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Japan: New Energy Strategy Approved

By MARTIN FACKLER APRIL 11, 2014

Japan's cabinet approved a new national energy strategy on Friday that designates nuclear power as an important energy source and calls for restarting idled nuclear plants that meet new safety standards. The new strategy, first proposed by the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe two months ago, scraps a promise made by a previous government after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster to phase out atomic energy. Under the new plan, Japan could start as early as August to restart at least some of its 48 operable commercial reactors, which were stopped after the Fukushima accident spread nuclear radiation across northern Japan.

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