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EU helping Energoatom to enhance safety of Ukrainian Nuclear Power Plants

In the framework of its [Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation](#), the EU has assisted NNEGC [Energoatom](#) by financing a EUR 1.5 mln pilot project to develop methodologies for continuous monitoring of integrity of critical structures at the Khmelnytsky Nuclear Power Plant. The methodologies delivered and tested included a comprehensive Integrity Management Programme and Operating Guidelines, a structural model of the reactor building developed with the state-of-the-art ANSYS engineering simulation tool, and a software able to collect data from plant sensors, detect tendencies and provide alarms if certain thresholds are reached. The pilot project will be replicated on other Nuclear Power Plants of Ukraine to further enhance their safety and their ability to withstand extreme stresses such as earthquakes, tornadoes, and the like.

“The EC has had a long established co-operation with NNEGC Energoatom in the area of safety improvement; as one of Europe’s largest nuclear operators, this project has been of high importance for NNEGC Energoatom and has seen support from the highest levels within the company to ensure its success, thus ensuring that safety related buildings of Ukrainian Nuclear Power Plants are properly monitored and remain robust under all conditions,” **Christina Thormaehlen, Project Head from of the European Commission**, said.

“Thanks to this project it was identified, that Ukrainian practice of structural integrity monitoring at NNEGC “Energoatom”/KhNPP is in compliance with the international norms, standards and regulations. Implementation of project’s recommendations will further improve Ukrainian practices to become among the best ones,” **Gennadiy Tkachuk, Project Head from NNEGC Energoatom**, said:

The project was implemented by Empresarios Agrupados International (Spain), in consortium with EGIS Industries SAS (France) and SITIS SAS (France), with expert support from the Ukrainian Company Kyiv Research and Design Institute “Energoproject”. The project duration is 36 months 17/11/2015 to 30/11/2018.

This is one of several EU-funded projects aiming at improving NPP safety analysis, following the 2011 accident at Fukushima Daichi in Japan. In particular, the EU has helped Ukraine to introduce a RODOS Decision Support System for nuclear emergency management at all NPPs, including the Chornobyl NPP Plant and in the Exclusion Zone.

Background information:

The NNEGC Energoatom operates four nuclear power plants with 15 power units. Three units of the Chornobyl NPP are at the stage of decommissioning.

Following the Chornobyl accident, the EU launched a nuclear safety programme, initially in the frame of the Financial Instrument for Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States (TACIS), which was followed in 2007 by the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC). Through these two instruments, the European Union's contribution towards nuclear safety in Ukraine has exceeded EUR 950 mln.

Direct support delivered to Ukraine’s Nuclear Operator SE NNEGC Energoatom and State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine through the 2+2 Programme is close to EUR 300 mln. In addition, contributions toward the long-term Safe Management of radioactive wastes resulting from the Chornobyl Accident, Chornobyl decommissioning programme and the long-term storage and disposal of radioactive wastes from operating units in Ukraine exceed EUR 600 mln.

For additional information, please contact

Christina Thormaehlen, EC Project Manager; Christina.THORMAEHLEN@ec.europa.eu

Lenar Sagidulin, Joint Support Office at Kyiv; office@jso.kiev.ua

Gennadiy Tkachuk, Project Manager, NNEGC Energoatom; tkachuk.gennadiy@khnpp.atom.gov.ua



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Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine

Address:
101 Volodymyrska Street,
01033 Kyiv, Ukraine
Tel: +38 044 33 99 201
Fax: +38 044 33 99 204

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