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DPRK: S. Korea simulates N. Korea attack on nuclear site, AFP (13 April 2011)

South Korea in April staged an exercise simulating a North Korean attack on one of the ROK's nuclear power plants. The drill assumed that North Korean agents would infiltrate the site and bomb it. The DPRK has threatened to attack the sites in the event of a war and could also target them via artillery and other means. South Korea currently has twenty nuclear plants and plans to build twelve more over the next fourteen years.

- Engaging the DPRK enrichment and small LWR program: what would it take? Nautilus Institute (24 December 2010) [PDF, 314 KB]

- Pyongyang TV giving 'getting more serious' nuclear crisis big coverage, Japan Times (19 April 2011)

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: Lee conditionally invites N.K. leader to join Nuclear Summit, Korean Herald (10 May 2011)

During President Lee's May 9 visit to Berlin he extended a conditional proposal for the DPRK to attend the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit. Many people doubt the effectiveness of the proposal and North Korea heavily criticized the conditions, apparently rejecting it. While the progressive parties actively try to build solidarity to expand policy consensus, two weeks after defeat in the off-year election, President Lee reshuffled his cabinet.

- Progressive policy consensus, Hankyoreh (4 May 2011)
- North Korea in the eyes of Chinese journalist, Korea Times (8 May 2011)

DETERRENCE: A code of conduct for transfer of nuclear power plant technology to consumer countries, Nautilus Institute, (5 October 2011) [PDF, 0.3MB]

Thompson outlines a code of conduct for buyers and vendors that would apply to the transfer of Generation III nuclear power plant technology. He discusses ten issue areas for benchmarking an adequate code of conduct, and outlines a process for constructing a code.

- Considerations to launch a nuclear power programme, IAEA (2007) [PDF, 412KB]
- Nuclear power, risk management and democratic accountability in Indonesia: volcanic, regulatory and financial risk in the Muria peninsula nuclear power proposal, Nautilus Institute (7 December 2009) [PDF, 0.5MB]
- 500 Mile Island, the Philippines nuclear program, Pacific Research (1979) [PDF, 4.5MB]

ENERGY SECURITY: Shut down being considered for Fukushima No. 2: Loss of public confidence in nuclear energy may lead to decommissioning of sister plant, Kyodo (8 May 2011)

The Japanese government is reportedly considering decommissioning or indefinitely suspending operations at the Fukushima No. 2 nuclear power plant in deference to those who have been affected by ongoing nuclear crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 plant. The Fukushima 2 plant was stopped following the earthquake. Even if the plant is retrofitted with sea walls and other safety measures, it might not operate for 10 years or more.

- 60% of reactors off the grid, NHK World (11 May 2011)
- Japan's nuclear future in the balance, New York Times (9 May 2011)
- The path from Fukushima: short and medium-term impacts of the reactor damage caused by the Japan earthquake and tsunami on Japan's electricity systems, Nautilus Institute Report (11 April 2011)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Cities and climate change: policy directions, UN-HABITAT (2011) [2.05 MB, PDF]

This UN-HABITAT report reviews the linkages between urbanization and climate change (two of the greatest challenges facing humanity in the 21st Century). It illustrates the significant contribution of urban areas to climate change while at the same time highlighting the potentially devastating effects of climate change on urban populations. The report argues that urban areas have a pivotal role in both climate change mitigation and adaptation and identifies strategies and approaches for strengthening this role.

- Climate change poses major risks for unprepared cities, Science News (7 April 2011)
- Cities and climate change, OECD, (29 November 2011)

AUSTRAL SECURITY: Timor rejected Chinese spy offer, Age (5 May 2011)

Dorling writes that leaked US diplomatic cables provided by Wikileaks show that Beijing's proposal to build and operate a surveillance radar facility on East Timor's north coast was rejected by Dili, which viewed the proposal as suspicious. This comes as questions continue to be raised over Beijing's increasing influence and clout is East Timor and whether it is challenging Australia's traditionally close relationship with its neighbour.

- Courting East Timor, SBS (27 March 2011)
- Military fears over Timor link to China, Australian (25 August 2010)
- East Timor ups ante in LNG dispute, as floating processing plan is deadlocked, Australian (11 March 2011)

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