# **Climate Justice Symposium**

#### South Korea's Policy on Energy & Climate change

1 August 2016 Hye Lyn Kim, International Solidarity coordinator Korea Federation for Environmental Movements



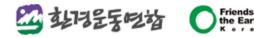
### 1. South Korea's Energy Policy Issues

- 1) Electricity generation by power source
- 2) Nuclear Power Plants
  - Current Status of Nuclear Power Plants
  - Damage to local residents
- 3) Coal fired Power Plants
  - Current Status of Nuclear Power Plants
  - Damage to local residents

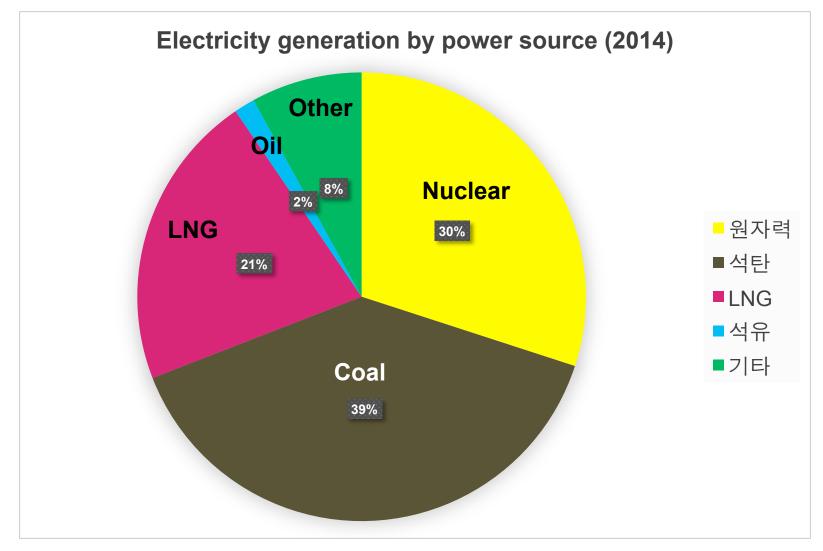
### 2. South Korea's Climate Change Policy

- 1) Industry's influence on climate change policy
  - Reorganization of climate change system
  - Government policy retreated by corporate pressure
- 2) South Korea's Climate Change Policy, INDC

# 3. Campaigns – resisting false solutions



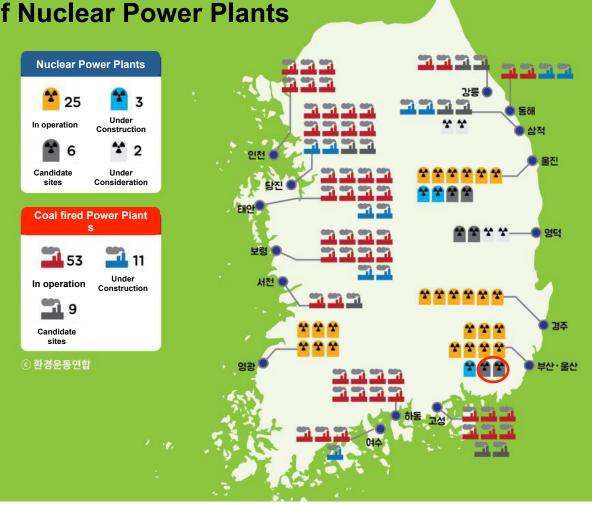
#### 1-1) Electricity generation by power source





### **1-2) Nuclear Power Plants**

- Current Status of Nuclear Power Plants
- World's highest d ensity of nuclear power plants
- Construction of S hin Kori Units 5&6 Confirmed (23, Jun, 2016)







# **1-2) Nuclear Power Plants**

- Damage to local residents
- 548 thyroid cancer patients nearby the plant
- Radioactive substance 'tritium(H-3)' was found in local resident's urine, th ose living nearby the Wolseong Nuclear power plant.
- The majority of lodine 131
  Releases from nuclear
  Power plants
- Issues on Drinking water
- Relocation





### **1-3) Coal fired Power Plants**

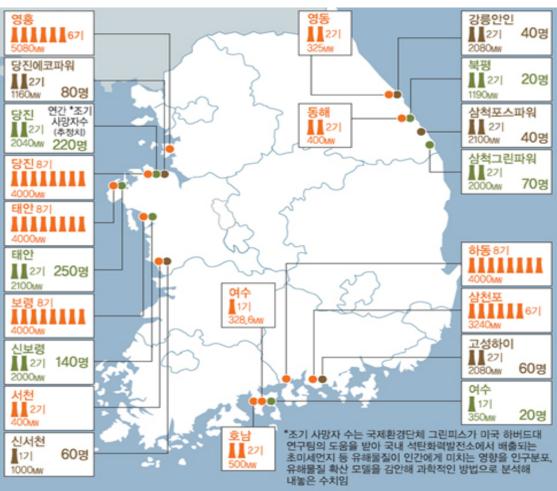
Current Status of Coal fired Power Plants

- In operation: 53
- Under construction: 11
- Under consideration: 9

- 7<sup>th</sup> largest emitter of carbon dioxide (2012)
- Plans to shut 10 ageing coal fired power plants by 2025
- still committed to building 20 new coal-fired power plants, whose capacity is 5 times higher than those to be closed.

