be applied at each nuclear unit in the EU, but will be differentiated according to regional specificities and technology. The criteria for application will be developed by a group of experts in the next six months," said Vajda.

Japanese nuclear power plant from damage from Fukushima, EU Energy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger convened last week, a meeting with representatives of EU member governments, the nuclear regulatory authorities, industry and nuclear technology designers. The participants agreed that the security operation of the 143 nuclear units in the EU to be checked by applying stress tests, after which the operation is developed operating standards for each nuclear unit.

"It will test the behavior of each power plant in extreme events. Resistance tests are anyway, but this time will be considered in extreme situations", said Vajda. Source: Mediafax 03/22/2011

Radioactive cloud from the nuclear plant arrived in Romania Fukushima Japan, experts say the "German Institute for Environmental Research, which says that particles are now at 2,500 meters altitude.

Experts say that if it is raining radioactive substances will reach the soil and water, inform stirileprotv.ro.

Japan polluted air mass will cross Romania in two days. Now the cloud of radioactive particles is at 2500 meters altitude, and tomorrow we will have another one at 5000 meters. Fortunately monitoring also does not give us cause for concern. If specialists soil samples taken daily. They arrive in the laboratory, where they are dried at a temperature of 100 degrees Celsius. Once the soil is blended and then analyzed. The test results are reassuring: the amount of isotope is hundreds or even thousands of times lower than the rate of alarm. Source: Mediafax 25/03/2011



FRANCE

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Germany : the reactions to the moratorium

http://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2011/04/01/les-geants-de-l-energie-allemande-contre-le-moratoire-sur-le-nucleaire_1501684_3234.html

The German energy giants against the moratorium on nuclear

The number two German energy, RWE, said Friday it filed a complaint against the forced closure of one of its nuclear reactors, decided by the German government as part of a moratorium on the atom. "The German nuclear power plants meet the requirements of safety regulations. It lacks a legal basis for their arrest," the group argued in a statement. He said he had entered the court in Kassel.

The German government had ordered two weeks ago the shutdown for at least three months of the seven oldest reactors in the country for a thorough review of their safety in light of the disaster at Fukushima in Japan. This decision concerns a total of two reactors at RWE Biblis A and Biblis B, Hesse. Biblis B reactor is located, however, already shut down for maintenance, forced outage only applies to Biblis A. The number one German Energy, EON, whose two reactors are affected by this "moratorium", he has decided not to complain directly. But according to the press he could attack the government on a different aspect, namely the entry into force of a tax on nuclear fuel.

This tax is considered an industrial compensation in exchange for the extension of twelve years of the life of their 17 nuclear reactors, given last year by the conservative-liberal coalition led by Chancellor Angela Merkel after a campaign frenzied nuclear lobby. But now that suspension was questioned, and it also seems clear that according to some media off at eight power will never permit restart.

The German energy giant had remained silent at first about the decision of the government, anxious not to rush a public opinion already very hostile to nuclear power and not to further complicate the task of the government of Angela Merkel before a crucial regional elections held Sunday.

This resulted in a victory for Greens.

France

About safety of nuclear reactors :

<http://www.rfi.fr/science/20110404-professionnels-nucleaire-francais-s-interroge-voix-haute>

The French nuclear professionals wondering aloud

Nobody can ever guarantee that there will never be serious nuclear accident in France ": the sentence, dropped a few days ago by André-Claude Lacoste, Chairman of the Nuclear Safety Authority in France (ASN) , made me shudder. Three weeks after the trauma of Fukushima, France is engaged in a "feedback" or learn how a nuclear accident.

Breaches of security of TEPCO, the operator of the central Japanese have come to light with the nuclear disaster Fukushima: lies to the Japanese nuclear authorities, negligence in the maintenance of plants and especially ignorance of cumulative risk an earthquake followed by tsunami.

In response the French Prime Minister Francois Fillon has ordered an audit of ASN all nuclear facilities in France, starting with its 58 reactors.

To Andre-Claude Lacoste, its president, "ASN will see if there are grounds to reconsider the rules quickly related to nuclear safety. The Prime Minister asked us to watch 5 subjects, appropriate for themselves: the seismic hazard, the hazard related to floods, loss of water supply, loss of power and management crisis ".



A general lack of anticipation

Created in 2006, the ASN, a sort of policeman of the nuclear conducts annual safety inspections on French nuclear facilities. In its latest report highlights a general lack of anticipation in the maintenance and replacement of the reactors.

Olivier Gepts, vice-president of the ASN, cites "the replacement of steam generators, which are major components of the plant, the plant Bugey 3. They arrived at the end of life before the EDF has not replaced and this has led to what the center remains stationary for about twenty months. "

Nuclear safety in France can be greatly improved

Each nuclear incident shall be reported to the ASN by the operator before being checked and a report from the regulator that the class, depending on its severity on a scale from 0 7. Some 1,107 accidents were reported in France in 2010, including 3 Level 2, which correspond to significant contamination of a worker.

Nuclear safety in France can be greatly improved. The Commission for Independent Research and Information on Radioactivity (CRIIRAD) shares the view. Yet the issue of a new audit of the French nuclear industry is widely debated.

For its president, Roman Desbordes, "this amounts to asking the policeman to his self-criticism is difficult to obtain. It would in fact there is real independent experts in the field, unfortunately, to my knowledge none exist. Seen as it is asked to inspectors, which is the daily grind, to redo their work, they interpret as a lack of confidence, it's a bit shocking. Also I do not think they will very critical reports, this would be what they are challenging themselves. "

"The biggest concern in France is not the seismic risk"

One question, though slightly tackled by the 2010 report of the ASN is not incorporated into the forthcoming audit: the professional status of some 20,000 sub-contractors in the nuclear sector, as well as employees of EDF, which exploits the power-factor in the weakness of nuclear safety, which they have responsibility.

For Michel Lallier, a chemist retired from the Chinon power plant (in the Indre-et-Loire) and representative of the CGT in the High Committee for Transparency and Public Information on Nuclear Security, "when contracts are reviewed every three years, we can see companies working for 3, 6 or 9 years old who landed a beautiful day with new employees who do not know the history of this maintenance, which have everything to learn, they are not working conditions conducive to the nuclear industry. This is not necessarily the seismic risk that is of most concern in nuclear power plants today. You need a security approach in all its dimensions; much technical as organizational and human. "

The issue of working conditions of employees of nuclear power, however, is not integrated with the audit findings that are expected by the end of 2011. ASN advance it, that "outsource provider to a business activity does not mean it will be carried out under safe conditions. "

And she cites several hypotheses to strengthen nuclear security in France to create a fleet of diesel backup generators on all nuclear facilities or power plants located along the coast or install diesel generators on the cliffs on which they are built rather than below. Precautions that were not taken into account in Fukushima



Marie-Pierre Comets, Commissioner of the Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) / audit of central French

The audit will focus on five areas: flood, earthquake, power loss, loss of cooling and operational management of accidental situation (...). Alongside the French process should establish a European process.

