

Information for the attention of Implementation Committee,
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a
Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991)

To be sent through the Secretary to the Convention:

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Date sent to the Secretary	16 th March 2020
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Sent by ("the source"):

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Concerning:

Party or Parties (States) of origin, under whose jurisdiction a proposed activity is envisaged to take place	France
Affected Party or Parties (States), likely to be affected by the transboundary impact of a proposed activity	<p>Lifetime extensions of nuclear power stations have similar impacts as the construction of a new nuclear power station, with the remark that the chances on a serious accident with substantial emission of radioactive substances are in general larger than with new nuclear projects.</p> <p>This means that, because nuclear power stations are ultra-hazardous activities, the risks on impacts will extend to nearby countries, but also far beyond those. As example, for the first project to face life-time extension, the Tricastin NPP, that means Switzerland and Italy, but impacts may reach far beyond those countries as the attached calculations from the FlexRISK project from the University of Vienna and the BOKU University of Vienna show (source: http://flexrisk.boku.ac.at). Impacts include the necessity to take measures to reduce exposure to the population, measures in agriculture and food production, measures in transport, measures to protect nature and others.</p> <p>List of potentially affected parties: Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, United Kingdom, Ireland, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Croatia, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and beyond</p>
Activity (project), identified in the list of activities in Appendix I to the Convention	<p>Lifetime extension beyond the expected technical lifetime of 40 years of the nuclear power plants of 900 MW capacity. In total 32 units of around 900 MW each.</p> <p>Blayais (4 units) - extension due 2022, 2023, 2024 (2 units) Bugey (4 units) - extension due 2020 and 2021 (4 units) Chinon (4 units) - extension due 2023, 2024, 2027, 2028 Cruas (4 units) - extension due 2024, 2025 (3 units) Dampierre (4 units) - extension due 2021 (3 units), 2022 Gravelines (6 units) - extension due 2021 (3 units), 2022, 2025, 2026</p>

	<p>St. Laurent (2 units) – extension due 2021, 2022 Tricastin (4 units) – 2020 and 2021 (4 units)</p> <p>Reactor number 1 of the Tricastin NPP has passed its fourth 10-year inspection and the definite authorization to operate beyond 40 years will be announced end of 2020 or beginning 2021. The reactor has been authorized to restart end of December 2019 after the inspection. The first nuclear divergence of Tricastin 1 was on 21st February 1980.</p>
Likely significant adverse trans-boundary impact of the activity (project)	Radioactive contamination in case of a severe accident/incident during operation of the reactors or linked to the transport and management of the spent fuel and radioactive waste in relation with long-term operation.
Provisions of the Convention (Articles) Compliance with which is being contested	Non-compliance by France on issues of procedure and issues of content of the ESPOO Convention article 2(2), 2(3), 2(4), 2(6), 2(7), article 3, article 4 and article 5.
Description of issue - please attach supporting information	France allows Electricité de France (EDF) to extend the lifetime of certain reactors beyond 40 years without an environmental impact Assessment (EIA) and transboundary consultation.

For use by secretariat:

Reference number	EIA / IC / INFO /
Date received	
Original language of information	
Translation into English by	
Date forwarded to Committee	
Date forwarded to Party or Parties	
Remarks by secretariat	
Date first discussed by the Committee (possibly including preliminary determination of admissibility)	
Additional information requested of source	

For use by the Committee:

The source of the information is known and not anonymous	
The information relates to an activity listed in Appendix I to the Convention likely to have a significant adverse transboundary impact	
The information is the basis for a profound suspicion of non-compliance	
The information relates to the implementation of Convention provisions	
Committee time and resources are available	