

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF DECOMMISSIONING OF THE IGNALINA NPP

## MINUTES OF TRANSBOUNDARY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

January 14, 2026 / Time: 14:00–15:15

Remote online meeting via Zoom Meetings

Language of the meeting: English (with simultaneous translation into Latvian)

### Agenda

14:00 – 14:05	Opening of the meeting
14:05 – 14:53	Presentation of the proposed economic activity and its Environmental Impact Assessment (further referred to as EIA) Report.
14:53 – 15:12	Question and Answer Session
15:12	Closing of the meeting

### Participants (total number of connections to Zoom: 45)

From the **Latvian** side: representatives of the State Environmental Service, State Emergency Medical Service, State Defence Military Facilities and Procurement Center, Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development, Augšdaugava Municipality Central Administration, other institutions and the interested public.

From the **Lithuanian** side: representatives of the Ministry of the Environment, State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate, Radiation Protection Centre, Organizer of Proposed Economic Activity, Developer of EIA Report and other representatives.

### Proceedings of the meeting

#### 1. *Technical information and opening of the meeting*

The remote online meeting of transboundary consultations (further referred to as a Meeting) was officially opened by the representative of the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment and the purpose of the meeting was briefly described. A Latvian representative from the State Environmental Service provided the opening speech, briefly informed the Latvian authorities about the procedure and deadlines for submitting comments.

The floor was given to the developer of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report to present the proposed economic activity and its environmental impact assessment report.

## *2. Presentation of the proposed economic activity and its EIA*

The developer of the EIA Report (a representative of the Lithuanian Energy Institute) gave a presentation on the objectives, procedures of the EIA process and the stages of EIA documents preparation. The organizer of the proposed economic activity and the developer of the EIA Report were introduced, the proposed economic activity and its stages were described.

The content of the EIA Report and the information contained in the individual chapters of the report were reviewed. The assessment of potential environmental impacts during the decommissioning of INPP was presented – what substances will be released into the ambient water and air due to the combustion of fuel (natural gas, diesel fuel), the treatment of materials (cutting, cleaning), the use of water for technological processes and cleaning/decontamination activities, construction/demolition works and other processes that will be implemented. The INPP decommissioning activities will not have a negative impact on environmental components such as the land surface, underground, the landscape, biodiversity, the socio-economic environment, and immovable cultural heritage. The assessment has shown that impact on the environment from the decommissioning of INPP will be local and limited within the INPP site and a 3 km radius sanitary protection zone. Due to the decommissioning of the INPP, the annual effective dose of a resident of Lithuania, as well as of residents of more distant neighboring countries, will not exceed 0.01 mSv and from a radiological impact point of view, it can be considered insignificant. The assessment of possible radiological accidents has indicated that, even in cases of the most severe radiological accidents, the radiation dose to members of the neighboring population would be approximately 10 times lower than the internationally recognized dose limit of 1 mSv/year.

## *3. Question and Answer Session (Q&A)*

The Q&A session started after presenting the proposed economic activity and EIA Report. The questions (from the Latvian side) and answers (from the Lithuanian side) are presented below.

**Q:** The representative of the Augšdaugava Municipality Central Administration asked whether the dismantling of the reactor R3 zone would generate Class G and F radioactive waste. These classes are not indicated in the provided figure of the materials being dismantled. The representative requested more information about class G and F waste.

**A:** The representative of the EIA Report developer (Lithuanian Energy Institute) responded that the figure only shows the classes of materials that will be dismantled and treated.

Spent fuel, sealed sources (Class G and F waste) will be sorted out, and they will be managed in their own way. Class G waste (spent nuclear fuel) is already taken out from the reactor units and

placed into dry storage casks for long-term storage at the facilities that are outside the Ignalina NPP site. For SNF storage facility, separate environmental impact assessment report has been prepared. This environmental impact assessment report of the proposed activity considers radioactive releases due to management of all radioactive waste, including not indicated in the figure.

**Q:** The representative of the Augšdaugava Municipality Central Administration asked about the periodicity of monitoring and is it also planned after the completion of the remediation work.

