

# Political Agendas of Japan's Energy Policy: Opportunities and Constraints

Daniel P. Aldrich  
Purdue University and USAID

# Themes

Government' s involvement with nuclear power

- a) Assistance with site selection
- b) Use of various policy tools

Bottom up, civil-society responses to ongoing  
compounded disaster / nuclear crisis

- a) Mass protest
- b) Citizen science
- c) Local and national referenda

# Locations of Host Communities



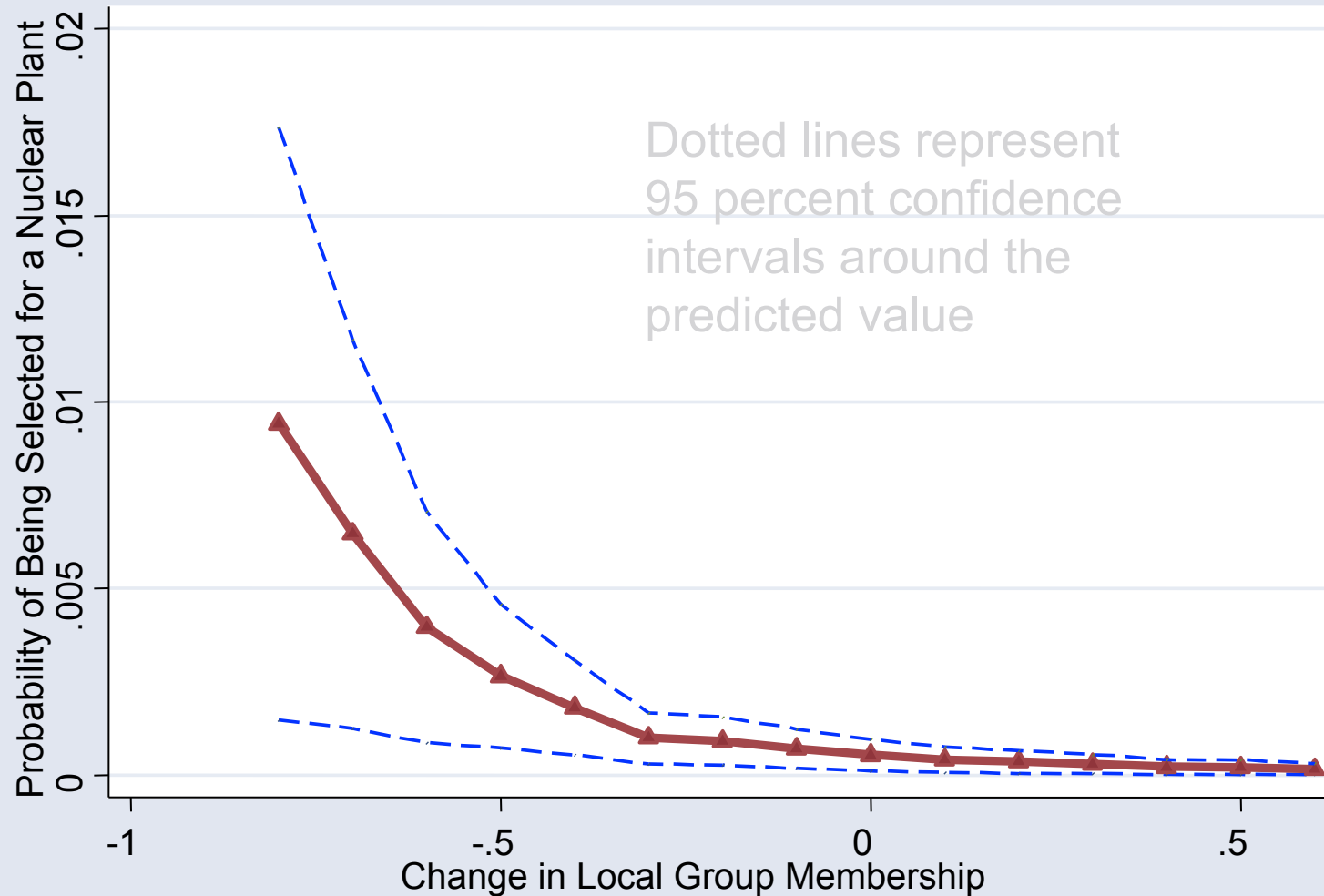
# 6 Approaches to Site Selection

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Technocratic Criteria</b>             | Geology and geography determine sites  |
| <b>Partisan discrimination</b>           | Dominant political party punishes political opponents  |
| <b>Discrimination against Minorities</b> | Racial/ethnic majority punishes minority   |
| <b>Economics</b>                         | Wealthy neighborhoods push away facilities; poorer ones seek potential jobs, taxes, and income |
| <b>Political intervention</b>            | Strong politicians bring home what they see as “pork” or push away “bads”                      |
| <b>Civil Society</b>                     | Mobilization against facilities depends upon social capital                                    |

