

Belarus drafts concept of nuclear power plant construction

The nuclear world proceeds but it is a shame that politicians and their need for popularity get in the way..

RIA Novosti
May 31, 2006

Belarus scientists have drafted a concept for building a nuclear power plant in the republic, a senior researcher said Wednesday.

But Oleg Martynenko, head of the Energy Strategy enterprise, said a decision on the NPP, which would take an estimated 10 years to build and would cost \$2.5 billion, had not yet been made.

Martynenko said a nuclear power plant with a capacity of 2,000 megawatts was the best option for Belarus and researchers suggested the cost price of a kilowatt of power would be \$0.017 after the NPP is commissioned.

Vladimir Bobrov, the head of the strategic development department at the Belarus Energy Ministry, said in turn that the share of nuclear energy in the republic's fuel and energy balance could rise to 20% and the share of natural gas could decline to 50% by 2020.

Experts said a nuclear power plant would enable the republic to bring the share of nuclear energy to 85% in the republic's fuel and energy balance by 2050.