Friends of the Earth

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### **1-3) Coal fired Power Plants**

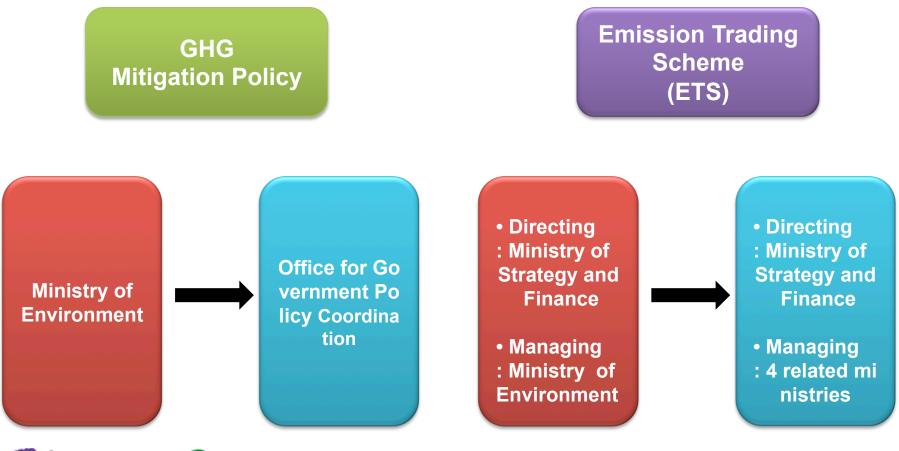
- Damage to local residents
- Air pollutant from coal fired power plants cause 1,100 premature death per year ("Silent Killer, PM 2.5", Greenpeace, 2015)
- Cause of Premature death
  - : Stroke, Ischemic heart disease Chronic obstructive lung disease Lung cancer, and other heart and lung diseases
- Extra-high voltage transmission tower
  (765kV) : Daily noise problem, cancers
- Coal ash is found in cabbage
- Hunger strike against constructing two more coal fired power plants







- 2-1) Industry's influence on climate change policy
- Reorganization of climate change response system (Feb, 2016)







# 2-1) Industry's influence on climate change policy

- Government policy retreated by corporate pressure
- ① Emission Trading Scheme(ETS)
- ETS implementation was once postponed due to opposition from industry.
- Companies' emissions to be mitigated has been greatly eased (10%)
- Reduction of penalties
  (maximum of 100,000 won per ton →10,000 won per ton)
- Emission Permit Allocation in the industry sector is estimated higher than i ts original plan. (48%)



## 2-1) Industry's influence on climate change policy

- Government policy retreated by corporate pressure
- ② Korean Bonus-Malus System(Subsides to purchasers of low-emission passenger)
- This policy was originally planned to be enforced from 2015.
- However, It was delayed until 2020
- Due to huge opposition from domestic car producers
- Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, and Ministry of Strategy and Finan ce also Represented the profit of auto industry



#### 2-2) South Korea's Climate Change Policy, INDC

On 30 June 2015, Korean government announced its INDC and sub mitted it to the United Nations. It targets to:

- 37% reduction in projected greenhouse gas emissions(business as usual) through 2030
- Relying on the global carbon market for around one-third of the total reductions (11.3% of the 37% targeted reduction)
- The burden avoided by the industry sector is going to have to be carried b y other sectors



### 2-2) South Korea's Climate Change Policy, INDC

"inadequate and misaligned with global cooperative efforts."

-"Assessment: South Korea's INDC", Climate Action Tracker, July 2 2015-

#### Issues on INDC

- 1) Violating the "No Backsliding Principle"
- 2) Utilizing the International Market Mechanism(IMM)
- 3) Reduction of industrial sector obligations

-Reference: Choi Hyeonjung and Lee soohyun, 『Not Good Enough: South Korea's 2030 Carbon Mitigation Target and the INDC』, (The Asan Institute for policy studies, 2015).

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#### 3. Campaigns – resisting false solutions

- Shut down Kori-1 nuclear power plant
- Success in Yongduk resident' Referendum on launching new Nuclear power plant







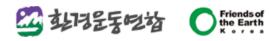
#### 3. Campaigns – resisting false solutions

- Stop coal campaigns
- Support community owned renewable energy
- Support climate financing









#### Keep sprit of 'Solidarity' alive





