

AEC working to boost ratio of 'self-produced' energy sources

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As Taiwan relies on imports to meet 98 percent of its energy needs, the Atomic Energy Council (AEC) is working on a "blueprint on future power supply" with the aim of boosting the ratio of Taiwan's "self-produced" energy supplies from the current 2 percent to 30 percent by 2050, an AEC official said yesterday.

According to an AEC report, currently, coal plants comprise 43.15 percent of Taiwan's power supply, nuclear plants 20.9 percent, natural gas ones 19.14 percent, oil ones 6 percent, cogeneration plants 7.17 percent, while renewable energies comprise 3.61 percent.

According to the official, only 2 percent of Taiwan's energy sources are deemed as "self-produced" -- relying on local sources only, and 20 percent are "self-manageable" -- indicating sources that are either under long-term supply contracts or under mining cooperation agreements between Taiwan and the export countries.

The official added that aside from increasing the percentage of self-produced energy sources, the government is also planning to expand the share of self-manageable ones to 70 percent by 2050 to establish a more secure power supply system.

AEC research laboratories have been working on renewable energy technologies in areas such as wind power, solar power, geothermal utilization and ocean thermal conversion to achieve the 30 percent goal, the official said.

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