Greenpeace is expanding its field surveys around Fukushima

The environmental movement Greenpeace announced this Monday, April 4, 2011 have extended his surveys of radioactivity around the plant accident in Fukushima, Japan. A second team of experts and will carry out tests on samples of milk and vegetables in order to determine more precisely the risks to the population. This is in addition to the records surface made so far.

Greenpeace accuses the Japanese authorities including to provide answers "sporadic and inconsistent" thus leaving the local population "in confusion. " By making further steps "we hope to provide independent analysis and clear information to people concerned, "said Rianne Teule, radiation expert at Greenpeace.

From March 30, Greenpeace estimated that the evacuation area of 20 km around the plant in Fukushima was insufficient and should be expanded to 10 kilometers. Also according to the environmental organization, certain areas beyond the perimeter evacuated thus have higher infection rates in some areas closer to the central hilly.

About stress tests in France and in Europe :

http://www.lepoint.fr/fil-info-reuters/sarkozy-promet-de-jouer-le-jeu-des-stress-tests-nucleaires-25-03-2011-1311400_240.php

<http://ecologie.blogs.liberation.fr/euro-ecolos/2011/03/nucl%C3%A9aire-la-promesse-bidon-de-sarkozy.html>

Sarkozy promises to play the game of "stress tests" nuclear

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - all French nuclear power plants will be subject to future testing of organized resistance in Europe and if one of them it fails it will be closed, Nicolas Sarkozy said Friday.

At a European summit in Brussels, the Heads of State and Government of the European Union have agreed to conduct stress tests on the 143 common nuclear reactors operating on the continent, to reassess the standards existing security in light of the accident at Fukushima in Japan.

"The European Commission will establish the framework of controls, standards and controls, independent nuclear safety authorities will carry out these checks, these checks will make public, and the European Nuclear Regulators Association will judge the seriousness or lack of such controls "said the head of state.

"All tests will be conducted in France, all results will be published and if the tests were inconclusive, we would draw immediate consequences and there is only one consequence is the closure, " he said.

Asked about the fate that may be reserved to the central Fessenheim, Alsace, the oldest in operation in France and whose anti-nuclear organizations called for the closure, the President said it would depend on test results.

He also said that before closing a plant to conduct necessary studies would not be a



decision likely to reassure the population.

"If we had evidence suggesting that Fessenheim is dangerous, it must be closed immediately (...) I do not have any of these items on my desk today so I have no reason to take this decision," he said.

HIGH STANDARDS

While Europeans are divided on the future of nuclear power in Europe and the elements of a common energy policy, Nicolas Sarkozy has insisted that he had been recalled to Brussels that the energy mix was the exclusive Member States.

The conclusions of the summit, leaders of Twenty-Seven call that the new European safety standards meet "the highest standards possible" and that "stress tests" are carried out as soon as possible based on the expertise available, particularly that of the Association of Regulators of Western Europe (WENRA).

Gold WENRA, created in 1999 at the initiative of the French Nuclear Safety Authority, adopted in November of new principles governing the construction of third-generation reactors, for which France currently leads the world with the EPR reactor developed by Areva.

At an extraordinary meeting of EU energy ministers in Brussels on Monday, Eric Besson had already recognized the need to "generalize the security objectives adopted by the third generation WENRA.

"France already has the EPR of a product called third generation, so we have a number of strengths to talk about the nuclear future," he said.

Four EPRs are under construction - one in Finland, one in France and two in China - and Areva is negotiating the sale of some twenty such reactors by highlighting their safety, built on the lessons learned from accidents at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, as well as the risks identified by the attacks of September 11, 2001.

Paris hopes to reassure its European partners. After the accident in Fukushima, Germany has suspended the operations of seven nuclear power plants built before 1980, Italy has agreed a one-year moratorium on any new plant and Bulgaria has frozen a plant project.

BLOG- Nucléaire: la promesse bidon de Sarkozy

Nuclear tin Sarkozy's promise

"If a plant does not pass safety tests, it will be closed, it is clear," Nicolas Sarkozy vowed Friday to the output of the European Council where states have decided to implement stress tests (stress tests) for European nuclear power plants. Nicolas Sarkozy's promise of no great consequence. Indeed, the process of nuclear stress tests stress tests based bank directly led by the European Commission in 2010. And seems to want to use the same principles absurd. Therefore, the results of these stress tests are fairly widely known in advance: all European reactors or nearly successful tests.

Like banks, operators realize the nuclear tests themselves under the control of national nuclear safety authorities. However, it is likely that the French Nuclear Safety Authority will be reluctant to report dangerous reactors it has authorized the operation so far without finding fault. The example of bank stress tests showed that national regulators are often



willing to bend the rules to ensure good results in their national champions. It is unlikely otherwise of nuclear regulators.

Indeed, failure stress test, the plant closure would be in many cases the only solution. Unlike banks, which can be recapitalized by injecting billions of euros, strengthen the resistance of an existing power plant to natural disasters is far from clear. If it is possible to note some dykes, it seems impossible to change the structure of a plant to make example more resistant to earthquakes. The central Fessenheim could thus easily be moved in a region with low seismic risk more! Therefore, the criteria for successful nuclear stress tests may not be set for different events as possible but the capacity of existing plants to take the tests.

In July 2010, the Irish Banking Authority had said all Irish banks had passed the stress test successfully ... Barely six months later, Irish banks would be recapitalized emergency cornering the Irish Government to seek assistance from its European partners. Make sure we do not experience the same scenario in the nuclear tests by requiring mandatory, independent and robust with hypotheses tested are discussed in advance with civil society and implementation driven by an independent state as operators nuclear power plants. We see how the banking lobby has managed to ensure that the policy response to the financial crisis of 2008 did not fundamentally change the rules of the game Hopefully the nuclear lobby does not even after the dramatic events of Japan.



CAMEROON

- DRC: Key Centre for Nuclear Studies Kinshasa
- Russian and French took turns to nuclear power project in Nigeria
- Nigeria wants to start producing nuclear energy

DRC: Key Centre for Nuclear Studies Kinshasa



The wave of anxiety about the nuclear disaster in Japan does not save Africa. In Kinshasa, the Atomic Energy Commissioner was keen to reassure the Congolese state of the nuclear reactor, the first built in Africa. Asleep for seven years, it nevertheless remains a potential danger, as radioactive waste still stored at the site. Report.

"We follow what is happening in Japan overnight. We are concerned," says Professor Vincent Lukanda Mwamba, Commissioner General for Atomic Energy of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). His office, hidden behind a padded door way minister, is less than twenty meters from the reactor in Congo.

We are at the Regional Centre for Nuclear Studies Kinshasa, Cren-K, a blue and white building, surrounded by towering trees and wild grasses on the hills overlooking the university Congolese megalopolis.