## Dependent Variable: Selection/Exclusion as Nuclear Power Plant Host

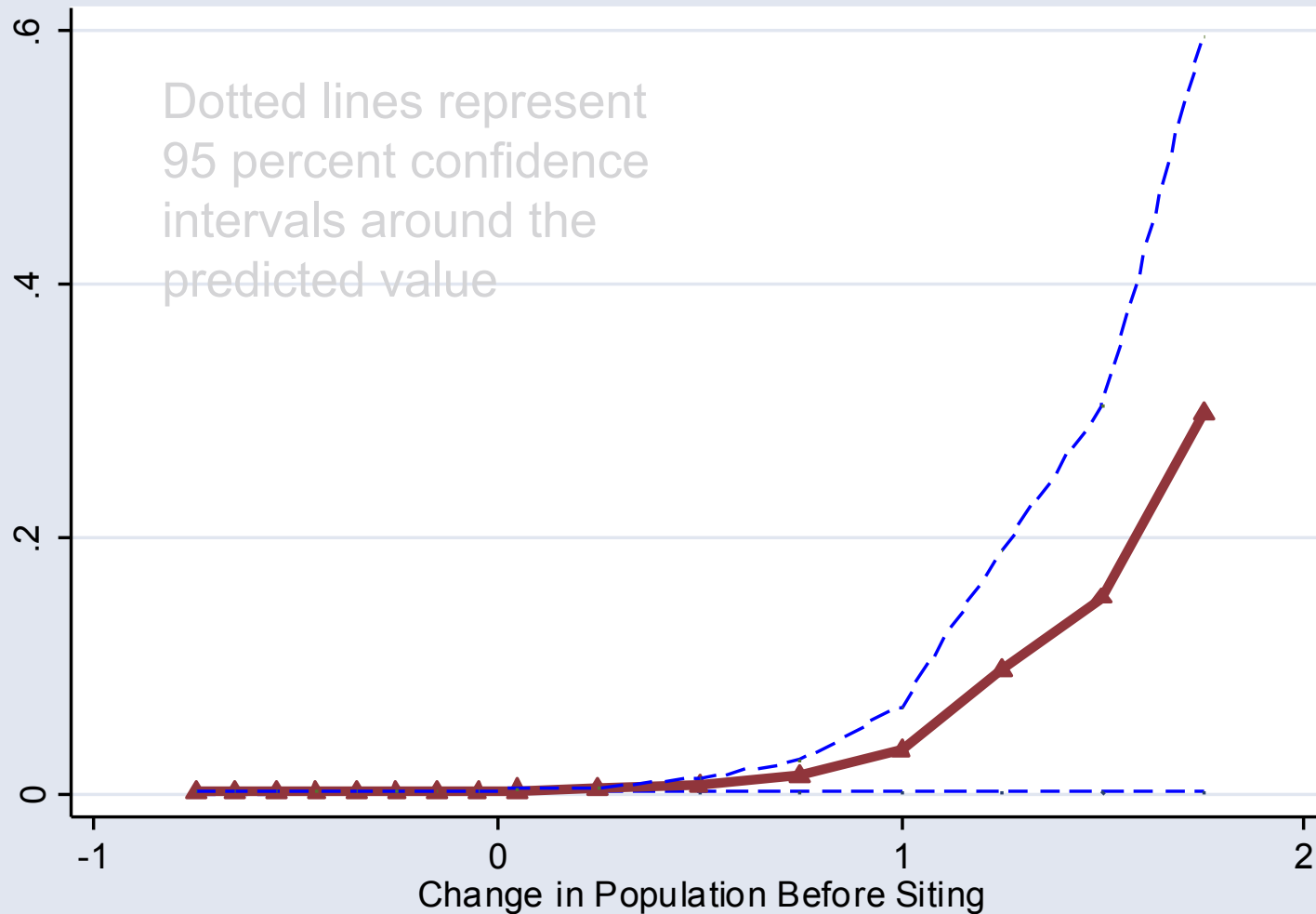
| Nuclear Power Plants                    | Coefficient of 100 to 1 |
|---|-------------------------|
| Quality of Civil Society                | 1.865112*               |
| Town Area                               | -0.0001212              |
| Population Density                      | -0.00229                |
| Quantity of Civil Society               | -3.515351***            |
| Tertiary Sector Employment Change       | 0.7537947               |
| Over Time LDP support                   | 1.814458                |
| District Magnitude                      | 0.0224871               |
| Number of LDP members in Lower House    | -0.360702               |
| LDP Percentage in LH                    | 0.883638                |
| Socialists in LH                        | -0.1798156              |
| Communists in LH                        | 0.7192444               |
| Number of Other Party Legislators in LH | 0.1388701               |
| Presence of Powerful LDP member         | 0.5785972**             |
| Presence of Prime Minister              | -0.7938704              |
| Pre 1975                                | -0.4882241              |
| Constant                                | -8.115376               |

