

Turkey: Three nuclear power plants to be set up by 2014

The news is rational everywhere – we need to divert the lunatic Chicken–little fringe of wind–power supporters to bird flu

Reporter (Greece)
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Energy minister Hilmi Guler said that three nuclear power plants, each with 5,000 megawatt power would be established by 2014.

Guler said that they would soon unveil the procedure for constructing the power plants and their possible locations. The minister reiterated that the government aims the private sector to construct the power plants, however if the private companies cannot undertake the project, public and private sectors together can make the investment, he furthered.

According to Guler, the officials currently hold talks with possible domestic and foreign investors for construction of the power plants. On a related note, energy minister, who paid an official visit to the US, arrived in Turkey on February 10. He expects that the contacts would mark a start of an efficient cooperation in the energy field with the US, Guler said.

The minister also noted that TPAO (Turkish oil and natural gas exploration and extraction company) wanted to make natural gas and oil exploration in Iraq together with the US and they brought the issue to the agenda in the meetings with the US officials. The US officials will give an answer to Turkey's proposal, after evaluating the issue, he continued.

State pension fund's 7% Petkim shares to be sold. Media reports suggest that the State Pension Fund's (Emekli Sandigi) 7% stake in petrochemicals concern Petkim was included in the government's privatisation portfolio and the shares will be sold within a year.

On a related note, Kenan Yavuz, general manager of the company, said that with USD 450mn investments undertaken last year, Petkim's capacity increased by 20%.