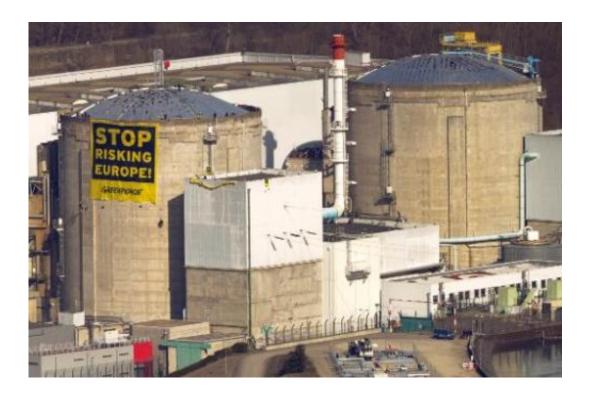


French parliament votes to cut nuclear power reliance

October 10 2014



Greenpeace activists display a banner reading "Stop risking Europe" on a reactor of the nuclear power plant of Fessenheim, France, on March 18, 2014

Lawmakers in France, the world's most nuclear-dependent country, on Friday voted to cut reliance on the energy source from more than 75 percent to 50 percent within a decade.

The vote comes as part of an ambitious makeover of France's energy use



promised by President Francois Hollande during his 2012 <u>election</u> <u>campaign</u>.

The measure calls for renewables to increase in the energy mix for electricity production, rising from 23 percent in 2020 to 32 percent in 2030.

Use of <u>fossil fuels</u> should drop to around 30 percent.

The measure also sets a goal for a reduction of 40 percent in <u>greenhouse</u> <u>gas emissions</u> from the 1990 levels by 2030 and a 75 percent reduction in 2050.

It also targets a 20-percent reduction in energy consumation by 2030, in line with a draft project EU leaders are set to consider at an October 23-24 summit in Brussels.

France's conservative opposition sharply criticised Hollande's antinuclear stance as "ideological" and driven by a need to satisfy green parties which helped get him elected.

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