

## Petition for the worldwide exit from nuclear energy

An initiative of the environmental organization GLOBAL 2000 /Friends of the Earth Austria

With horror and sadness we are following the disaster in Japan. Our deepest sympathy and compassion go out to the great number of victims and their families.

We are deeply shocked about the fact that 25 years after Chernobyl an MCA (maximum credible accident) is obviously happening in Japan which will have immeasurable consequences for the people. The disaster of the century in Japan clearly shows: Nuclear power is not safe and never will be. Human failure, like 25 years ago in Chernobyl, obvious safety deficiencies in nuclear plants like those close to the Austrian borders, or natural disasters like in Japan can cause severe accidents and bring incredible suffering upon hundreds of thousands of people.

In 1978 the Austrian people voted in a referendum against the start-up of the already completed nuclear power plant at Zwentendorf. Today, we demand the worldwide exit from nuclear energy, and we start here and now in Europe:



## SHUT THEM DOWN! NOW!

### 1. Immediate shut-down of all high-risk reactors in Europe!

Those include:

- Boiling-water reactors like in Fukushima (e.g. Isar 1 in Bavaria, Garona in Spain)
- Nuclear power plants in earthquake regions (e.g. Krsko in Slovenia, Neckarwestheim in Baden-Württemberg/Germany, Fessenheim in France, Cofrentes in Spain)
- Nuclear power plants without full-pressure containment (e.g. Mochovce and Bohunice/Slovakia, Dukovany/Czech Republic, or Paks/Hungary)
- All nuclear power stations that are older than 30 years (e.g. the nuclear power plants Biblis A and B in Germany, Mühleberg in Switzerland)

### 2. No life-time extension for old plants or construction of new nuclear power plants!

High alert in Central Europe: Construction of units 3 and 4 of the NPP Mochovce must be stopped. These VVER 440/213 reactors are early 70ies design, constructed of components now already 20 years old, and do not fulfil current safety standards. . The planned higher output reduces the safety of those plants even more. We call upon the EU to follow up the breaches of the Aarhus Convention, the implementation of the EIA directive, and the complete lack of

information on how the SR intends to compensate the missing full pressure containment and other deficiencies of the plants.

### **3. Legally binding plans for the shut-down of all nuclear power plants in Europe until 2020!**

#### **4. No more multi-billion subsidies to the nuclear industry!**

The EURATOM Treaty for the support of nuclear energy needs to be abolished.

#### **5. Sustainable investments in renewable energy and efficiency!**

Currently the EU funds allocated to nuclear research are almost 5 times higher than those that go into research for renewables and efficiency (1).

**Several recent energy scenarios show that ambitious energy efficiency and renewable strategies, combined with the modernisation of the energy infrastructure, make a phase-out of nuclear and coal-generated power possible by 2025-2030 (2).**

We want to start the energy revolution in Europe now. We call on the European Commission to propose binding energy saving targets and to set out the goal of an economy based 100% on renewable energy by 2050 in the forthcoming EU energy roadmap.

**We are the majority – sign at [www.shutdownnukes.org](http://www.shutdownnukes.org)**

How do we make use of your support, and what are the next steps?

Ø We hand over the collected signatures to the heads of state and government of all European states which operate nuclear power stations, as well as to the EU Commission and the European Parliament.

Ø The decision should be up to the citizens: The aim is to initiate a public vote on the phase-out of nuclear energy in Europe.

Ø We keep you informed on the progress of the initiative via email and on [www.shutdownnukes.org](http://www.shutdownnukes.org)

For further details click [www.shutdownnukes.org](http://www.shutdownnukes.org)

(1) The Euratom Framework Programme including the extra €1.3 billion for ITER (as proposed by the European Commission in the Euratom Framework Programme for nuclear research and training activities 2012-13 on 7 March 2011) could reach €5.51 billion for the period 2007-13, while only 50% of the Energy FP7 are devoted to renewables and energy efficiency, amounting to 1.225 billion.

(2) Set out in a number of energy scenarios including the 'Vision Scenario' by the ÖkoInstitut, commissioned by the Greens/EFA group:

<http://www.greens->

[efa.org/cms/topics/dokbin/368/368667.the\\_vision\\_scenario\\_for\\_the\\_european\\_uni@](http://efa.org/cms/topics/dokbin/368/368667.the_vision_scenario_for_the_european_uni@)

