

Germany decided in summer 2011 to stop using the atom as a source of energy. Politicians responded this way because of resistance of the society to the nuclear power. This opposition grew after the accident in Japanese power station Fukushima in March 2011.

This thesis deals with German nuclear power policy and the anti-nuclear movement. It will trace it from its beginning in 1998, when the Green party was for the first time in government and the first nuclear power phase-out was decided, until the year 2012. The moves of mostly political participants are analysed in connection to Fukushima accident. The aim of this analyse is to describe the changes in German energy policy and to find reasons for the decision to give up nuclear power.

The paper comes to conclusion that the reason for the amendment of nuclear act and thereby gradual disconnection of all nuclear power stations was not only because of the demand by the public, but also the pressure of the opposition on the government. The government tried to keep their voters, alternatively the bigger coalition partner CDU/CSU wanted to open another coalition possibility with one of the oppositional parties.

Germany will have to build in following years not only new power stations, but also intelligent nets as well. If the Germans want to keep their goals regarding the environment, atoms will have to be replaced by renewable resources, not coal. Furthermore, Germans will have to find a definite nuclear waste dump and deal with legal actions energy supply concerns, who sue the government for compensation because of the proprietary right violation.