It is not possible without ministerial authorization from approaching or photographing reactor. We can, however, by sticking his nose in the glass smoke, seen from the lobby, just one second behind glass door. Here, no biometric or fingerprint recognition. To open, just a key.
17/03/2011

Russian and French took turns to nuclear power project in Nigeria 📅 26 novembre 2010 | 🧑 Auteur: [admin](#)

Last June, Mr. Kiriienko has announced its intention to sign an intergovernmental agreement with Lagos on cooperation in civilian nuclear energy. He stressed that the agreement was already prepared and that the Russian side hoped his prompt signature. According to the director of Rosatom, it is a document on building a nuclear reactor and a research, training specialists, and other issues, including nuclear safety.

According to Mr. Kiriienko, the agreement was prepared at the initiative of Nigeria in the record time of three months after the signing in March, a memorandum of cooperation between the two countries. However, said the head of Rosatom, it is still premature to discuss concrete projects.

In this Thursday, November 25, 2010, Nigeria has reiterated its commitment to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the country. The Nigerian Minister of Science and Technology Muhammed Abubakar has reiterated that position Wednesday in Abuja at a meeting with a French delegation.

The Nigerian government wants to solve the energy problem which the country is facing through the construction of nuclear power plants in accordance with the standards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The federal government is ready to work in partnership with all progressive country to develop nuclear energy in Nigeria, Abubakar said.



Alain Bugat, head of the French delegation, for its part, admitted that he had a mission on this visit to Nigeria to provide advice to countries on the construction of nuclear plants. Mr Bugat said his company NucAdvisors, would play an advisory role in the construction and production of nuclear electricity. He said NucAdvisors offers solutions for nuclear energy over 20 countries through partnerships.

Nigeria wants to start producing nuclear energy

Ouestafnews - Nigeria aims to obtain 10,000 megawatts from nuclear power in the next 10 to 12 years, has learned Ouestafnews authoritative source.

"It would make more sense, economically speaking, to obtain 10,000 megawatts, unlike the original plan, which intended to generate 1,000 megawatts of nuclear power from 10 to 12 years,"said Shamsideen Elegba, Director General of Nuclear Regulatory Authority of Nigeria, quoted by the daily The Punch.

Mr. Elegba said that Nigeria's ambition is to obtain a total 30,000 MW by combining hydro, thermal and nuclear power. A"from the gas, it is possible to obtain 10,000 megawatts. So if we want this to be feasible, we will need more than one site of nuclear energy,"said Shamsideen Elegba.

He explained that the production of 10,000 megawatts from nuclear power is a good sign for a partnership between business and technology acquisition.

Thursday, December 4, 2008



GREECE



GREECE

The Greek Minister of Environment will ask for stricter controls at nuclear reactors, which are or will be built in the countries of the European Union and its neighbors, at the temporary Council of Ministers of Energy, who will meet on Monday in Brussels. **March 18, 2011/ Ta Nea (Greek Newspaper)**



ICELAND

- European nuclear power plants will be tested (www.mbl.is 13/03/2011)
- To be feared radioactivity (www.mbl.is 03/22/2011)
- Low on food imported from Japan (www.mbl.is 24/03/2011)



European nuclear power plants will be tested (www.mbl.is 13/03/2011)

Kjarnorkuverið at Sellafield. Reuters

Austrians want to conduct tests of nuclear power plants in Europe to assess how the Tory of a catastrophe such as those made in Japan. Declared emergency in two nuclear plants in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami that hit the country on Friday.

Environment of Austria, Nikolaus Berlakovich, said he would urge European Union to perform stress testing in nuclear power plants in Europe and compared them with the stress tests that baknakerfi continent underwent following the economic collapse in 2008. He says that the tests should be taken to safety in the presence and activity of cooling and insulating core split in the quake will be.

Berlakovich also said that Europe should take its position to consider nuclear power, but Austrian authorities object to the use of nuclear energy.

Berlakovich will submit its request for a meeting of the Environment European Union, which is held in Brussels tomorrow.

To be feared radioactivity (www.mbl.is 03/22/2011)

Fukushima kjarnorkuverið in Japan. Reuters

Radiation Protection Agency say that there is no reason to fear the radioactivity in Iceland or Europe, due to nuclear accident in Japan.

Radioactive material from nuclear accident in Japan have been to Europe, claiming to radiation now can confirm that a small man-made radioactivity has been detected in the station operated by the institution.

The Agency says that can be expected that the radioactive material from nuclear accident in Japan stands remain, and other parts of Europe in the coming days and weeks. The materials can be measurable across the globe, similar to the ash from the eruption, but the radiation from the in remote areas average completely overshadowed by the radiation of a man-made and natural and health effects of such remote areas are not.

Can be expected to radiate its effectiveness can be 1 / 1000 - 1 / 10000 part of what was in Europe after the accident in 1986, when Tsjeróbyl was very little radioactivity in.

Low on food imported from Japan (www.mbl.is 24/03/2011)

Some of the rice imported from Japan to Iceland. Reuters

Relatively small amount of food is imported from Japan to Iceland. Mostly it is a soy sauces, rice and seaweed. Most foods produced in Japan to Iceland to Europe and have now been measured with regard to radioactive substances.

According to a press release from the Food and Veterinary Authority. Emissions of radioactive substances into the atmosphere has taken place in the wake náttúruhamfaranna in Japan. Japanese food products manufactured before 11 March does not contain significant quantities of radioactive materials.

Most foods produced in Japan to Iceland to Europe and have now been measured with regard to radioactive substances. Has been urged to be measured radioactivity in food with imports to Europe. Iceland is a member of the pan-European alert system RASFF (Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed). It delivers fast of any changes concerning food including radioactivity. Food will closely monitor any reports of radioactive materials in food and respond if necessary.

Authorities in Japan and taking orders from the market foods that are the signs and Food said that therefore it is no risk of contaminated food in the market here.



NIGERIA

- Senegal's Wade hopes to build nuclear power plant
- Ghana web.



NIGERIA:

In the wake of Japan's nuclear crisis, Nigerians have called for an urgent review of the country's decision to go into nuclear energy generation in a bid to solve its power problems. Nigeria decided in 2008 to build nuclear reactors for power generation. In June of that year, the G8 expressed serious concerns over Nigeria's quest for nuclear energy, citing concerns over safety and security. Surprisingly, in December 2009, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) approved Nigeria's application to build a nuclear reactor in Abuja. Construction is scheduled to begin this very year, with the nuclear plant being fully functional by 2017. However, the Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NNRA) has been working on various regulatory issues to ensure that the country's nuclear ambition has a solid foundation. But the new Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission — another governmental agency — has challenged the NNRA's right to execute the nation's nuclear plans, saying it has the mandate to do this and that the NNRA should only regulate it. Apart from having access to skilled experts and smaller reactors, countries also need to have the stability and political strength for long-lasting research and technology collaborations and the exchange of expertise.

