

Merkel backs proposal to end nuclear power in 2022

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Reactors 1 and 2 of nuclear power plant Neckarwestheim, run by German energy supplier EnBW, are pictured in Neckarwestheim, southern Germany. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said that 2022 was "a good time" for Germany to end nuclear power, backing a proposal by the Bavarian wing of her party.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Saturday that 2022 was "a good time" for Germany to end nuclear power, backing a proposal by the Bavarian wing of her party.

She described as "an important contribution" the scenario set out by the Christian Social Union at a meeting in the southern town of Andechs.

The centre-right government is to set out its strategy by the beginning of June and agree [draft legislation](#) at a cabinet meeting on June 7 or 15.

Following the earthquake and tsunami which wrecked the Japanese

nuclear plant of [Fukushima](#) in March, Merkel ordered the closure for three months of Germany's seven oldest reactors.

She also announced a moratorium for the same period of an earlier decision by her government to extend the lifetime of Germany's 17 reactors by an average of 12 years.

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