

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion and Suggestion

The study “Public Decision Making on Nuclear Power Plant Policy in Thailand under Asymmetric Information” intended to obtain a general viewabout the understanding, attitude, and decision of the Thais on nuclear power plants before and after the reception of information about nuclear power plants.

In this study, the samples were selected by accidental sampling including 400 people who could give information or answered questions twice.

5.1 Conclusion

The results of research on “Public Decision Making on Nuclear Power Plant Policy in Thailand under Asymmetric Information” can be summarized as follows:

5.1.1 Basic characteristics of the sample

The survey covered 400 samples including 201 male respondents (50.25 percent) and 199 female respondents (49.75 percent). The respondents aged between 21-30 years were accounted for 58.5 percent. The respondents with bachelor's degree dominated the sample by 66 percent.

5.1.2 Average score of opinions and attitudes about nuclear power plants, both before and after obtaining theinformation.

Before obtaining the information, the average score of opinions and attitudes about nuclear power plants was 4.162. After obtaining information, the average score rose to 5.836.

In conclusion, the respondents have more understanding and more positive attitude about nuclear power plant after obtaining the information. Most respondents agree with the construction of a nuclear power plant after obtaining the information.

5.1.3 Analysis of change in knowledge and understanding about nuclear power plants, both before and after obtaining the information by Chi-Square Tests.

After obtaining the information sheet, the respondents have more knowledge about nuclear plants as follows: 1) Nuclear power plants have the lowest emissions of pollution, 2) Nuclear power plants use a chain reaction to produce electricity by splitting atom and cause steam to boil water, and 3) People living near nuclear power plants during 1 year will get radiation less than receiving an X-ray 80 times per session.

5.1.4 Analysis of the scores average about nuclear power plants, both before and after obtaining the information by T-Tests.

The study found that the average score in this question does not equal to 0 at the significance level of 0.05 as follows: 1) the respondents think that Thailand has sufficient sources of power to produce electricity over the next 30 years, 2) the respondents accept construction of nuclear power plants near their community, 3) the respondents think that nuclear power plants lead to more employment, 4) the respondents think that Thailand is ready to construct nuclear power plants, and 5) the respondents agree to construct nuclear power plants in Thailand.

5.1.5 Analysis of the knowledge and understanding scores about nuclear power plants, both before and after obtaining the information by Logit Model.

According to the Logit Model, knowledge and understanding about nuclear power plants are factors affecting respondents to choose solar energy, nuclear power plants, or other alternatives to generate electricity in the next 30 years.

The following information is influential to respondents to choose a choice of power plant to generate electricity in the next 30 years.

1) Nuclear power plant has the lowest emissions of pollution., 2) Nuclear power plant does not cause acid rain, 3) Nuclear power plants use a chain reaction to produce

electricity by splitting atom to heat the steam from boiling water, 4) Accidents from nuclear power plants do not cause atomic bomb, 5) Nuclear power plant is a solution to solve global warming, 6) Nuclear power plant has more benefits than cost, 7) Nuclear fuel can be recycled to produce nuclear energy, 8) Nuclear power plants can produce the cheapest price of electricity than other power plants, 9) Nowadays, nuclear power plants have higher safety standards than the Chernobyl power plant, 10) Accidents do not come from nuclear reactors, and 11) The amount of radiation from a nuclear power plant is not harmful to the health of people living near the power plant.

5.2 Suggestion

The establishment of nuclear power plant in Thailand needs the government to provide knowledge and information about nuclear power to the public. The study found that most people do not understand about nuclear power. This causes a problem to the construction of a nuclear power plant. The lack of information has yet made the public wrongly understand about the nuclear power.

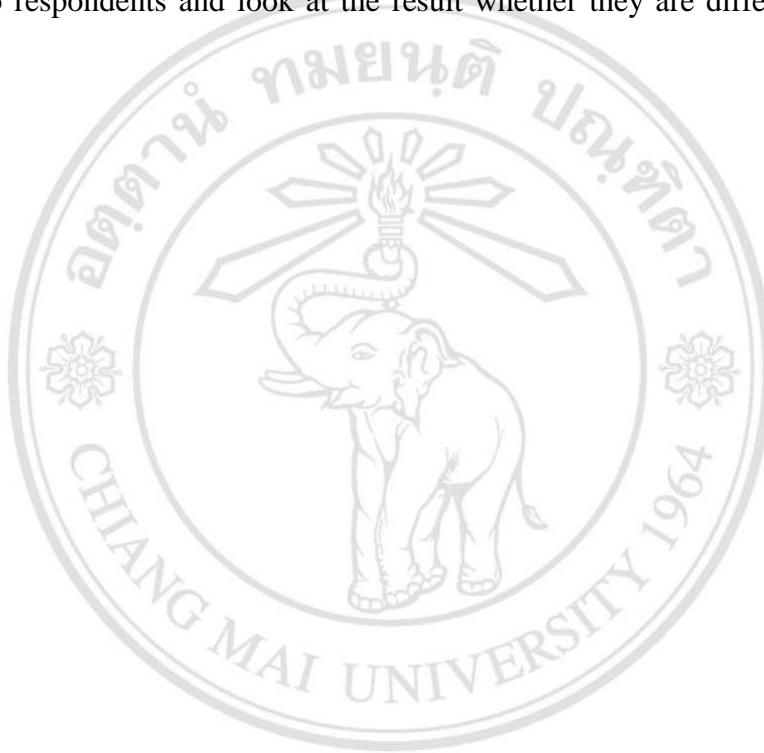
The study found some of the respondents agree to the construction nuclear power plants in Thailand but do not allow the construction near their community. This situation should be solved by an incentive for people who live around nuclear power plants such as community development fund and public utility system to facilitate people who live around nuclear power plants.

While, the public's understanding of nuclear power plants is incorrect, but the production of electricity by nuclear power plant would bring benefits to society, therefore the government should give correct information to the public to make sure that the public make right decision under complete information.

5.3 Further study

5.3.1 The next study should figure out the amount of incentive such as community development fund and public utility system to facilitate people who live around nuclear power plant.

5.3.2 This study only provides positive information about nuclear power plants. Therefore it is interesting to do further research by providing both positive and negative information to respondents and look at the result whether they are different from this study.



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