CONGO:

Recently in Congo, the commissioner of the Kinshasa Regional Centre for Nuclear Studies (CREN), Vincent Lukanda Muamba, in a press conference said that The Democratic Republic of Congo's lone nuclear research reactor is idle but safe, authorities said in the wake of Japan's recent nuclear emergency. He says that even though "natural disasters are unpredictable", he insisted that the Kinshasa reactor was built "in a non-seismic area, far from the ocean" and ruled out an accident similar to the unfolding disaster at Japan's Fukushima nuclear reactor in the wake of the devastating earthquake and tsunami.

SENEGAL

Senegal's Wade hopes to build nuclear power plant

By Diadie Ba

DAKAR, March 14 | Wed Mar 14, 2007 2:27pm GMT

(Reuters) - Senegal's newly re-elected President Abdoulaye Wade has contacted foreign experts to advise on building a nuclear power plant, part of an ambitious programme to develop the country's creaking infrastructure.

The issue of nuclear power was brought up at yesterday's cabinet meeting in Dakar by Energy Minister Samuel Améte Sarr, in presence of Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade. He said the French government had offered Senegal aid to build its first nuclear power plant.

During the last week, several statements to the press by Senegalese government officials indicated the West African country was considering nuclear energy. Energy Ministry spokesman Malick Ndaw on Tuesday said a nuclear plant in Senegal could be online already in 2020. Later this week, he had to go back on his statement, emphasising nothing had yet



been decided, feasibility studies were still necessary and that it would take a long time before Senegal could benefit from nuclear power.

That the Senegalese nevertheless are serious about considering nuclear electricity was demonstrated at yesterday's cabinet meeting, where President Wade requested detailed information from his Energy Minister after the latter's recent visit in France.

According to the Ministry of Energy, electricity demands are increasing at a yearly rate of 7 percent. Meanwhile, energy production facilities are built at a slower scale and electricity supplies are increasingly erratic. The Ministry has been given standing orders to seek alternative energy supplies by President Wade.

GHANA

Ghana web.

The Deputy Director-General of the Commission, Prof. Yaw Serfor-Armah assured the public in an interview with the Public Agenda at Kwabenya, the location of Ghana's nuclear reactor, last Wednesday that by geological studies the earthquake recently experienced in Japan is not a phenomenon of the Atlantic Coast. That notwithstanding, he said, the Commission together with other state agencies has put together an emergency response team in view of the fact that occasionally the country experiences earthquakes and tremors. The team comprising of personnel from the Commission, the Ghana National Fire Service, the Police Service, the Military, National Disaster Management Organisation and medical personnel has been periodically carrying out simulation exercises. "We periodically carry out pre-empts so as to be abreast with management of emergency situations if they should occur," he said.

Prof. Sefor-Armah said, the reactor also has other safety mechanisms to ensure that, there are no leakages.

The worry of Prof. Sefor-Armah about the Ghana programme, however, is that developers are fast encroaching the radiological zone, the land bank bordering the reactor. "We are not saying an accident should occur, but should it happen these encroachers, especially those in Musuko, Obahema, Kwabenya will be at a very high risk."

He said the unfortunate situation in Japan serve as a reminder to Ghana and other nations with atomic reactors to be alert all the time.



Czech Republic

- Existing nuclear installations in the Czech Republic
- *Nuclear energy and hope the problem?*



Existing nuclear installations in the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic had two operating nuclear installations covered by the Convention on Nuclear Safety – both operated by the ČEZ, a. s. company:

Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant (Dukovany NPP) with four reactor units of VVER 440/213 type. The units were commissioned in the following years as follows (years in brackets are the

dates of issue of final inspection approvals according to Building Act)

Unit 1 - 1985 (1988)

Unit 2 - 1986 (1988)

Unit 3 - 1987 (1989)

Unit 4 - 1987 (1990)

And

Temelín Nuclear Power Plant (Temelín NPP) with two reactor units VVER 1000/320. Both units were put into operation in accordance with the Atomic Act in 2004. Final inspection approvals according to the Building Act for both units were issued in 2006.

Source: National Report under the Convention on Nuclear Safety, 2010, The State Office for Nuclear Safety

Nuclear energy and hope the problem?

Czech to English translation

The most dynamic development of nuclear energy seems to expect. It currently covers about a third of electricity consumption in the Czech Republic. Despite the tragic events in Japan in March this year it is expected that its share will increase in the future. As with the completion of a nuclear power plant, due to the expected use of the fourth generation of reactors by 2040.

Development of nuclear power also means enhancing energy self-sufficiency, reliability and security of supply. CR is liable, if necessary, use its own uranium reserves, which is within the European Union a unique advantage.

Our country is certainly not the only one that deals with the development of nuclear energy. It is a global renaissance of this energy source seems to bring in the next few years, the most significant changes.

For comparison, currently the world's 442 operational nuclear reactors. Another 65 reactors are under construction, building 135 more are in preparation in the planning stage is almost 300 other reactors. Nuclear energy is developing rapidly worldwide. Currently, at some stage of preparation of nearly 500 reactors, which would double the number of existing ones.

Some slowdown in nuclear development, however, could mean the current collapse of nuclear power plants in Japan. It will undoubtedly comprehensively and rationally discuss the safety of such equipment and engineers will have to devise even better provide service in emergency situations.

You'll also need to test for resistance to natural disasters in both older and new power plants. Neighbouring Germany has acceded to such a step, despite the fact that just as our country has the advantage that lies in a seismically quiet area. For



Plant went through similar stress tests have to negotiate the Melk Agreement.

Source: *Martin Kocourek, Minister of Industry and Trade, Hospodarske noviny, part Energetika, 28th March 2011*



Lithuania

- Residents are invited to sign a petition against the construction of nuclear Lithuania
- Kubilius: findings of a new nuclear plant construction - cooling emotions
- State Defense Council - on the outskirts of the nuclear construction Lithuania (added 9.15).

Residents are invited to sign a petition against the construction of nuclear Lithuania

<http://ikrauk.15min.lt/aktualu/30201>

18th March 2011. | News, written by Agnes Patackaitė



Nuclear

accidents, radioactive wastes and their illnesses, deaths, environmental pollution and the threat of nuclear weapons if the nuclear industry is accompanied by a curse from the source: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Chalk River, Majak, Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and now - and Fukushima

Nuclear is dangerous, costly and long-term detrimental effects on future generations causing the kind of energy production. It can not be considered to combat climate change, energy security or collateral for nuclear power plants (NPP) is produced only electricity. New plant construction is creating tensions and discord between the parties. These projects are unnecessary, dangerous and expensive to be implemented without adequate public debate.

We, the undersigned Lithuanian and foreign citizens who oppose new nuclear power plants (NPP) construction:

- Belarus, Michailiškių village Astravo area (50 km from Vilnius)
- In Russia, the Kaliningrad region near Neman (Ragainė)
- Lithuania, Visaginas.

