

PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

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Ref.: 2.3.9 - 1389

Brussels, 11 May 2015

European Commission  
DG ENERGY

Reply to letter ref. ENER/D3/VT/dv Ares(2015)-S113349 of 25 March 2015 from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy on the key findings of the verification provided for under Article 35 of the Euratom Treaty in Latvia.

We hereby forward a letter from the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development on rectifications to the technical report on the verifications carried in Latvia in 2014 in accordance with Article 35 of the Treaty Establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) and the summary thereof.

Should you have any questions or require further clarifications, please contact Ms Evita Stanga (tel.: +32 2 238 3137, e-mail: [evita.stanga@mfa.gov.lv](mailto:evita.stanga@mfa.gov.lv))

Annexes:

1. Letter from the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (2 pages).
2. Corrected technical report (42 pages)

Yours faithfully,

Juris Štālmeistars

Riga

Ref.: 2.18-1 e/

European Commission  
DG ENERGY

Reply to letter ref. ENER/D3/VT/dv Ares(2015)-S113349 of 25 March 2015 from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy on the key findings of the verification provided for under Article 35 of the Euratom Treaty in Latvia.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, together with the Latvian authorities, takes note of the letter ref. ENER/D3/VT dv Ares(2015)-S113349 of 25 March 2015 and the annexed technical report prepared by the European Commission on the verifications carried out in Latvia in 2014 in accordance with Article 35 of the Treaty Establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) and the summary thereof.

In assessing the technical report, we noted a number of inaccuracies in it, and accordingly we enclose herewith the technical report in question, with the following corrections:

1. Sub-point 5.2 (page 14) in the fourth row of the table in the column '*Location*', correction of a typing mistake, replacement with the entry 'Rezekne'. In the ninth row of the table, addition of a reference to the fact that the Jēkabpils station was dismantled in 2009;
2. Sub-point 5.2 of the report (page 15), we have switched the places of the column headings.
3. Sub-point 8.1.1 of the report (page 34), the unit of measurement was added in the second paragraph, i.e. nSv/h;
4. Point 8.6 of the report (page 40), in the last sentence of the first paragraph the term 'operation of the monitoring systems' was replaced by 'assessment of the monitoring systems', since in 2014 funding was allocated to assess the situation of the monitoring system and identify necessary improvements.

At the same time, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development wishes to provide an update on environmental radioactivity monitoring issues in line with the recommendations made in the European Commission's report.

- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.1 of the report – the Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service will perform the removal of 'unrealistic' nuclides from the system nuclide library and, in cooperation with system staff, perform system testing with ionising radiation sources and verification of detector performance and the ability to identify various forms of isotopes;

- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.2 of the report – the old PMS type Baldone station was dismantled in November 2014 and is not in use;
- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.3 of the report – the Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service is clarifying the calibration methods and, in cooperation with the system providers, is making adaptations to display only Bq/l monitoring data. Other recommendations are being evaluated with the system providers;
- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.4 of the Report – the Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service is dealing with the issue by having the owner move the equipment. The issue will be resolved by the relocation of the equipment in the summer of 2015 so that the rain detector is sited away from the building and its activity is not affected by the trees in the area;
- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.5 of the report – the old PMS type Jūrmala station was dismantled in November 2014 and is not in use;
- Recommendation in sub-point 8.1.7 of the report – the Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service has informed the station operator of the need to make improvements;
- Recommendation in point 8.3 of the report – in September 2014 an iCAM  $\alpha/\beta$  air monitor radionuclide emission air monitoring system was installed at the Radons radioactive waste repository and in 2015 an AT6105 spectrometric system for gamma radiation monitoring will be installed in the boreholes.
- Recommendation in point 8.6 of the report – improvements to the monitoring system at the Salaspils research reactor are scheduled to be carried out in 2015.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development would like to express its thanks for the work carried by the European Commission's inspectors in assessing the implementation of environmental radiation monitoring in Latvia.

Encl.: Corrected technical report (42 pages)

Yours faithfully,

Deputy State Secretary  
for Environmental Protection Issues

A.Ozola

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