

The Japanese Nuclear Village wants to build NPPs in the Czech Republic and in Poland

Selb / Temelin/ Lubiatowo, 15 June 2013. The Greens in Fichtelgebirge and the BI STOP TEMELIN mobilize the public against the nuclear lobbying tour of the Japanese Prime Minister Abe. On 16 June 2013 the Prime Minister attends in Warsaw the nuclear conference together with the Governments of the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary. The majority owner of the Japanese-American company Westinghouse is Toshiba, the company wants to build the Temelin NPP Units 3 and 4 and also wants to build a 3000 megawatt nuclear power plant in the wonderful dunes of Lubiatowo on the Polish Baltic coast, right in the middle of a Natura 2000 region. The Polish energy provider PGE showed no sensitivity at all when the nuclear director Aleksander Grad signed a letter threatening legal actions against a small environmental tourism association - because they had told the truth - right on the 26 of April 2013, the 27 anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster.(1) They know each other, between Lubiatowo, the Fichtelgebirge and Temelin. 60,000 submissions from Germany were sent to Warsaw because of the Polish nuclear program, 50,000 against the Temelin expansion were sent to Prague. On Monday,03-06-2013, there was a meeting in Selb, Bavaria, together with Czech anti-nuclear activists because of the visit of the Japanese Prime Minister. Frantisek Resnac from Pilsen was also present. He testified about the planned nuclear repository near the town of Nepomuk, not far away from Pilsen. Although the construction of nuclear power plants in the Czech Republic does not have to fear great resistance from the general public, the nuclear repository does trigger heavy protests. He brought with him a beautiful, green styled brochure, in which the mayors of the concerned towns search for support for the nuclear repository from their citizens. According to his information the company Skoda in Pilsen, which is involved in building nuclear power plants, is Russian owned. The Japanese NHK TV was present in this meeting, filming a report about the atomic promotion tour of their Premier and the anti-nuclear movement in the Czech Republic and Poland. During the afternoon they were already reporting from Bad Steben in the Franconian Forest, from the "action office" of the BI STOP TEMELIN. Wolfgang Müller, anti-nuclear activist of BI STOP TEMELIN and speaker of the Greens in Bad Steben stated: "Millions of people are suffering from the nuclear disaster in Fukushima. The world was shocked when realizing that the world's leading high-tech nation could in fact not control their nuclear power plants. The actually existing total liability of a nuclear power plant in Europe is also ridiculously low". His colleague Thomas Hecht from Arzberg in Wunsiedel said: "The conclusion of the Japanese Final Report of the Fukushima Disaster is that the nepotism between the government, the nuclear safety office and the operator, the nuclear company TEPCO, was directly responsible of the nuclear disaster. (2) The state-run atomic village Tepco covered up security errors. Temelin has, according to Greenpeace, a similar problem in reactor 1 with weld 1-4-5 ". Artmann continued: „General Electric, Toshiba and Hitachi built Fukushima, Greenpeace is telling us, and have not yet paid one cent up to today for the damage caused. (2) Now the Japanese Prime Minister is coming to Europe and wants to build NPPs right at our front door. That is more than outrageous!" Mueller, the Wunsiedler CSU Administrator Dr. Karl Doehler and the green councilor Brigitte Artmann inspected personally together with the Czech Nuclear Safety Office and with their colleague Karol Lesny from South Bohemia on 17 May the Temelin reactor during a fuel change. (3) The construction of two new units at Temelin NPP are planned to be completed in 2025, CEZ estimates the costs to be approximately 8 to 12 billion Euros. Jan Haverkamp, Greenpeace nuclear expert is quoted in Süddeutsche Zeitung with the estimation of 15 billion euro. Artmann: "We believe that the time and the financial frames are a big understatement. The Czech Finance Minister joined our opinion after our visit, he said the Temelin expansion is too expensive "and Artmann further" the Temelin reactor type is chosen in a black-box procedure, excluded from the public participating in EIA process. This is bad for security, but good for corruption. Moscow offered the Czech Government 6.5 billion euros, if the Czech/Russian consortium MIR 1200 (Rosatom, Atomstoj and Skoda) would win the deal. Westinghouse/Toshiba wants to win the deal with the support of the American Government and its F 16 fighter-jets. We therefore were forced to complain before UN Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and before the European Commission. The complaints are not yet finished. You start thinking about whether you need Toshiba products in your own home". The participants of the meeting shared Artmanns opinion. A less or more amusing anecdote reached us before the reactor inspection: the control technology for the Rosatom reactors is from Rolls Royce. But Rolls-Royce itself uses the old technology of Westinghouse. Westinghouse, however, want to use the control technology of Areva and accuses Rosatom that they want to use their old technology. Areva on the other hand does not want to play with anybody anymore, because they were excluded from the bidding process. They are complaining and as a result, preventing the granting of planning permission. CEZ had expected the permission at the beginning of this year. Because of the lobbying tour of the Japanese Premier, the German activists were again on Tuesday,04-06-2013, in Temelin, meeting representatives of the NPP, accompanied by the Japanese TV NHK.

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- (2) <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/getinvolved/they-profit-you-pay/>
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- (3) <http://www.gruene-fichtelgebirge.de/>