We call on authorities to follow common sense and take responsibility for its citizens and future generations. We call Belarus, Russian Federation and the government of Lithuania to abandon nuclear power plant construction plans in the region to



cooperate more actively in the development and safe renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

Solidarizuojamės all the people of Belarus and Russia, which opposes nuclear power stations for their children and grandchildren a more secure future and a better neighborhood with Lithuania and surrounding countries.

Live safely and peacefully without a shadow of a nuclear monster. You can sign the petition [here](#)

Kubilius: findings of a new nuclear plant construction - cooling emotions

<http://www.statybajums.lt/nauijena/akubilius: isvados del naujos atomines jėgainės statybu atausus emocijoms>

Lithuanian to English translation

2011/03/17

Decisions on new nuclear power plant in Lithuania should be taken with the conclusions of international experts and cool emotions arising after the events in Japan, Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius said.

"At this time, waiting for the conclusions of international experts, and we hope that they will bind to much more stringent monitoring the binding to all those who planned to build new nuclear power, as well as our neighboring Belarus and Kaliningrad, " - said Radio News on Thursday Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius.

He said that all the conclusions of a new nuclear power plant in Lithuania to do cooling emotions.

The Prime Minister pointed out that Japan's problems came from one of the oldest nuclear power stations.

"The fact that the biggest disaster, Japan's biggest woes hit quite a long time already built nuclear power plant. It was built several decades ago under the old technology, the old safety standards. At that time, the latest advanced nuclear power plant withstood a pretty good test of shocking, how a huge earthquake and giant tsunami, " - said Kubilius.

Chairman of the Seimas, Irene Degutiene has said that Japan's burden on the investor's tragedy into a new nuclear plant in Lithuania searches.

Lithuania is currently negotiating directly with potential investors in the Visaginas nuclear power plant in Lithuania during a decade, wants to build along with Latvia, Estonia and Poland with the participation of foreign investors.

Japan's north-east of the earthquake and tsunami devastated the nuclear power plant Fukushima were several explosions and leaks of radioactive materials.



The nuclear crisis in Japan is the largest of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings during World War II.

State Defense Council - on the outskirts of the nuclear construction Lithuania (added 9.15).

<http://www.diena.lt/naujienos/lietuva/valstybes-gynimo-taryboje-apie-atominiu-statyba-lietuvos-pasoneje-papildyta-9-15-val-340205>

2011-03-23, 08:33

On Wednesday morning, sat in the Presidential Palace of the State Defense Council.

Agenda for the meeting has not been published. Just mentioned, that should be discussed with the energy and this weekend in Brussels, the European Union summit meeting issues.

After an hour-long meeting of the Office of the President circulated a brief statement: "There was a closed meeting of the State Defence Council, headed by the Lithuanian President said. During a meeting, to discuss the North Atlantic Council decisions and the preparation of the European Council."

This Thursday and Friday in Brussels on the EU Summit will be a lot of attention to the economic community development issues, as well as stories - Libyan bombing and earthquake and a nuclear crisis, Japan Atomic Energy security issues.

Previously, the State Defense Council to convene a meeting on near the Lithuanian border, just a half a century of kilometers away from Vilnius is planned to build the Belarusian nuclear power plant proposed by the Minister Masiulis.

Earlier this week the Government held a secret meeting discussed in particular, what steps can be taken from Lithuania, the Belarusians and Russians plan to build nuclear power plants near the borders of our country. Among other things offered to urge the EU to adopt a decision to prohibit the purchase of electricity from third parties build unsafe plants. Such a proposal may be submitted at the EU summit.

Defence Council meeting and discussed the participation of NATO-led attack Muammar Gaddafi of Libya's military facilities.

The State Defense Council under President duties include Grybauskaite, Chairman of the Seimas, Irene Degutiene, Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius, Defence Minister Rasa Jukneviene and Armed Forces Commander Brigadier General Arvydas Pocius. In addition, usually in Council meetings is welcome Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Parliamentary National Security and Defense Committee, the State Security Department and other special services directors.



Iraq

- geologist: the radiation effect on Japan's nuclear Lebanon must control
- Aktorp to the Middle East, Japan's nuclear leaks
- Kuwaiti expert: a devastating earthquake hit Iran and the accompanying tsunami will hit all the Gulf countries and Iraq's territorial
- The Dangers of the Iranian Nuclear Power
- Iran is the biggest danger



Arabic to English translation

geologist: the radiation effect on Japan's nuclear Lebanon must control

www.bintjbeil.org/

Arabic to English translation

Said a geologist Ali Haider "The earthquake does not currently a threat to Lebanon, " adding that "Lebanon safe today as yesterday, but some attributed the forecast to the previous incidents. " He said that Haider "the real danger is only in the event of an earthquake happened as the South could lead to a tsunami reaches the limits of the maximum height of two meters. " As explained Haidar that "the explosion of the nuclear reactor in Japan affect Bicaaath lightly on Lebanon", calling across the "new" Lebanese state to begin monitoring the degree of radiation and examination of imported food. "He pointed Haider that "the north of Israel is more likely than Lebanon to earthquakes and timely Risk will be affected by Lebanon's largest nuclear radiation following the explosion or leakage of nuclear reactor

Arabic to English translation

Aktor to the Middle East, Japan's nuclear leaks

Sheikh Fathi

GMT 6:26:00 2011 Saturday, April 2

www.elaph.com

Expert said the Atomic Energy Authority in Egypt said the leaks of nuclear Japan would not affect the Middle East for several reasons.

Fathi Sheikh from Cairo: Dr. Mohi al-Issawi, an expert on nuclear safety, the Atomic Energy Authority in Egypt, there is no danger to Egypt and the Middle East, from leaks of nuclear in Japan for several reasons, most important, geographical distance and the presence of pressure distributions current that makes the direction of paths winds hinder any move of the radioactive fumes to the region, in a seminar entitled "Facing disaster, Japan and the explosion of nuclear reactors," held in Alexandria.

He said al-Issawi in the symposium said Maouka in Japan is difficult to happen in Egypt to the different types of reactors Japanese from the Egyptians and the different techniques that are used in the operation of each, pointing out that Egypt is also far from the level of earthquakes, however, said al-Issawi that leaks explosion reactors Japanese unless are controlled, that would cause contamination of the environment and the corruption of large tracts of land and thus a shortage of food in the world.

For his part, Samir Jamal, head of the Division for Oversight of radiological Atomic Energy Authority, during the symposium that what happened from the leaks of nuclear Japan recently is because when the tsunami hit, and not because of failure to nuclear safety in Japan, pointing out that the reactors, the Japanese were



equipped to receive those disaster up to a maximum rate of 8.2 degrees Richter, but came earthquake reverse is expected to reach to 8.9 degrees Richter, stressing that the land was distributed mass only move the earth's axis or the equivalent of 17 centimeters, and the transfer of the Japanese islands for a place about 4.2 square meters in addition to that caused lack today is part of a second, which could affect climate, there were 160 aftershocks of the earthquakes during the first 24 hours of the incident.

