

Question for written answer E-014823/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Iratxe García Pérez (S&D)

Subject: Non-compliance with Directive 2011/70/Euratom in the licensing of a centralised temporary storage facility and renewal of the licence to operate the Garoña nuclear power plant.

In June 2014, the operator Nuclenor submitted to the Council for Nuclear Safety (CNS) an application to renew the licence for Garoña nuclear power station so that it would be able to continue its operations until 2031, by which time the nuclear reactor will be 60 years old, even though nowhere in the world have reactors remained in service for longer than 45 years.

The renewal of this licence would constitute a worrying new development and would result in a marked increase in the volume of spent nuclear fuel, at a time when the CNS has just approved – and not unanimously – the site licence for the temporary centralised storage facility in Villar de Cañas (Cuenca):

- without updating the 2006 General Plan for Radioactive Waste, which is currently in force,
- without an updated inventory of radioactive waste,
- without taking account of the estimates for the spent fuel that will be generated by the Spanish nuclear facilities (including Garoña),
- without saying how the long-term management of the highly radioactive waste is to be funded.

Is the Commission aware of this violation of Directive 2011/70/Euratom, which establishes a common framework for the safe and responsible management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste and is transposed into Spanish law by means of Royal Decree 102/2014 on the safe and responsible management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste?