



Debate: post-Fukushima in France



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Nuclear energy in France

- 58 nuclear power plants providing 78% of the electricity production
- 2 new plants under construction (Flamanville and Penly) and several international projects (one in India in the seismic zone of Jaitapur)
- February 2011 the government announces the construction project for a new reactor type - Atmea – with a medium power capacity (1100 MW)

Quotes

- Nicolas Sarkozy (April 5): «There is no alternative energy source that could replace nuclear energy – if you want a nuclear phase out you have to explain to the French population to get light and heating power from candles.»
- François Fillon (March 18): «Renewable energies are only “additional” energies – the idea that we could do without nuclear energy is non-sense. »



2012 – presidential election

- **Program of the Socialist Party – adopted April 9th:** “In order to reduce our dependency on nuclear energy and oil we develop energy savings and renewable energies whose growing industry has been destabilised by the governing party”
- Lack of ambition: No number, no schedule, disappearance of the idea of a moratorium on the 2 plants under construction

Overview on French national public debates on energy

- National energy debate (2003 / 2004)
 - NGOs did not participate in the debate
- National debates on nuclear energy (2005)
 - Again some of the NGOs left the discussion
- Grenelle de l'environnement (2007):
 - Nuclear energy was ex ante excluded from the roundtable discussions
- 2011 ?