# ↑ Civil Society, ↓ Probability of Selection as Host



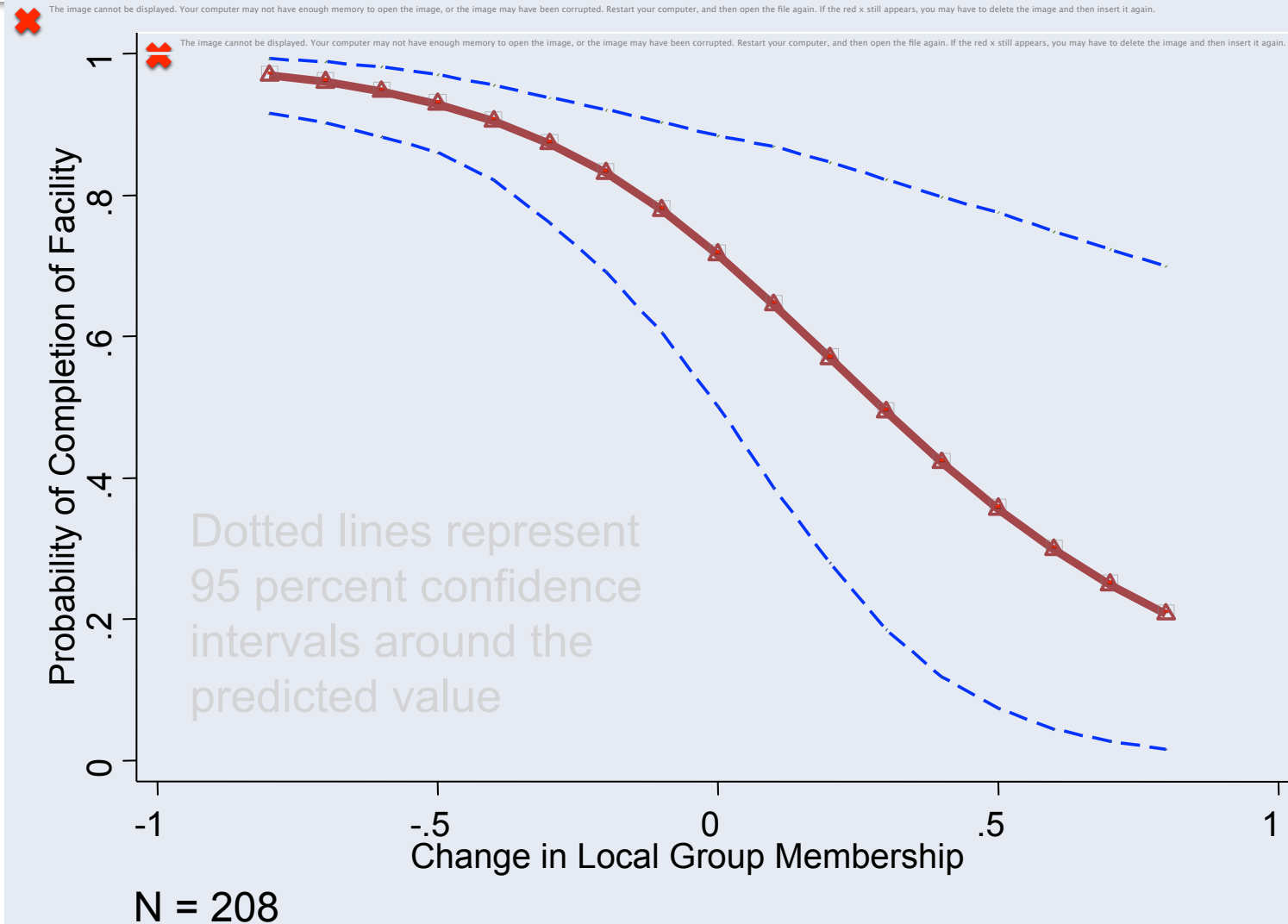
N = 188

↓ Solidarity,  
