



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Directorate D - Nuclear Energy, Safety and ITER  
**D.3 – Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety**

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## **Main Conclusions of the Commission's Article 35 verification**

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### **POLAND**

#### **National monitoring network for environmental radioactivity around the city of Warsaw**

**Dates** 27 – 29 June 2016

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**Reference** PL 16-03

## INTRODUCTION

Article 35 of the Euratom Treaty requires that each Member State shall establish facilities necessary to carry out continuous monitoring of the levels of radioactivity in air, water and soil and to ensure compliance with the basic safety standards<sup>(1)</sup>.

Article 35 also gives the European Commission (EC) the right of access to such facilities in order that it may verify their operation and efficiency.

The radiation protection and nuclear safety unit (ENER D.3) of the EC's Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) is responsible for undertaking these verifications.

The main purpose of verifications performed under Article 35 of the Euratom Treaty is to provide an independent assessment of the adequacy of monitoring facilities for

- Liquid and airborne discharges of radioactivity into the environment by a site;
- Levels of environmental radioactivity at the site perimeter and in the marine, terrestrial and aquatic environment around the site, for all relevant pathways;
- Levels of environmental radioactivity on the territory of the Member State.

For the purpose of such a review, a verification team from DG ENER visited Poland from 27 to 29 June 2016. This mission dealt with

- Environmental radiological monitoring programme and activities as implemented around the city of Warsaw, including sampling and monitoring systems, analytical methods, quality assurance and control aspects, reporting, etc.;
- Measuring laboratories, in particular infrastructure, analytical methods, quality assurance and control aspects, as well as reporting.

The present document gives an overview of the main conclusions by the verification team concerning relevant aspects of the environmental surveillance and corresponding recommendations. More detailed information concerning the verification is available in the technical report (TR) of the verification.

## MAIN CONCLUSIONS

All verifications that had been planned by the verification team were completed successfully. The information supplied by the Polish authorities in advance of the visit, as well as the additional documentation received during and after the verification was useful.

- (1) The verification activities that were performed demonstrated that the facilities necessary to carry out continuous monitoring of radioactivity in the air, water and soil in Warsaw are adequate. The Commission services could verify the operation and efficiency of a representative part of these facilities.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Directive 96/29/Euratom of 13 May 1996 laying down basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation (OJ L-159 of 29/06/1996) which will be superseded by Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom of 5 December 2013 laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionising radiation, and repealing Directives 89/618/Euratom, 90/641/Euratom, 96/29/Euratom, 97/43/Euratom and 2003/122/Euratom (OJ L 13 of 17.1.2014, p. 1).

(2) The following recommendations and suggestions are formulated:

- a. Concerning the National Atomic Energy Agency (Section 8.1 of the TR), the verification team suggests to consider introducing a permanent location for mixed diet samples to enable trends to be followed.
- b. Concerning the Institute for Meteorology and Water Management (Section 8.4 of the TR), the verification team encourages establishing a service contract for the Permanent Monitoring Stations (PMS) stations to safeguard continuous operation of the 9 stations.

These recommendations aim at maintaining an adequate monitoring quality level in both routine and emergency conditions in Poland. Notwithstanding these recommendations the verified parts of the national monitoring system for environmental radioactivity in Poland are in conformity with the provisions laid down under Article 35 of the Euratom Treaty.

- (3) The detailed verification findings and ensuing recommendations are compiled in the 'Technical Report' that is addressed to the Polish competent authorities through the Polish Permanent Representation to the European Union.
- (4) The Commission services request a report on the implementation of the recommendations from the Polish authorities and about any significant changes in the set-up of the monitoring systems before the end of 2018. Based on this report the Commission will consider the need for a follow-up verification in Poland.
- (5) Finally, the verification team acknowledges the excellent co-operation it received from all persons involved in the activities it performed.

A. Ryan

Team Leader