

Resolution of Climate Alliance for a turning point in power generation: decentralised renewable energies instead of nuclear power

Resolution of the Climate Alliance General Assembly 2011

The reactor disaster of Fukushima and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster make it clear: Even in high-technology countries nuclear power is not controllable! The large-scale and long-lasting ecological, economic and social impacts of such an incident have become obvious again. Cities are the most vulnerable structures, which are ruthlessly exposed to the risks of nuclear energy. Urban agglomerations with many millions of people can not be evacuated. The nuclear phaseout is therefore essential, when designing the sustainable cities of tomorrow.

Also marketing of nuclear energy as indispensable transition technology towards a future with renewable energies has no real grounds. Operating risks are played down by the stakeholders and no solution exists to the accumulated radioactive waste during normal operation. Nuclear technology is neither a future nor a bridging technology, its base material - like fossil energy reserves - are finite and it ties up financial means that are vitally needed for a sustainable energy landscape. A transition is possible, without social conflicts and without harming the industrial location Europe, if we build on energy efficiency and a decentralised energy generation near to the consumers.

European energy policy is in a challenging phase of development and the European Commission is working intensively towards a sustainable energy strategy for the EU. The Energy 2020 strategy adopted in 2010 and the Energy Roadmap 2050 to be published later this year are major steps forward. However, more ambitious initiatives - with bolder actions - will need to follow. We will need to take a major leap in energy efficiency and to exploit Europe's vast renewable energy potential while creating new jobs and increasing energy security.

Text of resolution

The General Assembly of Climate Alliance claims from EU Member States and the European Union to promote an accelerated transition. Sustainable electricity supply has to align with the following key points:



Climate Alliance

**Decentralised renewable
energies instead of
nuclear power**

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Climate Alliance's
General Assembly

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- Fast phaseout of nuclear energy with immediate shut down of old reactors and prompt stop of all plans to build new reactors in Europe.
- Major efforts to increase energy saving and efficient energy use including the creation of national incentive programmes to promote the purchasing of energy efficient appliances and energy advisory services for low-income households.
- Moving from the present energy supply patterns into a highly efficient more decentralised energy system based on renewable energy sources by 2050 at the latest.
- Transition towards energy supply entirely based on renewable energy by 2050 at the latest, whilst respecting the social and ecological criteria for the production and use of biomass.
- Financial support and adaptation of legal framework conditions for cities, municipalities and regions to promote the creation of decentral infrastructure for energy efficiency and renewable energies.
- No creation of new coal-fired power capacities, especially no new capacities for lignite, and no usage of carbon capture and storage (CCS), but a continuous reduction of the share of electricity generated by coal in fuel mix down to zero until 2050.
- Preferential use of natural gas (in gas-steam power and CHP plants) as bridging technology in energy generation.
- Development and implementation of various energy storage technologies to realise the 100% renewable energies target within a decentralised energy system. The promotion of electric mobility opens the chance to use vehicle batteries as buffer in the energy grid.
- Subterraneous construction of new power lines when situated close to settlements and sensitive areas.
- Concentrate first on taking use the regional potential for renewable energy, and creating responsibilities at regional level to plan and build new capacity for energy production.
- Promotion of renewable energies together with the citizens. To prevent conflicts, the major expansion of renewable energies bringing distinct and visible changes in our environment makes civic participation crucial in every project. Local authorities should get part of the revenues collected from the renewable energy plants in their territory.



Climate Alliance