

This Week's Update (February 4, 2013)

GEPR Editorial Staff

1) Japan's Nuclear Regulation Authority is reconstructing systems such as establishing new safe installation criteria of a nuclear power plant. Although activity improving safety of nuclear power plants in Japan after Fukushima disaster is to be admired, strengthening of the regulation which only looks at active faults is being considered. Is effort which only looks at one aspect appropriate?

We interviewed Kazuo Ishikawa, who was involved in energy policy as ex METI official. He questions tightening of regulations only paying attention to the active fault and appeals to think future of nuclear power plants and energy considering both losses and gains comprehensively.

"Continued Cease of Nuclear Power Plants is a blow for Japanese Economy" ([Japanese only](#)).

2) We introduce a contribution over the issue of active fault from the engineer alumnus of the atomic energy-related company, questioning validity of the judgment on active faults. GEPR accept contribution from experts (contact info@gepr.org).

"Would safety be maintained only by the issue of active fault?" ([Japanese only](#)).

3) "Burden of the electricity rate to increase by renewable energy promotion-- From a German example" ([Japanese only](#)).

We introduce a column by Sumiko Takeuchi, Chief Researcher of IEEI (International Environment and Economy Institute). She explains about regress characteristics of the electric bill to a low-income person.

This Week's Links

1) "[Energy Secretary Steven Chu resigns; led green energy push](#)" (by Associated Press, February 2).

2) "[US senators unveil bill to allow LNG exports to NATO allies, Japan](#)" (Platts, January 31).