And on the results of what happened in Japan and its impact on the world, said Dr. Mohammad Jafar, a professor of safety Atomic Energy Authority, said that nuclear projects future in the whole world will stop temporarily at least to show results from an event in Japan of bombings in the reactor and the reasons, but for the risk of leaks confirmed that leaks Japan in the high gravity because of the wind, especially if changes have led the air and the movement of wind to move the dust radiation to the outside of Japan and caused damage to neighboring countries and warned that Japan will need for years to be able to overcome its influence in peace, and will be a daunting task to dissolve and the dismantling of reactors that have expired and disposal of nuclear waste and radiation from the sediment in the soil and water.

Kuwaiti expert: a devastating earthquake hit Iran and the accompanying tsunami will hit all the Gulf countries and Iraq's territorial

<http://www.albawwaba.net/>

Warning of disaster in the region similar to what happened in Japan

Kuwaiti expert: a devastating earthquake hit Iran and the accompanying tsunami will hit all the Gulf countries and Iraq's territorial

On the impact of the concerns raised by the earthquake and tsunami that accompanies it, and that hit Japan recently and is still its dangerous consequences, as of this moment, warned an expert Kuwaiti earthquakes today a devastating earthquake hit Iran, without revealing the date of incidence, but the threat and its dimensions will reach the countries of the Persian Gulf.

Watan newspaper quoted the Kuwaiti Thursday 03/24/2011, all expert seismology and assistant director of Kuwait University for Scientific Affairs Dr. Ferial Borabie saying: The devastating earthquake epicenter Iran contained very hindsight, and in accordance with the data of historical, scientific, calling for the abandonment of nuclear projects in the region , even though the project aims to produce electric power.

And suggested Borabie to reach the quake expected 8 degrees on the Richter balance, which will be with him and there is Iran's Bushehr reactor disaster for the region stretching effects in all directions, including the Arab Gulf region of the promised effects of a powerful earthquake and tsunami waves that would accompany the earthquake. She wondered: Do we take the necessary precautions to reduce the risks of this quake when it happens?

Borabie and noted that the epicenter of the quake will be in the region "Almakran south-east Iran," It may happen at any moment, and will have devastating effects in Iran and Kuwait and the countries bordering the Persian Gulf.

The agency: The limits of convergence of the Arabian Peninsula as one of the



tectonic plates making up the Earth's surface with other platelets Neighbouring (of African and Indian plate, plate length and plate central Iran) does not include areas of subduction, but the scope of subduction Almakran (southeast Iran, southwest Pakistan), on the coast east of the Gulf of Oman, where there is only part of a lithosphere peripheral in the Arabian Peninsula, which infiltrate the territory under Almakran (Pakistan and Iran), with a thick continental crust. As a result of this subduction earthquakes occur with devastating force greater than seven degrees, such as those in the Pacific.

They added that the territory Almakran had already been subjected to a violent earthquake, was one of the largest earthquakes that occurred in the twentieth century, and that was on November 28, 1945

(le, before 66 years), and then with a magnitude of 8.1 on the Richter balance, and the latest earthquake and landslides then led to the diving portions of the port city and "Pansy" Iran, located on the Arabian Sea. And indicated that the earthquake Almakran also caused a tsunami winds have caused so much devastation and loss, other than damage caused by the earthquake itself, reaching the tsunami to Karachi, 360 km from the epicenter, also arrived to Mumbai at a distance of 1100 miles from "Pansy" Iran.

<http://international.daralhayat.com/internationalarticle/251497>

The Dangers of the Iranian Nuclear Power

Wed, 16 March 2011

Randa Takieddine

The nuclear disaster that resulted from the explosion at a second reactor in Fukushima, Japan, raises questions about whether the full range of doomsday scenarios have been anticipated at the world's nuclear reactors. When Japan was struck by a destructive earthquake that caused a tsunami, nuclear power experts were surprised that the reactor systems working under emergency conditions were able to halt the operations of the nuclear plant. But the problem, according to nuclear power experts, was that in order to halt the plant completely, its core, which remained hot, should have been cooled by using water, and this is where everything went wrong. The water tanks were unreachable, and the electricity current was cut, which halted the work of electric pumps; the emergency pumps did not work, and none of the emergency measures worked either, meaning it was not possible to cool the nuclear reactor. Every country with nuclear reactors is now anxious; they should re-evaluate the work of their nuclear plants, and examine how they were built, and whether all of the doomsday and possible emergency scenarios were taken into consideration. This is because what happened in Japan was an exception – the emergency cooling pumps should have worked even in the event of a tsunami, according to the experts. This issue has now been raised for all countries that have nuclear power, and they are many. France, for example, relies on electrical power for 80 percent of its nuclear power. If a country like Japan, distinguished by its considerable technical progress, faced such a disaster, the question arises for the case of the Bushehr reactor, which the Russians built in Iran. While the Gulf is not prone to a tsunami, Iran lies on an earthquake fault line. The question is whether those who built the Bushehr reactor took into consideration the existence of nuclear reactors on fault lines, and no one has the answer. However, the fears here are legitimate, and apply to all reactors that are located in earthquake zones. This is the case for civilian reactors. In France, an expert said that all of the



earthquakes that struck the country are being studied, such that emergency measures are taken to confront the most extreme possibilities. The question that arises here is: Were these criteria taken into consideration in building nuclear plants in other countries?

Nonetheless, the majority of these energy experts believe that nuclear power should remain an important source of power, because the world requires nuclear power over the long term; nuclear energy complements other primary sources of energy, which will not be sufficient over the long term, such as oil and gas. The experts say that nuclear technology in general is quite advanced, and the security measures are stricter than those in the manufacture of airplanes and engines. They say that these measures are reviewed and tightened up on a regular basis, but that nuclear power is not the problem – the problem involves how the security of this energy source is monitored over a period of years. This is why the Japan disaster raised many questions, because it took place even though the country is an important, advanced industrial power.

Now, after the most dangerous civilian nuclear disaster since the 1986 explosion in Chernobyl, Ukraine, the impact of opponents of nuclear power throughout the world has become stronger. In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced the postponement of a delay on developing the life of German nuclear power plants for three months. In Japan, 30 percent of electricity is generated by nuclear energy, while in France, this figure stands at 80 percent. Germany decided ten years ago to abandon nuclear power, and developed alternative sources of energy, which now generate 20 percent of its electricity. And now, the Japanese disaster is posing important questions about the security of this energy, because opponents of nuclear power are saying that the dangers cannot be eliminated, no matter how advanced the technology.

Iran is the biggest danger

05/04/2011

By Tariq Alhomayed

The danger of Iran in our region is not in any way difficult to prove. In order to see evidence of hostility, and the danger, we only need to look at what Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said yesterday with regards to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, specifically Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. However, let us reflect on some of what Ahmadinejad said yesterday in more detail, in order to show how the Iranian threat is extremely alarming both for the region and the wider world, and not only in terms of political issues.

