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**INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY – DISMANTLING AND  
DECONTAMINATION OF EQUIPMENT OF UNITS A-2 AND V-2 OF IGNALINA  
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

On 5 February, 2021 public bilateral consultations between Lithuanian Republic and Latvian Republic on the proposed activity – Dismantling and Decontamination of Units A-2 and V-2 of Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (hereinafter – proposed activity) were held. Due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions, consultations were held via remote online meeting platform (Microsoft Teams). The official languages of the meeting were Latvian and Lithuanian (consecutive translation was provided). Despite the special circumstances, the consultations were very successful and constructive as a result of effective cooperation between Lithuanian and Latvian institutions.

Hereby we present you the Minutes of the public bilateral consultations (attached) and would like to ask you to inform us about the end of the period for public hearings and the end of the transboundary environment impact assessment procedure in the Republic of Latvia. We would also appreciate additional comments made by public or institutions, if there are any.

These comments and the outcome of consultations will be taken into account by Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency during the final decision making. The final decision will be provided for the Republic of Latvia along with the reasons and considerations on which it will be based.

We would like to assure that the Republic of Lithuania will continue its contribution towards the open and transparent transboundary EIAs and the process of decision-making by providing timely opportunities for the public and the institutions of the Republic of Latvia to participate in upcoming EIAs for the projects, related to the decommissioning of Ignalina NPP.

Vice-minister

Raminta Radavičienė

Annex enclosed: Minutes of public bilateral consultations (in English).

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# TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR DISMANTLING AND DECONTAMINATION OF EQUIPMENT OF UNITS A-2 AND V-2 OF IGNALINA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

5 February 2021, 15:00-19:00

Remote online meeting via Microsoft Teams

Official languages of the meeting: Latvian and Lithuanian (consecutive translation)

### Agenda

- 15:00-15:10 Information on technical issues
- 15:10-15:30 Opening of the consultations  
Lithuania: Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group Mr. Vitalijus Auglys,  
Ministry of Environment  
Latvia: Deputy Secretary of State Mrs. Alda Ozola, Ministry of Environment  
and Regional Development
- 15:30-16:30 Presentation of the project and its EIA  
Lithuania: Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant
- 16:40-18:40 Session of questions and answers
- 18:40-19:00 Closing of the consultations  
Lithuania: Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group Mr. Vitalijus Auglys,  
Ministry of Environment  
Latvia: Director of State Environmental Bureau, Mr. Arnolds Lukšēvics

### Participants

From the **Lithuanian** side: representatives of the developer – Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; coordinating authority – Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania; competent EIA authority – Environmental Protection Agency of the Republic of Lithuania; other relevant institutions of the Republic of Lithuania: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Energy, State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate, Radiation Protection Centre.

From the **Latvian** side: representatives of Ministry of Environmental protection and Regional Development, State Environmental Bureau, Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service (Latvian RPC), Daugavpils County Council, representatives of public.

### Proceedings of the meeting

#### 1. *Information on technical issues.*

The remote online meeting of bilateral consultations (further referred to as the Meeting) started with a presentation by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania (further referred to as Lithuanian MoE) of general technical information on the usage of the Teams platform.

#### 2. *Opening of the consultations.*

The meeting was officially opened by representatives of Lithuanian MoE and Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (further referred to as Latvian MoERD).

#### 3. *Presentation of the project and its EIA.*

Representative of the developer – Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (further referred to as Ignalina NPP) presented comprehensive information on the Mega Project of Decommissioning of Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (further referred to as the Mega Project), its strategy, time schedule, past, current and upcoming EIAs with an emphasis on the current sub-project – Dismantling and Decontamination of Equipment of Units A-2 and V-2 (further referred to as the Project).

#### 4. Session of questions and answers.

The session started after a short break. Information on the questions and answers is provided below.

Q. (Arnolds Lukšēvics, Latvian State Environmental Bureau): there are three more EIAs foreseen within the scope of the Mega Project (R1, R2 and R3 zones). What is the preliminary time schedule and are there considerations to merge these procedures into a single EIA?

A. (Lithuanian MoE, Ignalina NPP): as mentioned during the presentation, the Mega Project is widely spread in time, however the position of Lithuanian MoE is to merge as many separate components (sub-projects) into larger projects as possible. However, there are issues related to the public procurement procedures and acquisition of funds and these procedures significantly prolong the planning and implementation of the sub-projects. Also, Ignalina NPP has already prepared the EIA Reports for dismantling of equipment in R1 and R2 zones and these documents will be presented to the Latvian side by the end of 2021. However, the dismantling of equipment in R3 zone is a complicated project and the Ignalina NPP will have to procure these services from the outside experts; preliminary date for the start of EIA procedures is the year 2023 or 2024. All EIA documents will be presented to the Latvian side for consultations according to the Espoo Convention and national legislation.