↑ Probability of Selection as Host



N = 188

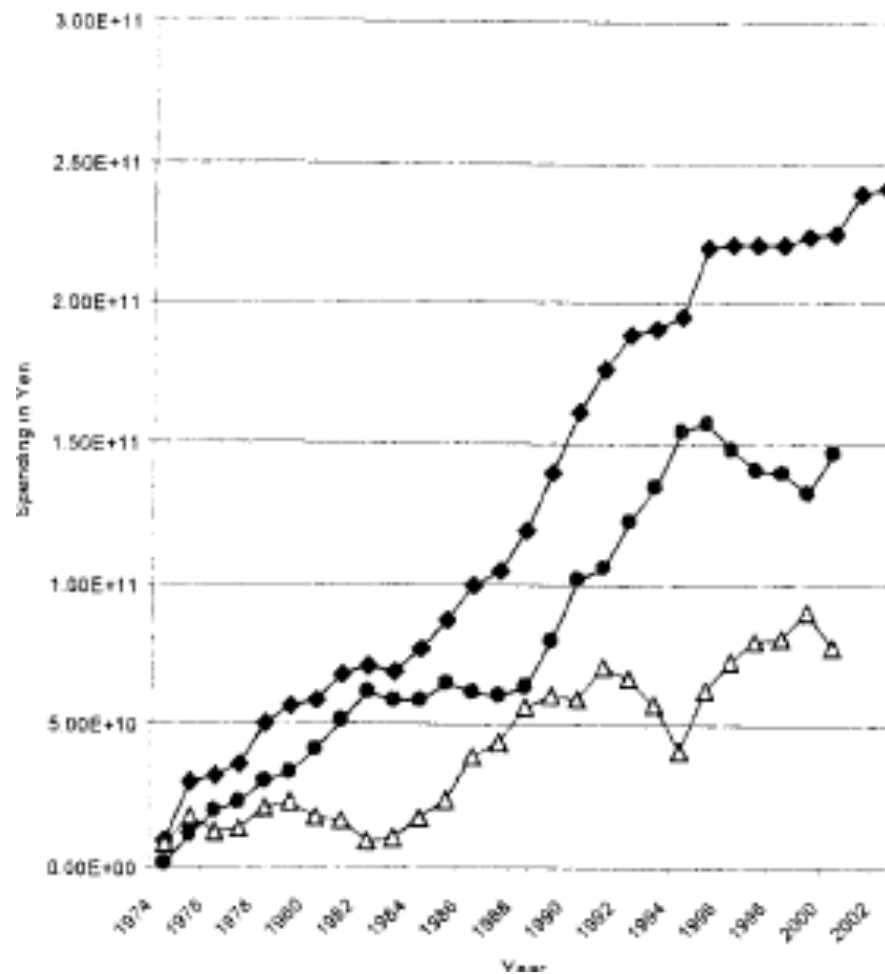
# ↑ Horizontal Associations, ↓ Probability of Project Completion





