

<Press Release>

New Launch of “Japan Coal Plant Tracker”

<http://sekitan.jp/plant-map>

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Kiko Network

Kiko Network has been watching the domestic coal power plant activity on our web site “sekitan.jp” which focuses on “coal”.

After nuclear power shut down following the Fukushima accident, the Japanese government and private power suppliers have been rushing to develop coal power plants because of recent low coal prices and the deregulation of electricity utilities starting in 2016. The number of development plans has been rapidly increasing in the past few years. There are 48 construction plans with a total capacity of 23.5GW. If these plants are followed through, 14.1 Mt-CO₂ will be emitted annually.

Should these development plans become reality, not only would the plants emit huge amounts of CO₂ for several decades, they would also hamper the deployment of flexible electricity system by renewable energy sources in favour of outdated large-scale centralized electricity system such as nuclear and coal power generations. Business operators may have to take financial risks while continuously importing energy with unstable price coal and investing in environmentally unacceptable technologies that may prove to be risky.

It would be difficult to go back once the constructions for these facilities begin. In the worst case scenario, we may never be able to reverse the damage. Therefore, it is very critical to re-consider their coal power development plans now, at this moment, for the safe climate future.

Today, we open the “Japan Coal Plant Tracker” so that we can keep a close eye on domestic coal construction plans and the status of EIA process for new coal power plants, and to share this information with as many people in local communities as possible. This new site maps out the construction plans for new coal plants and provides up-to-date information of each plant based on the information available.

The map for our “Japan Coal Plant Tracker” shows how many domestic coal power plants are planned and where they are mainly concentrated in. We will continue to update the map with further details.

We sincerely hope that this “Japan Coal Plant Tracker” will help to provide useful information about the future development of coal power plants and spread the word on “dirty” coal.

Note:

The “Japan Coal Plant Tracker” is based on a variety of publicly available information, such as official documents, press releases, media articles, official Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) etc.

Some uncertainties may remain on data for particular plants due to the lack of information. Kiko Network takes full responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

“Japan Coal Plant Tracker” <http://sekitan.jp/plant-map/en>

Homepage: “Don’t Go Back to The Coal” <http://sekitan.jp/en/>

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