

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0888/09
by Emmanouil Angelakas (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Reactivation of nuclear reactors fitted with obsolete technology in Member States

Articles have recently appeared in both the foreign and the Greek press that the Bulgarian Parliament has invoked the recent Russian gas crisis and authorised the Government to ask the Commission permission to restart two obsolete reactors in the Kozludoy plant (which were closed down on 1 January 2007).

In accordance with the spirit of Article 36 of the Treaty of Accession of Bulgaria to the European Union, Bulgaria is in fact entitled to restart the two reactors in the event of a significant deterioration in its economic situation.

In a parallel development Slovakia too has decided to restart an old reactor as an alternative solution to the gas crisis.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. How safe is it to restart the nuclear reactors fitted with obsolete technology in these two countries, since there are clear indications that they do not meet EU safety standards? If they go back into operation, what specific measures will the Commission take to monitor the operation of these nuclear plants?
2. What measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure that the energy requirements of its Member States are met without them having to resort to such dangerous practices?