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Energy Democracy and People's Power Plant (PPP) Movement in Taiwan: Post-311 Perspectives of Environmental Sociology

Panel: Environmental Issues

After 311 Fukushima Disaster, risk trigger has been proven to be more powerful and complicated than what human being thought. Energy issues also become a risk amplifier accompanying with other disasters. As compared with top-down energy policy-making, environmental sociology has paid more attention on bottom-up "social energy" focused on energy's paradigm shift from "energy democracy" to "energy democracy".

One of the social energy projects has been named People's Power Plant (PPP) movement. Through the discourse and action of environmental sociology, PPP movement puts her emphasis on "energy democracy" associated with daily-life environmentalism and anti-nuclear movement. Other than energy's environmental facts, this paper also addresses social facts so that PPP movement could be glocalized in a family or community base.

This paper aims at "bring the energy back in" in terms of perspectives of environmental sociology. In turn, grassroots action of PPP movement, covering eight communities in Taiwan, is taken to generate social energy by promoting energy democracy such as citizen science, fun theory of empowerment and so on.