

IS “NUCLEAR” SO EASY TO HANDLE?: THE CASE OF SITE SELECTION IN WUQIU, TAIWAN

Morgan Chih-Tung Huang

Department of Public Administration, National Open University

ABSTRACT

This paper is a legal policymaking study on the site selection process of Wuqiu using case study. It found that the case of Wuqiu has brought many impacts to the current site selection act, *Act on Sites for Establishment of Low Level Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Facility*. In general, although “non-discriminatory treatment of objective factors” is emphasized in the site selection act, as there are many institutional loopholes and defects, unpredictable controversies arise easily in the applicability of the act when selecting sites from offshore islands. To centralize the related arguments, this paper investigated the potential controversies regarding feedback fund distribution and referendum-related issues with Wuqiu as an example. According to the author, although the selection of Wuqiu has challenged the current site selection act, it brought a new opportunity to the future development of environmental governance in respect to nuclear waste disposal in Taiwan.

Keywords: nuclear waste, Wuqiu, Act on Sites for Establishment of Low Level Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Facility, referendum, feedback fund, environmental governance