

Public Acceptance in Finland

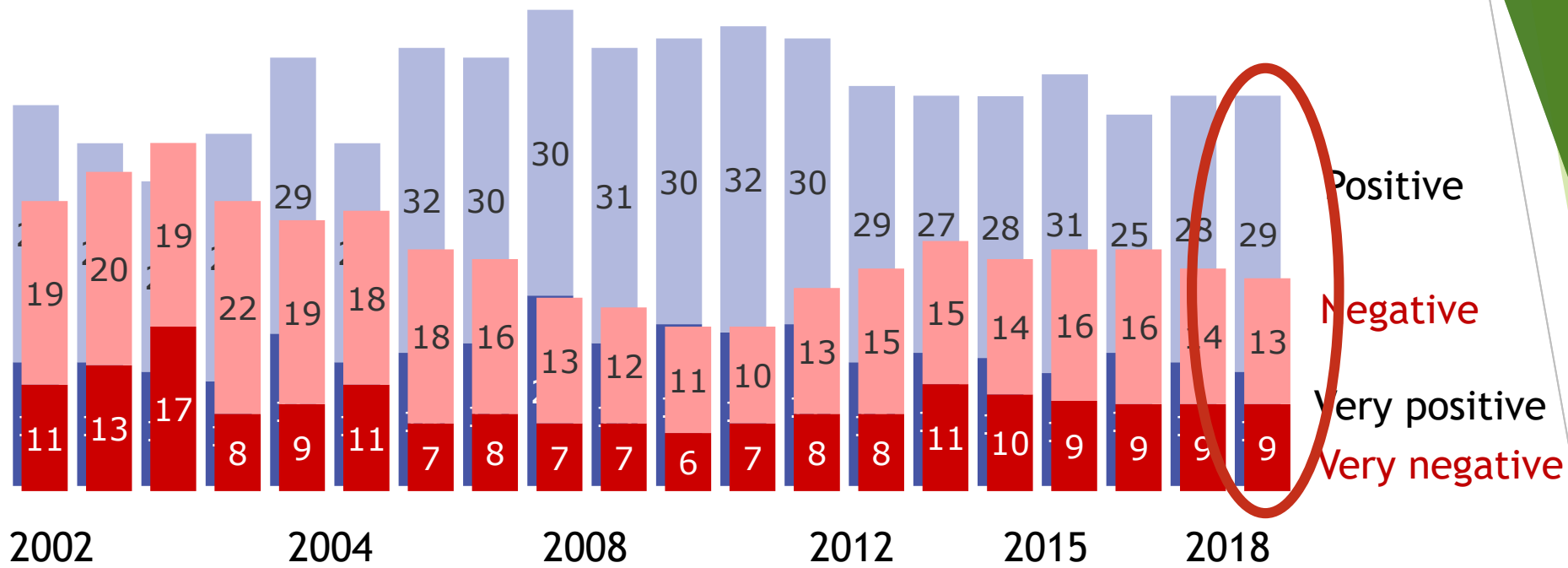
What is happening with nuclear in Finland and why?

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July 2018, South Korea

Part One

Background - The Situation



Public acceptance in Finland

41 % in favor

22 % opposed

Acceptance near the new greenfield-site

What is your opinion about Fennovoima building a nuclear power plant to Pyhäjoki?

Pyhäjoki



► In May 2018, Helsinki city council passed a vote to investigate “non-bioenergy options” for providing clean district heating.

► Continuation to an earlier initiative to inspect the possibilities of district heating with nuclear, including SMR’s.

► Since then, several other big cities have similar initiatives, some of them written by Green politicians

