

Brussels, 5 May 2005

Energy: Commission refers Greece to Court for failure to implement a Euratom Directive

The European Commission today decided to refer Greece to the European Court of Justice (ECJ) for its failure to implement a Directive¹ on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and nuclear spent fuel. The Directive aims to protect the health of workers and the general public and to avoid illicit traffic of such materials.

Member States were required to implement the Directive into national law by 25 December 2008. However, despite two formal requests, Greece has not yet informed the Commission about the full implementation of the Directive.

On 24 February 2009 the Commission sent a letter of formal notice to Greece, where it sought information on whether Greece had adopted the necessary measures to ensure that the legislation in force in Greece complied with the provisions of the Directive. On 23 November 2009, the Commission addressed a reasoned opinion under Euratom Treaty infringement procedures to Greece (see [IP/09/1798](#)) requiring it to notify implementation measures.

The Directive aims to protect the health of workers and the general public and foresees a system of control and prior authorisation for trans-border shipments of radioactive waste. This helps also to avoid illicit traffic of radioactive waste.

The Directive also improves and simplifies the existing consent procedure and ensures that countries of destination and transit are informed about transfers of radioactive waste or spent fuel to or through their territory.

See more information on Radiation Protection issues at :

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radiation_protection/radiation_protection_en.htm

¹ 2006/117/Euratom, replacing the previous Directive 92/3 Euratom