

**Question for written answer E-015011/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Nuclear power stations and childhood leukaemia

Many studies indicate a link between nuclear power plants (NPPs) and increased incidences of childhood leukaemia. Reports now suggest that this may be due to 12-hour spikes in radioactive emissions during the refuelling of NPPs which expose local people to radioactivity levels up to 500 times greater than during normal NPP operation.

In March 2014, an article on increased rates of childhood leukaemia near NPPs in the peer-reviewed Journal of Environmental Radioactivity stated that over 60 epidemiological studies worldwide had examined cancer incidences in children living near NPPs: most had found increased incidences. In addition, a recent study by Korblein and Fairlie has shown a statistically significant 37 % increase in leukaemia in children under 5 years old living within 5 km of almost all NPPs in the UK, Germany, France and Switzerland.

Given the potential link between radioactive NPP spikes and increased cancer rates near NPPs,

1. Can the Commission confirm whether national nuclear regulators require NPPs to report hourly radioactive emissions rather than annual averages?
2. Will the Commission require Member States to collect and publish hourly radioactive emissions from NPPs rather than annual averages?
3. Will the Commission examine and publish a report on this matter, including its own meta-analyses of European epidemiological studies indicating increased incidences of leukaemia in children under 5 years old living within 5 km of NPPs in Europe?