Nuclear option for district heating

Green party

Månsson Björn (SFP)	Koskinen Kauko (Kok.)	Bogomoloff Harry (Kok.)	Rautava Risto (Kok.)	Kivikäs Oso (Vihr.)	Soinvaara Osmo (Vihr.)	Sinnemäki Anni (Vihr.)	Heiniluoma Eveliina (SDP)	Taipale Ilkka (SDP)	Vuorjoki Anna (Vas.)
Donner Jörn (SFP)	Urho Ulla-Marja (Kok.)	Hakola Juha (Kok.)	Vapaavuori Jan (Kok.)	Karimäki Emma (Vihr.)	Holopainen Mari (Vihr.)	Saares Pauliina (Vihr.)	Haanpää Tuula (SDP)	Heiniluoma Eero (SDP)	Arhinmäki Paavo (Vas.)
Biaudet Eva (SFP)	Pelkonen Jaana (Kok.)	Asko-Seljavaara Sirpa (Kok.)	Karhuvaara Arja (Kok.)	Raattainen Mika (PerusS)	Chydenius Jussi (Vihr.)	Stranius Leo (Vihr.)	Walgren Thomas (SDP)	Taipale Kaarin (SDP)	Puhakka Sirpa (Vas.)
Rantala Marcus (SFP)	Klemetti Tapio (Kok.)	Muurinen Seija (Kok.)	Koulumies Terhi (Kok.)	Hannula Jussi (PerusS)	Hamid Jasmin (Vihr.)	Vesikansa Sanna (Vihr.)	Love Jape (SDP)	Jalovaara Ville (SDP)	Honkasalo Veronika (Vas.)
Borgarsdöt... Sandelin Silja (SFP)	Vartiainen Juhana (Kok.)	Rydman Wille (Kok.)	Peltokorpi Terhi (Kesk.)	Rajaniemi Mari (PerusS)	Juva Kati (Vihr.)	Oskala Hannu (Vihr.)	Vaara Mirka (SDP)	Järvinen Jukka (SDP)	Koivulaakso Dan (Vas.)
Laaksonen Heimo (Kok.)	Kaleva Atte (Kok.)	Harkimo Joel (Kok.)	Puska Pekka (Kesk.)	Kopra Pia (PerusS)	Yanar Ozan (Vihr.)	Ohisalo Maria (Vihr.)	Vepsäläinen Sirkka (SDP)	Mohamed Abdurahim (SDP)	Muttillainen Sami (Vas.)
Nygård Mia (Kok.)	Pajunen Jenni (Kok.)	Sazonov Daniel (Kok.)	Ebeling Mika (KD)	Hyötyläinen Nelli (PerusS)	Alametsä Alviina (Vihr.)	Hernberg Kaisa (Vihr.)	Vartiainen Rikka (Vihr.)	Abdulla Zahra (Vas.)	Said Ahmed Suldaan (Vas.)
Parpala Matti (Kok.)	Meri Otto (Kok.)	Saxberg Mirita (Kok.)	Venemies Mauri (KD)	Strandén Johanna (PerusS)	Tamminen Lijja (Vihr.)	Harjanne Atte (Vihr.)	Silvennoinen Satu (Vihr.)	Korkkula Vesa (Vas.)	Malin Petra (Vas.)
Niskanen Dani (Kok.)	Apter Ted (Kok.)	Pennanen Petrus (PIR)	Aro Katju (FP)						

Vote chart: green ones are yes-votes

The Green Party

- ▶ Finnish Green party updated their official line towards nuclear in June 2018:
 - ▶ *“To stop climate change, The Greens will have an open mind towards the research and development of all low-carbon and environmentally friendly technologies. The last two nuclear-projects in Finland have been both slow and problematic. We do not want more of those.”*
- ▶ The party includes a large subgroup “Greens for Science and Technology” that is mostly pro-nuclear, and is growing in influence.

Onkalo - First Final Repository in the World

- ▶ Good framing and communication of the project led to two municipalities competing to get the site
- ▶ It's good to have professional communicators planning the strategy (engineers are good at engineering...)
- ▶ Open, transparent discussions with local people, emphasizing the benefits (jobs, taxes etc).
- ▶ Not forcing the site on anyone

