

CDU-Landesgruppe NRW im Europäischen Parlament

Dr. Peter Liese - Axel Voss - Elmar Brok - Karl-Heinz Florenz - Dr. Markus Pieper -
Dennis Radtke - Dr. Renate Sommer - Sabine Verheyen

Daniel CALLEJA CRESPO
Director General
European Commission
Beaulieu 5
1160 Brussels

via Email

Subject: Environmental impact assessment for lifetime extension of nuclear power plants

Brussels, 15 November 2017

Dear Mr Calleja Crespo,

Belgium's creaking nuclear plants Tihange and Doel have been causing safety concerns for some time now after a series of problems ranging from leaks to cracks. Following a decision of the Belgian government to extend the lifetimes of Tihange 1 and Doel 1 and 2 until 2025 and current talks about the possibility to extend the lifetimes of Tihange 2 and Doel 3 beyond 2022, we would like to voice our concerns as MEPs, German citizens and basically next-door neighbours.

We would like to ask the Commission, in this regard, to revise Directive 2011/92/EU and include lifetime extensions of nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors among those projects that have to undergo an environmental impact assessment. The current directive includes in Annex I point 2b the dismantling or decommissioning of nuclear power stations or reactors, but not yet lifetime extensions.

Most nuclear reactors in Europe were built for a lifetime of a maximum of 40 years. If the lifetime of a nuclear power station or reactor is thus extended significantly, as is the case for Doel and Tihange, it is only logic that possible negative effects on the environment and possible public health threads have to be assessed prior to a decision to extend their lifetimes. In addition, an environmental impact assessment has to be carried out, in our opinion, in a transboundary manner following the Espoo Convention (1991) to take on board significant adverse transboundary environmental impacts.

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We are looking forward to your reply and thank you in advance for the consideration of
our proposal.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Peter Liese



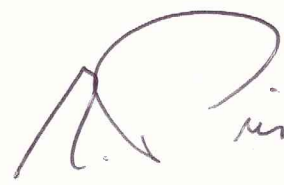
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