

International Conference

What Will the Energy System of the Future Look Like?

The prospects of nuclear power, energy efficiency and renewables

13 October 2011

Organised by: Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Prague in cooperation with Hnutí DUHA – Friends of the Earth Czech Republic, Calla and Green Academy.

Venue: Hotel Jalta, Václavské nám. 45, Prague, <http://www.hoteljalta.com/map-contact/>

SYNOPSIS

In 2011 the German Government, following the nuclear catastrophe in Japan, decided to phase out nuclear power by 2022 at the latest. This decision has been critically commented by Czech politicians. It is often argued that the phase-out of nuclear energy is an isolated German approach, which no one wants to follow. But the alleged “renaissance of nuclear power” was already on shaky footing before the Fukushima accident. Actually, the number of nuclear power plants is decreasing steadily around the world. During the next 15-20 years, more old installations will go off the grid than new ones will start up. Today, no utility around the world risks building a new nuclear power plant without government subsidies and guarantees. The estimated construction cost for the new EPR nuclear plant in Olkiluoto, Finland, for instance, almost doubled from 3 billion Euro to around 5.7 billion Euro, or close to 3,500 Euro per kilowatt. As French utility admitted in July 2011, its Flamanville EPR project is not doing any better and is now estimated to cost 6 billion Euro. Both projects are about four years behind schedule. In addition, there are the unresolved problems of final storage of nuclear waste and the enormous cost of decommissioning. Finally, raising the safety standards in the wake of Fukushima will increase the cost of nuclear energy even further. On the other hand, in 2010 renewable energy sources, excluding large hydro, received over \$150 billion in private investment in the world.

This conference will foster an international debate on the cost of nuclear power and the prospects of renewable energy sources. During the conference, The World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2010-2011 and update will be presented by its lead author, Mycle Schneider. Internationally renowned energy experts as well as government officials will discuss the future of this energy source with a special focus on the Czech Republic and Germany.

Conference Languages: English / Czech (simultaneous translation)

Please register at info@cz.boell.org by October 11, 2011.

Contact

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PROGRAMME DRAFT

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome

9:10 – 9:30 **The World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2010-2011 (Update)**
Keynote: **Mycle Schneider**, international consultant, lead author of the report

9:30 – 11:00 **PANEL I**
Costs and prospects of nuclear energy, renewables and energy saving technologies

František Hrdlička, Dean, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering,
Czech Technical University

Steve Thomas, professor of economics, University of Greenwich, United Kingdom

Martin Sedlák, energy systems' analyst, Calla, Czech Republic

Mycle Schneider, international consultant, France

Chair: **Tomáš Sachr**, journalist, „Respekt“ Weekly

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 **PANEL II**
Germany's nuclear phase-out and its impact on neighbouring countries

Charlotte Loreck, Ökoinstitut, Germany

Petr Otčenášek, nuclear energy consultant, Czech Republic

Martin Bursík, ecologist, former minister of environment, Czech Republic

Chair: **Hana Machová Scharffová**, Czech Television, tbc

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch