

The European Commission's
science and knowledge service
Joint Research Centre

**Environmental Impact Assessment
in connection with
Long-Term Operation of
Nuclear Power Plants –
EU experience**
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Three main approaches to operating licences in EU MS:

- ❑ **Operating licences have no time limit** 8 MS
 - *Periodic Safety Review (PSR) every 10 years must demonstrate safety of plant operation until next PSR*
 - *No licence renewal needed for LTO; Special PSR with particular attention on LTO issues*
- ❑ **Operating licence has a time limit equal to the design life of the plant** 2 MS
 - *Licence renewal required for LTO*
- ❑ **Operating licence limited to a duration << design lifetime of plant** 4 MS
 - *In most cases this is 10 years and linked to the PSR.* **14 MS**

Regardless of the licensing approach, all EU MS consider LTO as operation beyond the original design lifetime

Approach			
No LTO	Full EIA + public consultation, including trans-boundary	Environmental screening of LTO project by MS competent authority	<u>LTO without works</u> (in absence of other works that could <u>increase</u> the environmental impact of the facility)
		<p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <u>MS decision</u> on need (or not) for full EIA	<u>MS do not perform an EIA</u>
1 MS	2 MS	11 MS	
<p>German nuclear phase-out. No currently operating plants will have extended lifetimes.</p>			

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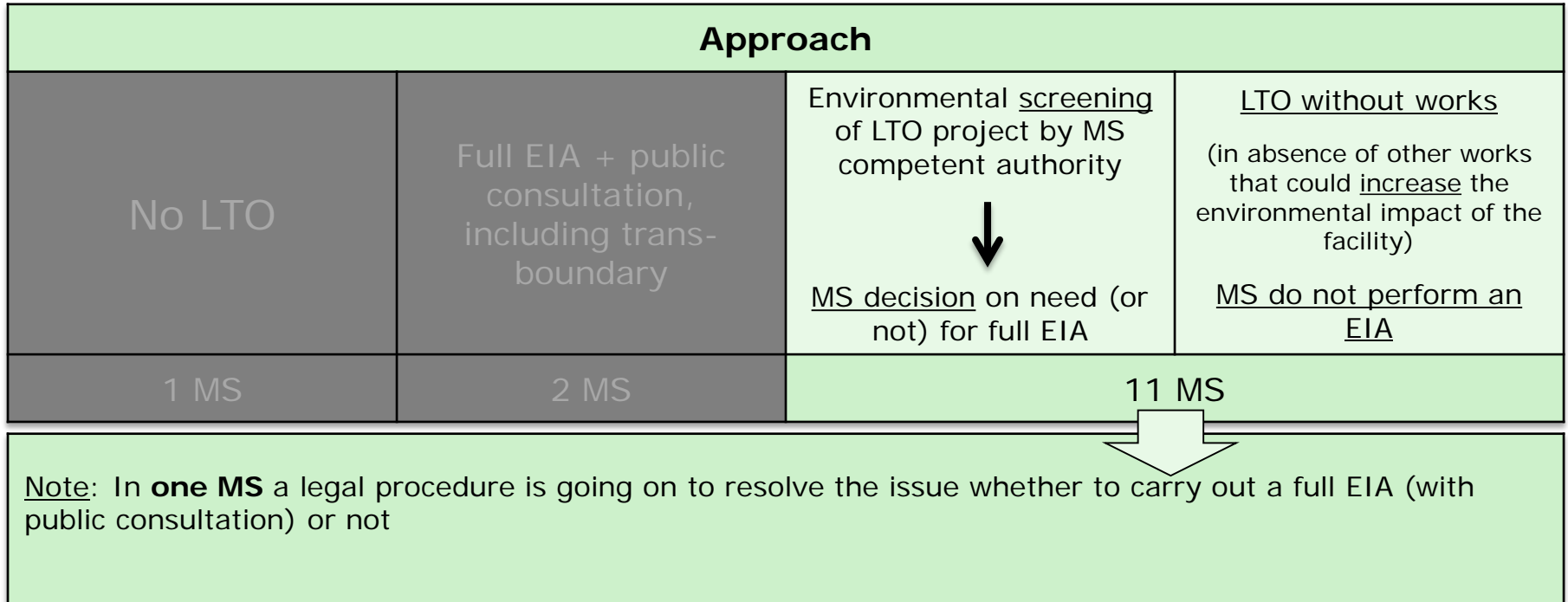
Hungary: LTO of Paks I NPP around 2004-2006.

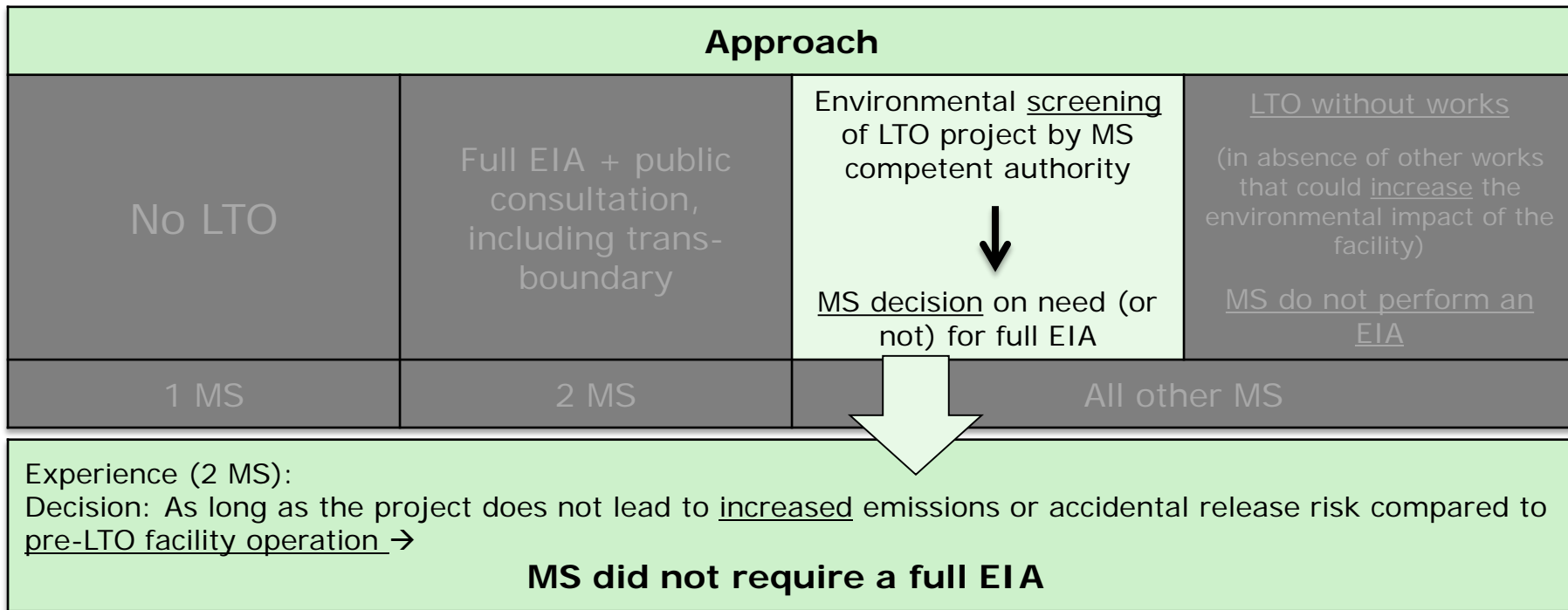
Note: Comprehensive upgrade works, including power uprate to 108%, nevertheless, the law requires full EIA and public hearings (including international) for LTO.

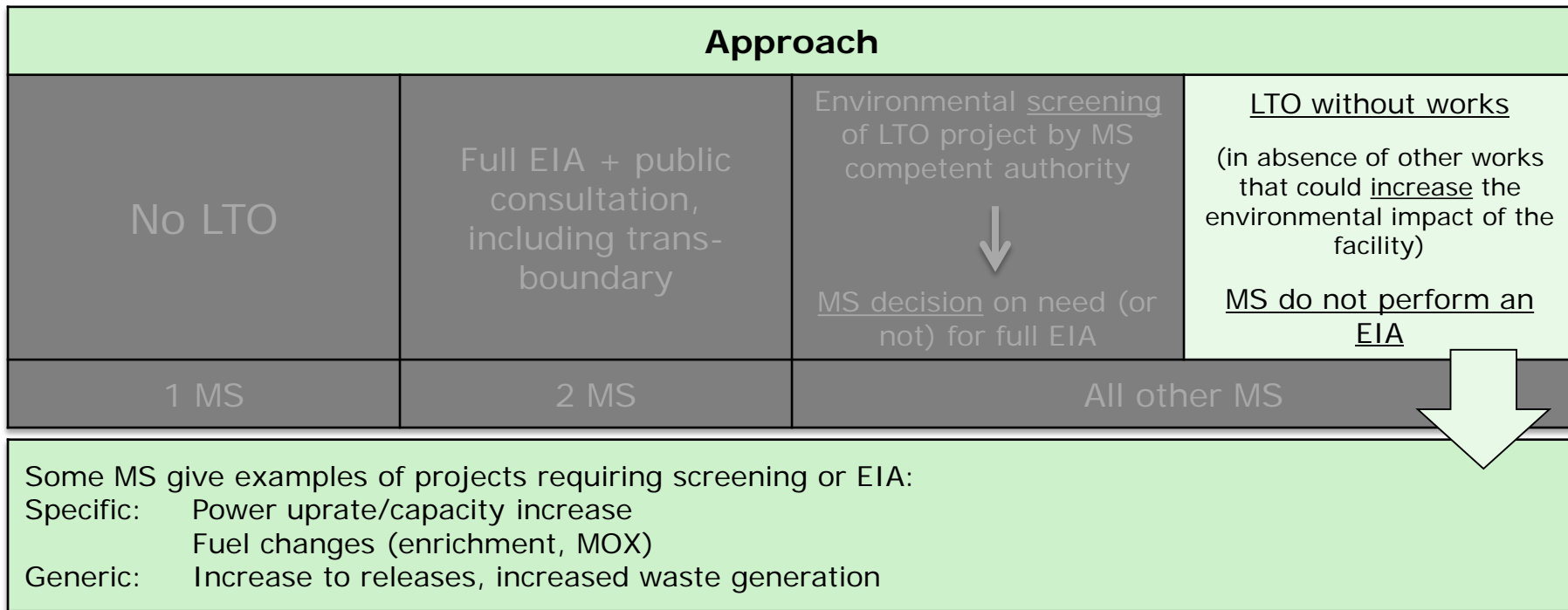
In addition, **one MS** intends to perform a full EIA (similar to the one carried out for the Paks I NPP LTO).

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- ❑ One EU member state has experience of performing a full EIA and public (trans-boundary) consultation in connection with LTO, but the LTO project also included other changes to the facility that are important with respect to the environment
- ❑ Other EU MSs have performed, or their legislation requires, EIA in connection with modifications to NPPs that have consequences for the environment
- ❑ **However, it seems that LTO alone is not considered to require a full EIA and public consultation process in the majority of EU member states**