The Media

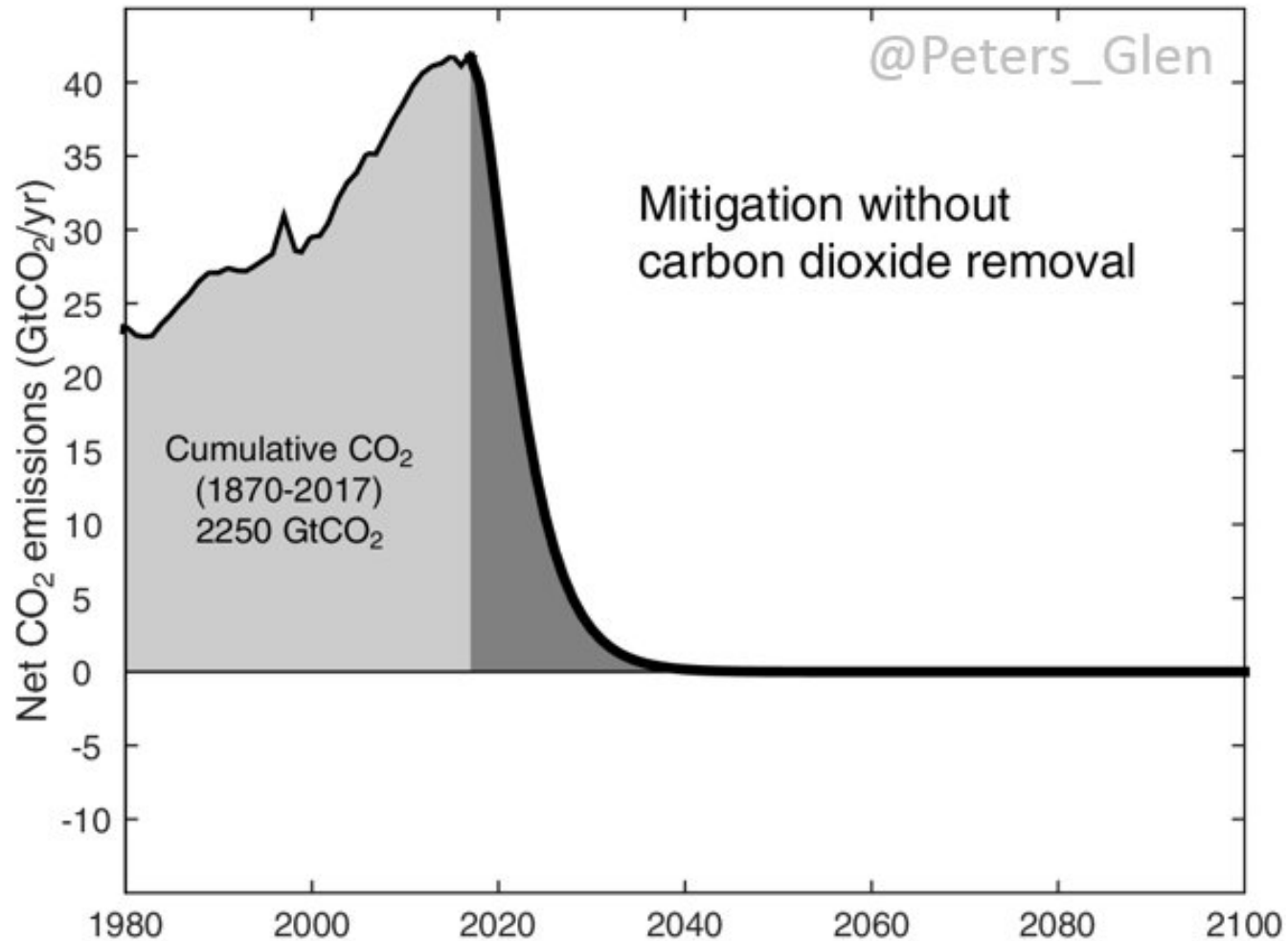
- ▶ Traditionally, media has been quite negative on nuclear
 - ▶ Only seeing the risks, not the benefits
 - ▶ Portraying nuclear as irresponsible “evil big business”
- ▶ For the last year, stories have been neutral or positive
 - ▶ Can we decarbonize district heating with SMR’s?
 - ▶ What can we do with advanced nuclear reactors?
 - ▶ Should we allow for a level playing field instead of picking favourites?
- ▶ It has become “normal” to be curious or positive about nuclear!

Part Two

How are we in this situation?
Communicating the value of nuclear

Some reasons

- Environmentalists have started discussing nuclear as a good tool to mitigate climate change (“The Ecomodernist Society of Finland”)
 - NOT talking about safety, but the benefits. Climate!

