

French group to help Japan dismantle nuclear reactors

November 26 2015



Areva's role in Japan will now be to participate in preliminary studies for dismantling boiling-water reactors

French nuclear giant Areva said Thursday it had linked up with Hitachi GE Nuclear Energy to help Japan dismantle boiling-water nuclear power stations.

Following a massive accident at the Fukushima reactor, hit by a tsunami

in 2011, Japan said it would shut down 11 nuclear reactors, although it has put two back on stream this year.

Areva was involved in the Fukushima clean-up, but that reactor is not covered by the new agreement, the French group said in a statement. It has been working with Hitachi to improve Japanese reactors' safety for the past two years.

Areva's role will now be to participate in preliminary studies for dismantling boiling-water reactors.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government has been pushing for a return to nuclear [power](#) to generate electricity after Japan's several dozen [reactors](#) went offline in the wake of the 2011 disaster.

The resource-poor nation's energy bill has soared since it was forced to turn to fossil-fuel imports to plug the gap.

But the Japanese public remains wary of atomic power, and Abe's push has prompted rare protests and damaged his popularity.

© 2015 AFP

Citation: French group to help Japan dismantle nuclear reactors (2015, November 26) retrieved 3 February 2023 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-11-french-group-japan-dismantle-nuclear.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.