**A:** The representative of the EIA Report developer replied that the monitoring is carried out in accordance with the monitoring programs. The monitoring programs are reviewed each time when the scope of monitoring is changed. Some pollution sources disappear due to decommissioning, some buildings are demolished, some stacks dismantled, some releases discontinued. And if some new sources are established (new stacks, etc.) monitoring scope increases. There are requirements what to monitor. If the pollution sources and impacts remain, the monitoring will remain. As it was told in presentation, after the decommissioning of NPP site, there will remain some nuclear facilities. Therefore, monitoring of these nuclear facilities will continue.

**Q:** The representative of the State Environmental Service mentioned that according to the EIA report and summary, it is planned to build the LILW-SL (low and intermediate-level radioactive waste – short-lived) repository and start its operation in 2030. What is the current progress of the construction of the LILW-SL repository?

**A:** The representative of the organizer of the proposed economic activity (Ignalina NPP /Altra, Lithuania) answered that currently the site preparation works for near surface repository are ongoing and it is planned to start basement concreting works this year. The construction of the repository will be completed in 2029. The representative of the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment provided additional clarification that there was a separate transboundary EIA procedure for that repository and additional information will be provided in the reports on post-project analysis. The reports on post-project monitoring will be shared with Latvia, so all the information about the environmental situation will be provided.

**Q:** The representative of the Augšdaugava Municipality Central Administration noted that in the Section 3.8 of EIA Summary is stated that some of the radioactive waste will be disposed of in a deep geological repository planned to be built in Lithuania. Where exactly in Lithuania this repository will be built, as it was understood it will not be in the Ignalina NPP territory.

**A:** The representative of the organizer of the proposed economic activity (Ignalina NPP /Altra, Lithuania) responded that currently the exact place is not known. There are some potential areas in Lithuania which are considered to be favorable for disposal facility and currently the research activities are going on. This repository will not be located in the vicinity of the Ignalina NPP. The

representative of the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment supplemented the answer by indicating that as soon as there is any additional information on this topic, it will be shared with Latvia, as it is done in the past in other projects.

**Q:** The representative of the State Environmental Service representative asked two questions. The first one was related to electricity power supply. If the electricity supply is to be interrupted, are there backup power supply by diesel generators? How long would those generators supply the electricity? The second question was related to protective measures for the general public in case of accident at Ignalina NPP. What protective measures would be applied to the population?

**A:** The representative of the EIA Report developer replied that the backup power diesel generators are installed where they are required, for instance, spent nuclear fuel dry storage facility has such diesel generator to ensure continuous operation of the monitoring system in case of loss of power supply, etc. During the decommissioning of the Ignalina NPP, the need for backup power supply is reviewed during the dismantling of systems. If systems important for safety no longer exist and uninterrupted power supply is no longer required, generators that are no longer needed are dismantled. This has already been done, as generators that were needed during the operation of the INPP have become no longer needed and have been dismantled. Concerning public protection in case of accident, Ignalina NPP has emergency response plans and measures to protect the public in the event of an accident. However, in all cases, when assessing the impacts of accidents, it is determined that the impacts will be within a 3 km zone around the Ignalina NPP. Neighbouring countries have monitoring and accident response measures, but the releases from this planned economic activity will not be so large that these measures will need to be applied. Ignalina NPP is no longer in operation, the risks have decreased.

**Q:** The representative of the State Environmental Service noted that Latvian authorities are receiving annual post-project reports of other projects at Ignalina NPP. The representative asked whether the post-project reports for this planned economic activity will be separate or included in overall post-project report?

**A:** The representative of the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment replied that post-project reports are prepared for neighbouring countries that participate in transboundary procedures. Annual post-project report is supplemented with data on new activities and projects as they occur and if the neighbouring country requests such data.

#### *4. Closing of the meeting*

Whereas no more questions were raised, the representative of the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment informed that the record of the meeting and minutes of the meeting will be forwarded to the Latvian institutions.

The representative of the State Environmental Service has reminded that the Latvian institutions and public until a certain deadline can still submit comments to the State Environmental Service (Latvia), which will be forwarded to the Lithuanian institution.

The meeting is closed.