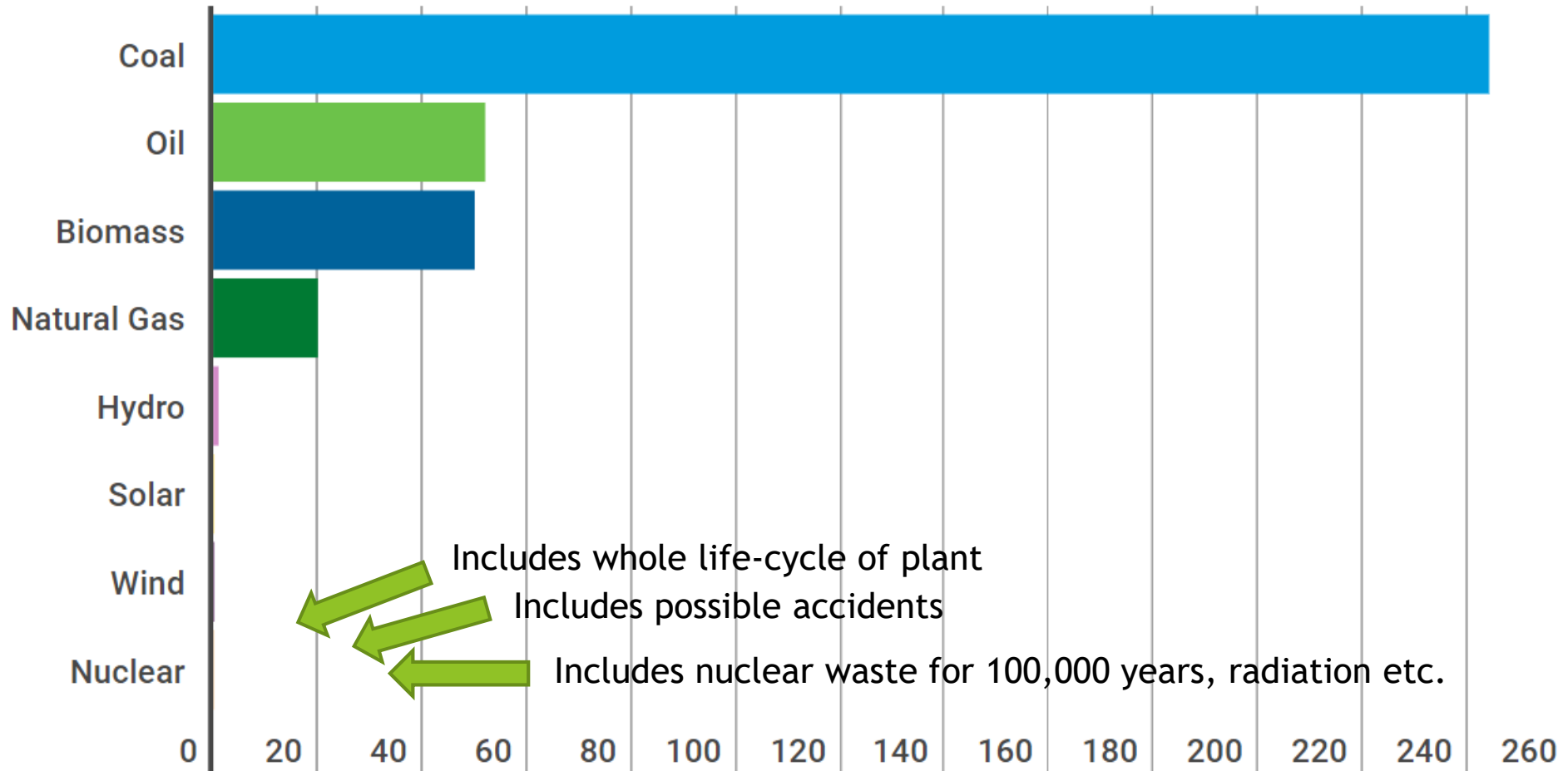


Some reasons

- Environmentalists have started discussing nuclear as a good tool to mitigate climate change (“The Ecomodernist Society of Finland”)
 - NOT talking about safety, but the benefits. Climate!
 - NOT talking about nuclear waste either. Here is why:
 1. It’s tiny
 2. It’s solid
 3. It’s collected and taken care of
 4. It’s recyclable and reusable
 5. It has never hurt anyone

Safety and waste case in a nutshell

Deaths per terawatt hour by energy source



Some reasons

- Environmentalists have started discussing nuclear as a good tool to mitigate climate change (“The Ecomodernist Society of Finland”)
 - NOT talking about safety, but the benefits. Climate!
 - NOT talking about nuclear waste either. It is the best waste.
 - Not opposing renewable energy, but arguing for inclusivity, cooperation and a level playing field
 - Constantly calling out misinformation in media and public/policy debate
 - Advanced / small nuclear is exciting and a “fresh start” for many
 - Can be used to decarbonize sectors outside electricity, such as industrial and district heat, desalination, synfuels production
 - Young people don’t have “baggage” from Cold War or Chernobyl, many know that Fukushima didn’t cause much radiation harm
 - Many know radiation fear has been more harmful than radiation itself
 - Started with a few environmentalists speaking up with facts and giving others the social licence to support nuclear publicly
 - Shared values (environmentalism, climate change, helping the poor get wealthier) are extremely important

Part Three

Thank you.

Discussion