

Documentary status of Belene NPP project, including the documents issued at the time of the call - orders, decisions, permits, etc., concerning its implementation (including construction)

➤ Environmental Impact Assessment Decision No 18-8/22.11.2004 approving the implementation of the investment proposal for construction of Belene NPP on Belene site.

(The report on the environmental impact assessment of the investment proposal for construction of Belene NPP was publicly discussed in the towns of Belene, Pleven, Nikopol, Svishtov, Sofia and Turnu Magurele (Romania). The report was approved at a meeting of the Supreme Environmental Expert Council at the Ministry of Environment and Water of 11 November 2004. On this basis Decision No. 18-8/2004 of the Ministry of Environment and Water of 22 November 2004 for construction of Belene NPP was issued).

➤ Permit of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency No. B-3040/14.12.2004 for determination of the siting (site selection) of a nuclear facility - a nuclear power plant.

➤ Order of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency No. ПД-22-512/21.12.2006 for approval of the selected site for deployment of a nuclear facility.

➤ Permit of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency No. Б-3281/14.05.2007 for designing of a nuclear facility - Unit No. 1 of Belene NPP.

➤ Permit of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency No. Б-3291/18.06.2007 for designing of a nuclear facility - Unit No. 2 of Belene NPP.

(Pursuant to Art. 21a of the Act on the Safe Use of Nuclear Energy Act ("ASUNE"), in case of transformation of a legal entity - a holder of a licence or permit through merger by acquisition, merger, division, spin-off, spin-off of a sole-owner commercial corporation, change of the legal form, upon transfer of a commercial enterprise or upon making a non-cash contribution to the capital of another corporation of any property which is subject to licences or permits under this Act, the licence or permit as issued may be modified on the basis of an advance request submitted by the person which has adopted a decision on the transformation or by the parties to the transaction for the transfer of the commercial enterprise or for making the non-cash contribution. Modification shall be permitted if the person which is to implement the activity fulfils the conditions provided for in the law for the issuance of the licence or permit. The modification of the licence or permit shall enter into effect as from the date of entry of the transformation or the transfer of the commercial enterprise, as the case may be, or the increase of capital through a non-cash contribution in the Commercial Register. The rights and obligations arising from any acts issued under this Act to holders of preceding permits or licences shall be binding upon the new holder of a permit or licence.)

➤ Statement of the European Commission of 17.10.2007 in compliance with Art. 105 of the Euratom Treaty, concerning agreements with third countries prior to the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union (including the Agreement between NEK and ASE, 29.11.2006).

➤ Statement of the European Commission of 07.12.2007. In compliance with Art. 43 of the Euratom Treaty relating to the investment project for construction of Belene Nuclear Power Plant, Bulgaria. An addition to the notification is required:

(Pursuant to Article 4 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1209/2000 of 8 June 2000 determining procedures for effecting the communications prescribed under Article 41 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, any change made in the course of carrying out investment projects communicated to the Commission in accordance with this Regulation shall be made the subject of a further communication under the same conditions.)

➤ Order of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works No. ПД 02-14-362/09.05.2008 for approval of the Detailed Development Plan - Plan for regulation and construction of Belene NPP site, on the grounds of Art. 129, para. 3 of the SDA.

➤ Decision of Belene Municipal Council No. 48/25.04.2008 for approval of the Detailed development plan - Plan for regulation and construction of Belene NPP site.

➤ Decision of Svishtov Municipal Council No. 153/24.04.2008 for approval of the Detailed Development Plan - Plan for Regulation and Construction of Belene NPP Site.

➤ Permit No. 11130074/06.01.2012 for water intake and use of a surface water body by the Danube Basin Directorate with Pleven center and Decision No.2033/06.12.2016 to extend the period of water intake and use of a surface water body.

➤ A report with the results of an IAEA expert mission conducted on 12-16 December 2011 to review the readiness of Belene NPP project in accordance with the new requirements of IAEA and the issues arising from the Fukushima accident.

After the accident at Dai-Ichi 1 nuclear power plant in Fukushima on 11 March 2011, the European Commission called for a reassessment of the safety of all nuclear power plants in operation in the European Union. The main purpose of these "stress tests" is to learn the necessary lessons and, where necessary, to take measures to exclude the recurrence of such an accident. The "stress tests" cover all NPPs in operation and all NPPs under construction with an approved design. Despite the fact that Belene NPP project is not within the scope of the stress tests undertaken by the European Commission and the European Nuclear Regulators Group, within the licensing procedure for approval of the Technical design for Belene NPP, in its letter No. 05-00-1 to NEK EAD on 30 May 2011, the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency requires an analysis of the project compliance with the criteria and methodology of the stress tests set out in the ENSREG Declaration of 25.05.2011.

In connection with the additional safety analysis conducted in December 2011, a mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was carried out to make assessment of the report for the "stress tests" of Belene NPP project. The check was made on the basis of the requirements of the IAEA safety standards, including the latest standards. One of the conclusions in the IAEA report on the mission is that Belene NPP project provides a significant number of technical solutions to deal with all the variety of accidents and the project can be considered to be of GENERATION III +.