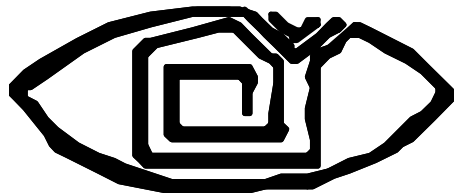


Environmental Impact Assessment of nuclear power plant in Belarus. Independent public expertise.

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Kiev. 21 February 2013

Environmental Impact Assessment of nuclear power plant in Belarus

Official:

by “BELNIPRIENERGOPROM” . 2009-2010

Independent:

By Independent Public Environmental Expert
Commission, created by Ecohome.
August 2009-March 2010

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Official documents

- 1. Preview report on EIA of Belarusian NPP (2009)**
2. The materials of the Preliminary Report on the Environmental impact assessment of environmental impact of the Belarusian NPP (the Justification of investment regarding the construction of a NPP in the Republic of Belarus. Book 11. Evaluation of environmental impact. 1588-PZ-OI4 / Ministry of Energy of the RB. National unitary project research enterprise „BELNIPRIENERGOPROM“. In 11 parts. Minsk, 2009.);
- 3. Final report on EIA of Belarusian NPP (2010)**
4. Findings by Ecological State Expertise (07/2010)

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Documents issued by independent experts:

- 1. Critic of the “Preview report on EIA of Belarusian NPP” by independent expert group (2009, Sep).**
- 2. Findings by the Public Environmental Expertise Commission on the planned construction of a nuclear power station in the Republic of Belarus (2010, Apr)**

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Problems and law (Aarhus Convention) violations:

- 1. Access to the information (official documentation) was restricted by the officials.**
- 2. Pressure to the public experts and activists during the public hearings and independent expert assessment. Arrest of expert Andrey Ozharovskiy on the public hearings 9 Oct, 2009.**
- 2. Public hearings falsification (9 Oct, 2009)**

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Aarhus Convention violations found by ACCC
(Findings and recommendations of the Compliance Committee with regard to communication ACCC/C/2009/44 concerning compliance by Belarus) (adopted by the Committee on 28 June 2011):

1. Problems with access to the information about NPP project.
2. Problems with public participation in decision-making related to the NPP construction.

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Violations if the Aarhus Convention found by ACCC:

- (a) By restricting access to the full version of the EIA Report;
- (b) By not duly informing the public that in addition to the publicly available 100-pages EIA report, there was a full version of the EIA Report (more than 1000 pages long), it failed to comply with article 6, paragraph 2 (d) (vi), of the Convention (para. 74 above);
- (c) By effectively reducing the public's input in decision-making;
- (d) By not informing the public in due time of the possibility of examining the full EIA report, it failed to comply with article 6, paragraph 6, of the Convention (para. 80);
- (e) By limiting the possibility of members of the public to submit comments, it failed to comply with article 6, paragraph 7, of the Convention (para. 85).

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Some of the problems, found by independent experts:

- 1. The information in EIA on the NPP emissions is not adequate and assessments are underrated.**
- 2. The assessments of the nuclear waste operation, NPP decommission is absent.**
- 3. The assessments of safety of the technology (reactor, project AES-2006) are inadequate and incomplete.**
- 4. Information, necessary for the site choose is absent.**

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Conclusion:

The EIA procedure on NPP construction in Belarus was inadequate, did not include independent expert assessments, the activities on the NPP construction does not correspond to the described in the official EIA.

Thank you for your attention!

Tatyana Novikova,

The responsible secretary of the Independent Public
Environmental Expert Commission of the NPP project
in Belarus.

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