



Stress Tests: EU Context and Challenges

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EU energy challenges

- 1. Sustainability**
- 2. Security of energy supply**
- 3. Competitiveness**

To tackle these challenges, EU needs:

- a wide range of **low carbon** energy sources
- ambitious **energy efficiency** measures

Nuclear provides mainly base-load electricity



Energy policy for Europe

- **Integrated energy and climate policy**
- **Year 2020 objectives (2007)**
- **2nd Strategic Energy Review (2008)**
- **Energy Strategy 2020 (2010)**



Energy Strategy 2020: nuclear

- **Continuously improve **safety and security****
- **Keep **EU leadership** in safe nuclear energy**
- **Contribute to its responsible use **worldwide** by promoting **legally binding** standards**



Energy Roadmap 2050

- **Adopted by the Commission in December 2011; Council conclusions in May 2012**
- **An exploration of possible futures for the EU energy system: 7 scenarios**
- **Long-term perspectives for nuclear**
- **For discussion with Member States and stakeholders**
- **A basis for policy action**



Perspectives for nuclear

Further development is contingent on:

- sufficient level of nuclear **safety & security**
- **public** acceptance

Options for Member States:

- relying on **alternatives** (renewables and CCS)
- making use of all available **low carbon sources**



Stress tests: Commission mandate

15 March 2011: High Level Conference

24-25 March 2011: European Council:

- **comprehensive and transparent risk and safety assessments**
- **similar stress tests should be carried out in the neighbouring countries and worldwide**
- **revision of the safety legal and regulatory framework**

Stress tests: features

They go beyond safety evaluations during the licensing process and periodic reviews

The aim: assess whether safety margins are sufficient to cover various unexpected events

Conducted on a voluntary basis in three-steps:

- **licensees (nuclear operators)**
- **independent national authorities (regulators)**
- **peer reviews**



Stress tests: transparency

All reports have been published

All stakeholders closely involved

Two public meetings with stakeholders:

- **today and after the peer reviews are concluded**

Web pages dedicated to public engagement:

- **www.ensreg.eu/EU-Stress-Tests/Public-engagement**
- **possibility to submit suggestions for the peer-review process (until 20 January)**



Stress tests: state of play

- **All assessments started before 1 June 2011**
- **In August, operators carried out self-assessments**
- **In September, regulators compiled national progress reports and submitted them to the Commission**
- **The Commission prepared an interim report and presented it to the European Council in December**



Stress tests: state of play

- **By end December 2011, regulators prepared final national reports**
- **Reports provided by:**
 - **all Member States operating NPPs + Lithuania**
 - **Switzerland and Ukraine**
- **Peer reviews of final national reports are ongoing and will end in April 2012**
- **The Commission report will be presented to the European Council in June 2012**

Peer reviews: features

They guarantee **credibility** and **accountability**

Peer review **teams**:

- experts from **Member States** and from the **European Commission**

Board supervising the process:

- national regulators, non nuclear countries, Commission; chaired by P. Jamet (ASN, FR)

Deliverables:

- Topical Summary Reports
- Country Reports
- Peer Review Summary Report

Peer reviews: timetable

- **Horizontal/topical reviews:
January-February 2012**
- **Vertical/country reviews:
March-April 2012**
- **ENSREG “wrap up” meeting:
25 April 2012**

Stress tests: security aspects

Security threats are an important part of stress tests

They are assessed in a **separate process**:

- ad hoc **Council working group** to address this issue
- the **Group reports attached to Commission reports**



Stress tests: third countries

Switzerland and Ukraine participate fully

Armenia, Belarus, Croatia, Russia and Turkey have agreed to:

- undertake **voluntary assessments**, taking into account the **EU specifications**

Partnership with the IAEA to define and carry out similar assessments at a global level

Need to revise the international legal framework (IAEA Nuclear Safety Convention)



Revision of the EU safety framework

Public consultation (until 29 February):

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/consultations/20120229_euratom_en.htm

3rd quarter 2012: Commission legislative proposals

Main areas for legislative improvements:

- technical safety requirements
- nuclear safety governance
- emergency preparedness and response