

Dear Madam, Sir,

### **1. Retroacts**

By its Amending Act to the Act of 31 January 2003 on the Progressive Phase-Out of Nuclear Energy for the Industrial Production of Electricity, the Belgian Federal parliament decided that Doel 1 will be deactivated and can no longer produce electricity from 15 February 2025 and that Doel 2 will be deactivated and can no longer produce electricity from 1 December 2025. The Federal Agency for Nuclear Control authorized the 10 years extensions provided with some nuclear safety-related improvement works were performed by the nuclear operator, Electrabel SA.

By its arrest of 5 March 2020, the Belgian Constitutional Court stated that both the 10 years extension of Doel 1 and Doel 2 operation and the nuclear safety-related improvement works related to that extension, were part to a project listed in appendix I to the Espoo convention and should be subject to an Environmental Impact assessment (EIA) and a public consultation in the meaning of the Espoo and Aarhus Conventions and the EIA Directives. Should a new law allowing the 10 years extension not be adopted by the Belgian Parliament before 31 December 2022, the Amending Act of 28 June 2015 will be cancelled.

### **2. Proposed Project**

The proposed Project consists of the 10 years extension of the operation of Doel 1 and Doel 2 reactors and the nuclear safety-related improvement works related to that extension.

The Belgian government considers that the Proposed Project plays a vital role in securing its supply of electricity until 2025. The nuclear safety-related improvement works include, notably, the construction of three new buildings on the site: two buildings for hosting the Containment Filtered Venting system of the nuclear power reactors and one building housing the new fire extinguisher Pump Station.

### **3. Environmental impact assessments**

In order to comply with the ruling of the Constitutional Court, an environmental impact assessment on the decision to keep the Doel 1 and 2 nuclear power plants operating for a further ten years, as well as for the modernization and safety works required to ensure their optimal functioning has to be carried out, including the public and transboundary consultations.

The environmental impact assessment of this Project has been carried in two parts: one for the strategic decision to keep the nuclear power plants operating for a further ten years and one for the specific works on the modernization and safety works required to ensure their optimal functioning. These two parts form together the environmental impact assessment of the Project as defined above.

The corresponding documents and their non-technical summaries are available in French, Dutch and German.

A courtesy translation in English of the non-technical summaries and the part concerning the modernization and safety works of the Doel 1 and 2 nuclear power plants are also available.

The documents can be downloaded from the following link up to 23/04/2021:

- Download link: <https://fedsender.belnet.be/?s=download&token=0cf8f37a-b2c9-4dc1-ac5d-d035c13330d0>
- Password: Belgium2021

#### 4. EIA transboundary consultation up to 1 July 2021

Your authorities expressed their interest to participate in this transboundary consultation by providing the opinions of their general public and relevant authorities on the Proposed Project.

You are kindly requested to summarize the results of your national consultation and to send this summary, preferably in French, Dutch, German or English, to the Directorate General for Energy of the FPS Economy, SME's, Self-Employed and Energy, **no later than 1 July 2021**.

Your documents can be sent to [nuclear@economie.fgov.be](mailto:nuclear@economie.fgov.be) (by email) or by post to FPS Economy, SME's, Self-Employed and Energy, Directorate-General Energy, Division « Nuclear Applications », Boulevard du Roi Albert II 16, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

#### 5. Information about the decision-making timetable.

The remaining stages are:

- Transboundary consultation: from 2 April to 1 July 2021
- National consultation: from 15 April to 15 June 2021
- Adoption of the law by the Belgian Parliament no later than 15 December 2022

We would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this notification.

All communication and queries related to the present communication can be sent to [nuclear@economie.fgov.be](mailto:nuclear@economie.fgov.be) (by email) or by post, to FPS Economy, SME's, Self-Employed and Energy, Directorate-General Energy, Division « Nuclear Applications », Boulevard du Roi Albert II 16, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

Remaining at your disposal,

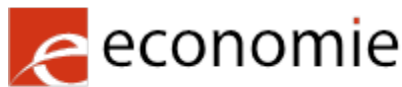
Yours sincerely

Alberto Fernandez Fernandez

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**Dr. Ir. Alberto Fernandez Fernandez**

Director/ Nuclear Applications  
Directorate-General for Energy



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The email communications by staff members of the FPS Economy, SMEs, Self-employed and Energy have merely informative value and do not engage the responsibility of the Belgian State.