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Taiwan Approves New Regulatory Law

Taiwanese president Chen Shui-bian has signed into law new requirements for the regulation and inspection of nuclear facilities.

The new law, which was drawn up by Taipei's Atomic Energy Council (AEC), was signed by Mr Chen on 15th January.

The AEC says the law provides regulatory requirements for all "licensing and inspection activities concerning nuclear reactor facilities", including regulations relating to construction, operation, and suspension of commissioning and decommissioning. An English translation of the law will be posted on the AEC's website (www.fcma.aec.gov.tw) in two months' time.

Meanwhile, a separate "ionising radiation protection law" will come into effect in Taiwan on 1st February. The AEC says this law will ensure the "proper management of radioactive materials, equipment capable of producing ionising radiation, and radiation practices". AEC will act as the regulatory authority for the law, which also introduces penalties for "unauthorised radiation practices".

The laws are the latest in a series of nuclear-related legal announcements [see News No. 6, 7th January].

Source: AEC

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