



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

Deputy Director-General, Coordination Directorates D & E

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Mr Vladimir Dranik
Chairman of United Trade Union
Representation of SE Ignalina NPP
Drūkšinių k.
LT-31500 VISAGINAS

Subject: "Make or Buy" Strategy Analysis and Implementation at Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant

Dear Mr Dranik,

Thank you for your letter concerning implementation of the "Make-or-buy" strategy at State Enterprise Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant (INPP).

The European Union, through the European Commission, has provided support to Lithuania for the early closure of INPP since 1999. During the period 1999-2013 the Ignalina programme received EU financial assistance for a total of €1367 million, of which over €890 million covered operational costs of the plant, safe conservation and decommissioning activities.

Since the closure of the second reactor in 2009 the Commission has gradually concentrated its financing to core actions directly linked to decommissioning. This approach is the basis of the Council Regulation on EU support for the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme in Lithuania for 2014-2020.

In financing decommissioning activities, maintaining a high level of operational safety at INPP remains a key objective for the European Commission; a system for robust monitoring is in place for the Commission to ensure that this is the case. The Commission follows up and monitors the implementation of the programme through its implementing bodies, in particular the national agency CPMA.

The Commission currently pays the wages for some 2200 staff at INPP, with approximately €31 million allocated in 2015. Staff numbers in many areas have remained essentially unchanged, since the second reactor was finally shut down at the end of 2009.

In this context the Commission asked CPMA and INPP to analyse the allocation of staff to decommissioning or to safe conservation activities at INPP in order to align its financing to the new mandate of the aforementioned Council Regulation.

In response and in parallel to this analysis the Commission formally required to INPP to define an overall strategic framework that would guide decisions at INPP regarding outsourcing, from the highest-level enterprise-planning down to the lowest-level procurement.

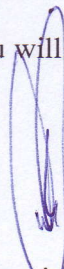
Your letter raises a number of legitimate concerns in this regard. In the interest of all stakeholders the necessary changes and efficiencies should be implemented at INPP as appropriate, as at other nuclear power plants throughout the EU. The outsourcing of cleaning staff is generally in line with practice in similar programs, and experience shows that the presence of external staff on a nuclear site does not normally pose a problem. Nevertheless, the outsourcing strategy should be discussed between INPP staff representatives and INPP management.

Concerning the aspect of security, this is solely a matter for the State Security Department.

To conclude, I can assure you that the Commission aims to achieve the best result for Lithuania in terms of safe and efficient decommissioning. In this respect the Commission services will closely follow the ongoing process, to ensure that legitimate concerns are always given serious consideration.

Should you have any further concerns in the future you will always be welcome to raise them with me.

Yours faithfully,



Gerassimos Thomas