# Dengen Sanpō

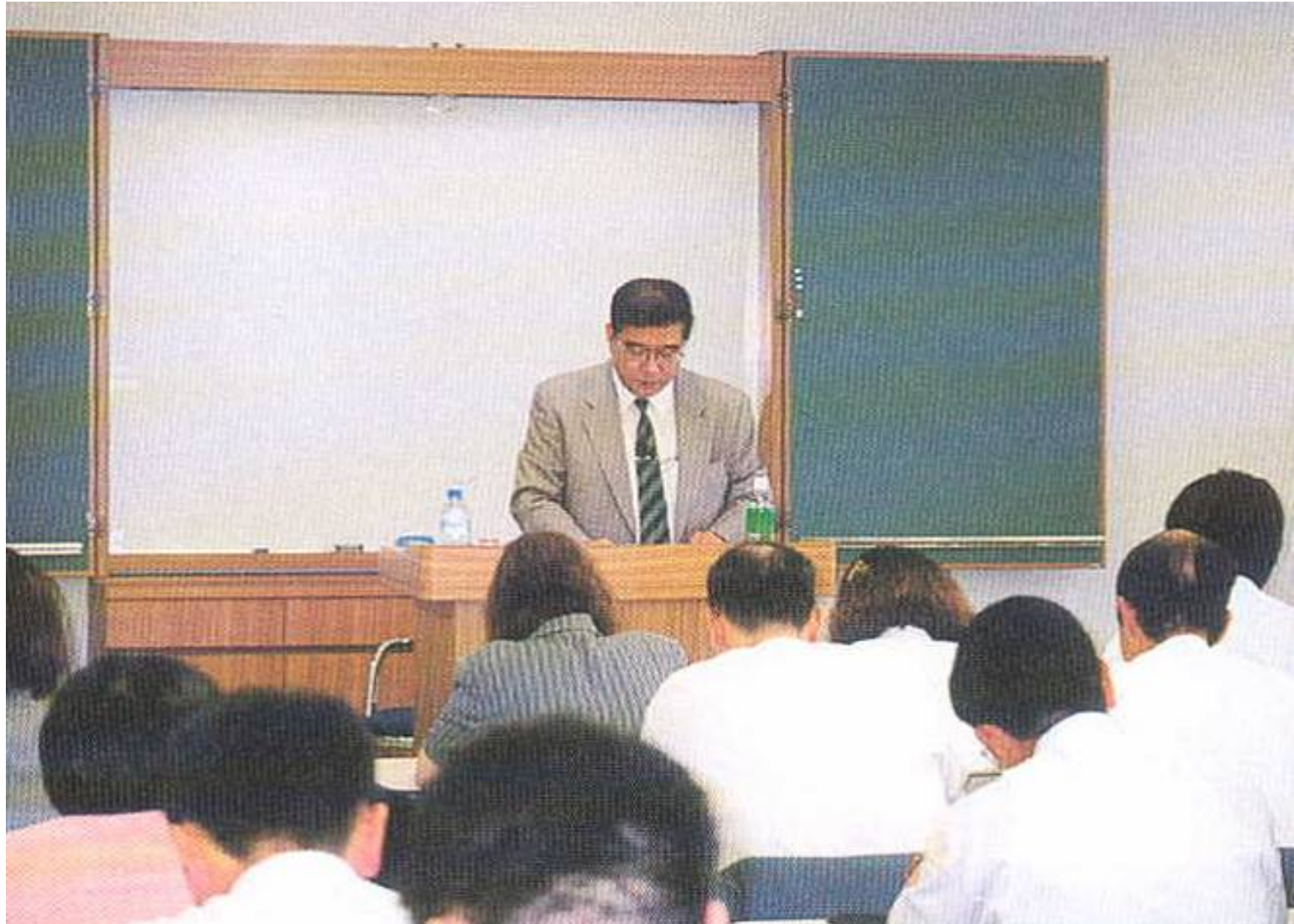
MITI Spending on NPP Siting, in Yen



# Habitation Visit



# Scientist Visit





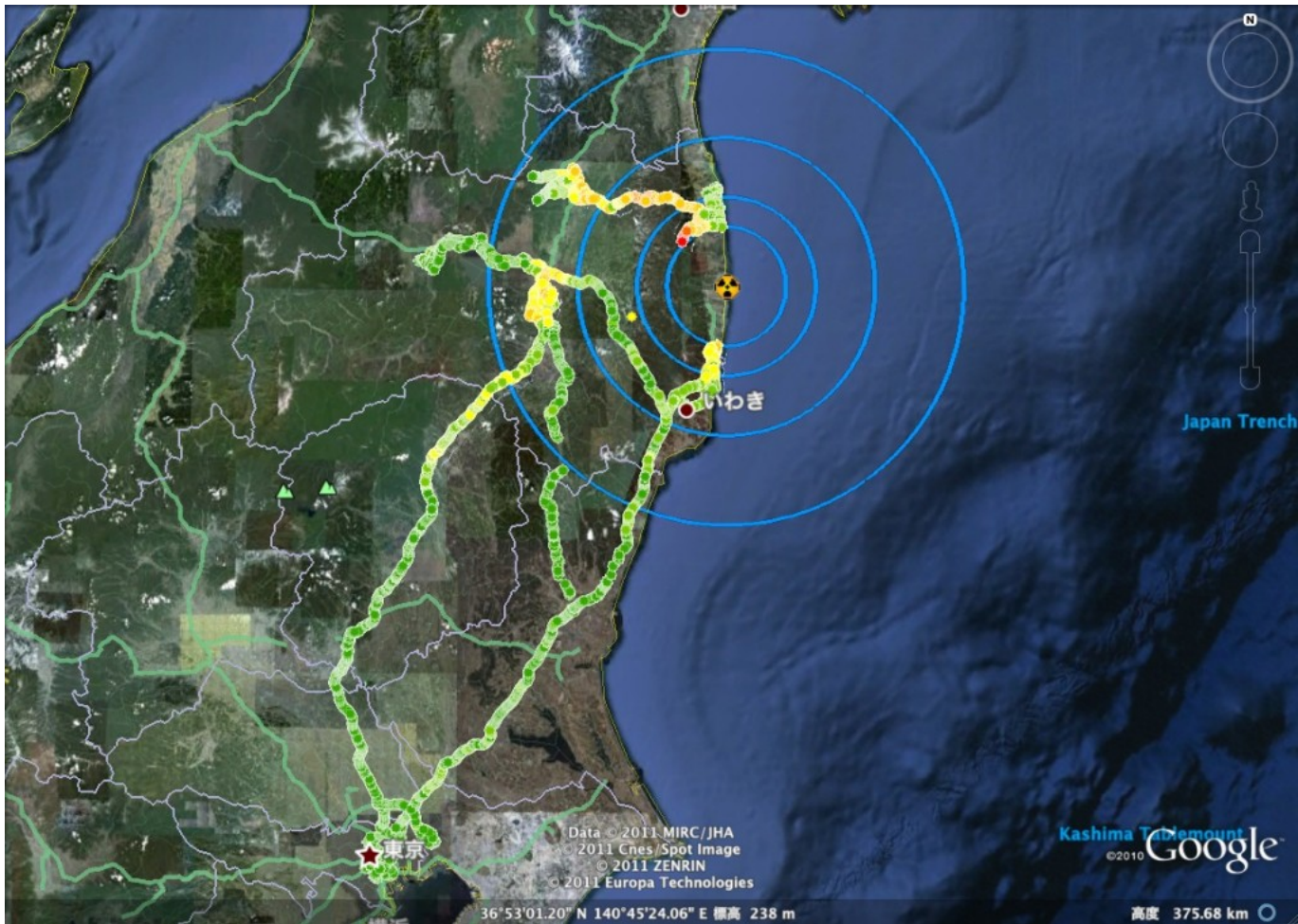
# Annual Electricity Fair



# Public Opinion on N-Power

| Date / Source             | Increase | Maintain status quo | Decrease | Abolish | No opinion |
|---------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|---------|------------|
| Dec. 2005 (PM Office)     | 55       | 20                  | 14       | 2       | 7          |
| Oct. 2009 (PM)            | 59       | 19                  | 14       | 1       | 5          |
| April 2011 (Yomiuri)      | 10       | 46                  | 29       | 12      | 3          |
| June 2011 (Asahi)         | 4        | 41                  | 36       | 16      | 3          |
| August 2011 (Soka gakkai) | 5        | 49                  | 32       | 13      | 1          |

# SafeCast ([www.safecast.org](http://www.safecast.org))





# Mass Anti-Nuclear Protest





[http://www.youtube.com/watch?](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVuGwcgdlhQ)  
[v=rVuGwcgdlhQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVuGwcgdlhQ)



# Conclusions

Citizens seeking end to nuclear village / iron triangle

New policies must better integrate citizens into the decision making process