Q. (Arnolds Lukšēvics, Latvian State Environmental Bureau): what are approximate amounts of wastewater generated during the Project and will the existing wastewater treatment plants be capable of treating them?

A. (Ignalina NPP): wastewater generated during the Project is classified as secondary waste (primary waste being the dismantled equipment). Estimated amount of liquid radioactive waste (wastewater) is 2800 m<sup>3</sup>, which is accumulated in block A2 and intermittently transferred to the radioactive wastewater treatment plant without any contact with the environment. The capacity of the treatment plant is sufficient to treat this amount.

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): what methodology and what data were used for estimating annual equivalent radiation doses beyond the NPP territory?

A. (Ignalina NPP): we used methodology by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), provided in the Report "Generic Models for Use in Assessing the Impact of Discharges of Radioactive Substances to the Environment" and a predictive list and doses of radionuclides to be emitted during implementation of the Project.

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): will there be new air radiation monitoring equipment installed for monitoring the effects of the Project or will the existing monitoring system used for this purpose?

A. (Ignalina NPP): since the Project will be implemented within the NPP territory, the existing monitoring equipment will be used.

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): which radionuclides are monitored in the water currently and will the list of these radionuclides be amended because of implementation of the Project?

A. (Ignalina NPP): the following radionuclides are monitored in the Lake of Drūkšiai: cesium-137 and 134, manganese-54, cobalt-58 and 60, iron-59, chromium-51, zirconium-95, iodine-131 (Cs-137, Cs-134, Mn-54, Co-58, Co-60, Fe-59, Cr-51, Zr-95, I-131).

Q. (Jolanta Bāra, Daugavpils County Council): how is the local public informed about the activities of the Projects in the NPP? There is a request from the Latvian public to be able to get information about these activities as well. Also, how Latvian public would be able to find relevant information in case of an emergency situation?

A. (Ignalina NPP, Lithuanian State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate): all relevant information about the ongoing and upcoming dismantling activities and projects as well as monitoring data is made public on the website of the NPP in three languages: Lithuanian, English and Russian (<https://www.iae.lt/en/activity/decommissioning-projects/155>, <https://www.iae.lt/en/activity/environmental-impact-assessment/154>). Information is also provided to Visaginas municipality and local/national press. In case of emergency situations, all related information would be provided on the website of the NPP in the three mentioned languages. Additionally, there is a special internal protocol to be followed for informing the neighbouring countries about the incidents or emergency situations. An international agreement with the Republic of Latvia on prompt notification about a nuclear accident was signed in 2003. According to this agreement, all information would be forwarded directly to relevant institutions of the Republic of Latvia.

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): is there information related to environmental monitoring, e.g. air, water, soil publicly available on the website of the NPP?

A. (Ignalina NPP, Lithuanian MoE): on the website we are providing general environmental information for the common public. Specific information is usually not relevant to the public and can be provided upon request (in Lithuanian). This information is also compiled into annual reports, provided to the local municipality and relevant Lithuanian institutions. Also, last year Lithuanian MoE provided specific monitoring data to the Latvian side as a part of the Post-project Analysis Report. Additional information is available upon request.

The dose rate measurement data is available in real time on the website of the NPP:  
<https://www.iae.lt/en/enviromental-protection/180>

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): what are the plans for storing the estimated amounts of spent nuclear fuel assemblies?

A. (Ignalina NPP): a spent nuclear fuel storage facility, which had been built in the year 2000 was fully filled in 2010; there are 6016 spent nuclear fuel assemblies stored in the facility. We have a new facility with a capacity for storing 17 000 assemblies which is sufficient for the Project.

Q. (Dace Šatrovska, Latvian RPC): What are the future plans for geological repository of spent nuclear fuel?

A. (Ignalina NPP): we are in the initial planning stages of the project for construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning of the deep geological repository. The construction of the repository is preliminary planned for the year 2066. Additional information on this topic can be found on the website of the NPP:

<https://www.iae.lt/en/activity/decommissioning-projects/deep-geological-repository/424>

##### *5. Closing of the consultations.*

Whereas no more questions were raised, the meeting was officially closed by the representatives of Lithuanian MoE and Latvian State Environmental Bureau. It was concluded that the consultations were successful and the information presented was sufficient. The presentation by Ignalina NPP will be made available to the Latvian side (in English). Further information related to the Project and the Mega Project be timely provided to the Latvian side.