In a press conference held in Tehran, Ahmadinejad said that his country's nuclear plants were safer than their counterparts in Japan, and that the events that occurred in Japan's Fukushima nuclear facility would never happen in Iran. Ahmadinejad justified this viewpoint by saying: "the technology used in the nuclear plants in Fukushima dates back fifty years, but the technology used in Iranian nuclear plants is completely up to date"! Could anything be more absurd?

The Iranian President says that Iran is more advanced than Japan, in terms of the technology used in its nuclear plants, yet everyone saw how Iran stood helpless when faced with the "Stuxnet" worm virus – a destructive computer program which is believed to have disabled



up to five Iranian centrifuges, and helped to thwart Tehran in its quest to produce Iran's first nuclear weapons. We saw the Iranians at the time form a crisis committee, incorporating officials from all concerned departments in order to combat the worm!

This is not all of course, during the same press conference Ahmadinejad added: "as far as I know, the (Fukushima) incident was not caused by the earthquake, but by the tsunami waves. We do not have tsunamis in the Gulf, and therefore there is no cause for concern"! Is this a rational argument, considering we have seen a hurricane strike the Sultanate of Oman, which is part of the Arab Gulf, and is situated opposite Iran in terms of its coastal borders? However, above all that, Tehran does not have the required capacity to deal with an earthquake, for we saw how the whole world rallied to help Iran after the devastating earthquake which struck the country two years ago.

Therefore, Ahmadinejad's comments about what happened in Japan alone are evidence of the danger of Iran becoming a nuclear state. It is a danger for the region, a danger for the Iranians themselves, and a danger even to the global economy and its stability. The threat of Iran relates not only to what it does in the Arab world, from Iraq to Bahrain, Lebanon, Yemen and elsewhere, but the dangers also lies in its way of thinking, coupled with the weakness of its capabilities. Tehran insists on possessing nuclear energy, which it is fundamentally not equipped to deal with in an emergency, and this matter is more serious than the intentions of Iran itself.

Thus, the Iranian threat stems not only from its interference in the countries of the region, or its promotion of sectarianism. Indeed, the Iranian threat lies in the weakness of its potential combined with the size of its delusion, and the gravity of its intent. Iran doesn't only threaten the Middle East, but it threatens the whole world as I said above. Ahmadinejad's comments on Japan alone are evidence of the size of the danger posed by the Tehran regime, and its way of thinking.



HONG KONG

- Daya Bay set for ramped up safety drill after crisis



Daya Bay set for ramped up safety drill after crisis

The first safety drill in a decade to be carried out at the Daya Bay nuclear power plant in Guangdong will take place next year - and Hong Kong officials yesterday said it would be ramped up in the wake of the crisis at Japan's Fukushima nuclear plant triggered by the earthquake and tsunami nine days ago.

More departments will be involved in the safety drill than previously expected, but the government has ruled out public participation in the safety exercise, as it would have too much of an impact on the daily life of the city.

As has been the case in previous drills, international experts will observe the drill, which will cover the two nuclear power stations at Daya Bay, 50 kilometres from Hong Kong, which began operations in 1994 and 2002 respectively.

Undersecretary for Security Lai Tung-kwok said large-scale drills had been carried out by the Hong Kong government in November 1990, May 1993, December 1996 and February 2001, according to security bureau information.

"As nuclear experts have given many new ideas and recommendations in the Fukushima nuclear crisis, we will take these into consideration for the revamp of our contingency plan on the Daya Bay nuclear plants," Lai said.

More than 10 departments will participate in the safety drill next year, which will test their communications and response to the accidental release of radioactive materials from the plants.

At a special meeting yesterday of the Legislative Council's security panel, lawmakers asked if the drill could be brought forward to this year.

"It could ease the public's worries and show the Hong Kong government is capable and ready to respond to such an emergency," Kam Nai-wai of the Democratic Party said.

Undersecretary for Food and Health Gabriel Leung said Hong Kong would continue testing food imports from Japan for signs of radioactive contamination. He was speaking after Japanese authorities said they had found unsafe levels of radioactive iodine - produced when nuclear reactors leak - in spinach and milk samples from Fukushima.

Chief Secretary Henry Tang Ying-yen said in a pre-recorded RTHK radio programme that Hong Kong would keep watch on developments in Japan.

"Some Hong Kong people feel anxious, even fearful, and some have overreacted to the situation in Japan. The government will take a prompt and transparent approach to



dealing with the consequences of the quake," Tang said. He said false and unscientific information caused needless panic and a rush on salt and rice.

BRAZIL

- Security Brazilian ethanol refineries turns focus after nuclear accident in Japan
- Other matters:
- Nuclear power plants in Brazil are safer than those affected in Japan
- Safer technology
- Projects



Security Brazilian ethanol refineries turns focus after nuclear accident in Japan

In the face of a nuclear accident after plant explosion in Japan, the former mayor of Angra dos Reis and Mr Fernando Jordan (PMDB-RJ) request information about the security system of the Brazilian nuclear power stations. Will be invited to attend the Board and the presidents of Eletronuclear National Commission for Nuclear Energy (CNEN) to provide information about both plants operating in Brazil, Angra 1 and 2, as on the Angra 3, which is still under construction. Jordan will also come with application to the Commission of Mines and Energy requesting information about the Civil House bill establishing a Nuclear Energy Regulatory Agency in Brazil. The proposition is in the House Civil since May 2009 "

<http://colunistas.ig.com.br/poderonline/2011/03/16/deputado-pede-esclarecimentos-sobre-sistema-de-seguranca-das-usinas-brasileiras/>

Other matters:

The nuclear accident in Japan caused by the earthquake and a tsunami, it raises the question. Does nuclear power plants Angra dos Reis are prepared for a similar scenario? The proximity to urban scares. But experts say there is no reason for such concern.

<http://mais.uol.com.br/view/99at89ajv6h1/evacuar-usinas-de-angra-seria-complicado-diz-especialista-04021B356AD8B17327?types=A>

Nuclear power plants in Brazil are safer than those affected in Japan

Portuguese to English translation



Affirmation is Eletronuclear, operator of Angra 1 and 2, visited by iG. Cooling system is different from the model plant in Fukushima



In the control room of Angra 2, the operator Djair dos Santos, in turn responsible for monitoring the work the most delicate part of the plant, it seems less busy than their peers. The other stir, up, talking on the phone, check numbers, sit back, but Santos remains motionless in his chair, watching the control panel of colored lights and the screens in front.

In normal operation, the reactor plant is stable, almost unchanged. Because there are few changes, control room operators to communicate less frequently with employees who are in the reactor involved in the dome with a steel and concrete wall about 60 inches thick.

Once a year, there is need of replacement fuel, enriched uranium. There are also variations in the core of the plant when it changes the amount of energy produced by the plant, as defined in the National Interconnected System Operator (ONS). Saints are the moments that have to work harder.

