

**Question for written answer E-001192/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Nuclear safety violations at Astravets Nuclear Power Plant unit 2

Belarus has announced that Astravets NPP unit 2 will be put into commercial operation in October 2023. Belarus committed serious violations of technological and environmental standards as far back as the earliest stages of the construction of Astravets NPP. According to expert data, technical problems involving the disconnection of the turbine generator's automatic protection system from the grid were recorded in 2022 in unit 1 of Astravets NPP. In February 2022, problems were also identified in NPP reactor 2 related to cooling the reactor unit. These nuclear safety breaches were not reported to neighbouring countries, since Russia's state-owned Rosatom company concealed the incidents and the reactor system failures. Considering all the incidents that have taken place, it is to be expected that unit 2 will also be put into operation without the technical defects having been resolved and without complying with European nuclear safety standards.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Are the Commission and ENSREG aware of any incidents that have occurred in the past year that have endangered nuclear safety and, if so, how do they assess them?
2. Do the Commission and ENSREG have any concerns about the implementation of the recommendations from the stress test report and, if so, would they consider planning an expert mission?
3. What does the Commission intend to do if it is established that nuclear safety recommendations have not been implemented at Astravets NPP?

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