According to Superintendent Operations Angra 2, Ancelmo Carvalho, power generation plant has not changed in recent weeks: the nuclear plant is operating at 100% capacity, without exceptions. Angra 1 is also functioning at full capacity for the



same reason: increased energy consumption in the country

Importantly, however, that technical experts claim that the operation at full load in nuclear power plants does not compromise system security.

The Brazilian government announced late last year for tax incentives for nuclear activity and maintains a plan to build new plants in the Northeast. The number of nuclear plants depend on the growth of Brazilian economy and the consequent demand for more energy. The plan remains firm despite the worldwide discussion about the use of atomic energy, aroused by the danger of nuclear disaster in Japan

Safer technology

Eletronuclear said the technology used in Brazil is considered safer than the model used in northern Japan - at least with respect to the reactor's cooling capacity. Built in 1997, Eletronuclear is a subsidiary of Eletrobras, responsible for building and operating nuclear power plants in the country

Angra 1 and 2 steam in contact with the radioactive fuel is separated from the circuits of steam generation and cooling, which does not happen with the plants of the type BWR (Boiling Water Reactor) technology adopted in Japan. The separation of atomic material the rest of the plant allows the continuity of cooling, at least for a time, even with the power interruption.

"There are about 440 nuclear plants in the world, being equal to 65% and 25% of Brazil as they were in the affected area in Japan. This shows that the industry has a preference for PWR, the same model of Angra 1 and 2" evaluates Leonan Guimarães, assistant to the president of Eletronuclear.

Creek in central, there is a building that houses the nuclear reactor. This is where the enriched uranium undergoes nuclear fission, generating heat and warming the water remaining in the same system. The hot water runs through a pipe that goes inside of another circuit, separately, also filled with water, which eventually becomes steam. The steam is then piped to drive turbines and generate power plant, now in another building. The Brazilian model, the type PWR (Pressurized Water Reactor) is more complex and more expensive.

In the case of the BWP model, adopted by central Fukushima, steam is the same for direct drive turbines. More compact, the technology was developed in the late '60s, while the model adopted in Brazil is the 70. Guimarães explains that the steam generator model adopted in Brazil has significant amount of water that would continue without the need for cooling pumps powered by electricity.

"As there is in BWR steam generator, the cooling was stopped immediately. So the PWR has advantages over other model," said Guimarães, noting that half of the Japanese nuclear power plants adopt this technology experienced in Brazil.

Despite the difficulties to cool reactors and prevent a major nuclear disaster, the fact that Japanese mills have remained standing in an area where virtually everything



was destroyed draws the attention of specialists. "As far as I know, these plants are performing brilliantly," evaluates the safety coordinator and communication Eletronuclear, José Manuel Dias.

"What happened was a sequence of unlikely events and the exchanges are still standing with many difficulties, but taking actions set out in the project to try to prevent the release part of the plant nucleus (radioactive material) to the environment", said the expert, who worked 10 years at the International Energy Agency.

Projects

Since the earthquake and ensuing tsunami that devastated the north country, the Japanese try to stop the heating process in a nuclear reactor plant in Fukushima. One of the measures under way is the use of seawater for cooling cores. The feature is being used after several other mechanisms of cooling of the reactors had failed. The first system, which operates from the energy generated by nuclear power plant itself, was automatically shut down with ballast.

For security, the nuclear units were shut down when there was an earthquake. The second system, powered by electricity from outside the plant, was not triggered because the transmission lines were destroyed. Third system capable of running the cooling, generators powered by diesel fuel from Japanese mills have failed because of flooding at the site of operation.

For Professor of Nuclear Engineering at COPPE / UFRJ, Aquilino Senra, there is a failure in projects that allow the placement of power generating plant on the same plane. "They have to stay on top, not to be targets of big waves," he said. In Angra plants, generators are also located on the same level of the plant, at a separate building next to the ballast.

Angra 2 has the capacity to generate 1,350 megawatts electric and Angra 1, 657 megawatts electric. The two together produce electricity equivalent to one third of consumption in the State of Rio de Janeiro, about 4% of the electricity consumed in Brazil. Angra 3, works alongside two other nuclear plants, scheduled to begin operation in 2015. Should produce about 1,400 megawatts electric.

<http://ultimosegundo.ig.com.br/brasil/rj/usinas+nucleares+no+brasil+sao+mais+seguras+que+as+afetadas+no+japao/n1238172854858.html>

Malaysia

The Government will have to relook at the proposed project of building nuclear plants in Malaysia after what happened at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek said. He said this would include looking at the locations and the safety measures of the project. **15th March 2011/The Star/Asia News Network**

Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the Government is not in a rush to crystallise Malaysia's nuclear power plan as its viability is still being evaluated.

Fully aware of the repercussions of Japan's nuclear fallout, the Prime Minister said: "I think many countries around the world are going through a re-evaluation and we will leverage on that. Meanwhile, the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry has begun radiation tests on Malaysia's sea water, rain water and soil. **2nd April/ The Star**



Background

Since the end of World War II, the possibility of harnessing atomic energy for uses other than warfare has been explored by different countries and debated heavily in public and academic spheres. Former US President Dwight Eisenhower delivered a monumental speech to the UN General Assembly in 1953 titled “Atoms for Peace” which led to the launch of the US **Atoms for Peace Program** under which equipment and information for nuclear energy was supplied within the US and throughout the world; the first nuclear reactor in Pakistan was also built under this program.

The United States knows that peaceful power from atomic energy is no dream of the future. That capability, already proved, is here—now—today. Who can doubt, if the entire body of the world's scientists and engineers had adequate amounts of fissionable material with which to test and develop their ideas, that this capability would rapidly be transformed into universal, efficient, and economic usage.¹²

It was also during this speech that the idea for the creation of an international body to regulate and promote the peaceful use of nuclear power was first introduced; four years later the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was founded.

The Atomic Energy Agency could be made responsible for the impounding, storage, and protection of the contributed fissionable and other materials. The ingenuity of our scientists will provide special safe conditions under which such a bank of fissionable material can be made essentially immune to surprise seizure.

The more important responsibility of this Atomic Energy Agency would be to devise methods where by this fissionable material would be allocated to serve the peaceful pursuits of mankind. Experts would be mobilized to apply atomic energy to the needs of agriculture, medicine, and other peaceful activities. A special purpose would be to provide abundant electrical energy in the power-starved areas of the world. Thus the contributing powers would be dedicating some of their strength to serve the needs rather than the fears of mankind.¹³

¹² President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" Speech December 8, 1953. Before the General Assembly of the United Nations on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. Available at:
<http://www.atomicarchive.com/Docs/Deterrence/Atomsforpeace.shtml>

¹³ Ibid



Background Paper on

PUBLIC OPINION DEBATES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY:

The Views of “Pros”, “Skeptics” and “Opponents”

Compiled by

