

ORAL QUESTION H-0553/03

for Question Time at the part-session in October 2003

pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure

by Werner Langen

to the Commission

Subject: Cattenom nuclear power station - increase in the yield from fuel elements

The French nuclear power station at Cattenom near the border between France, Luxembourg and Germany on the upper Moselle is one of the largest nuclear installations in Europe. It has been reported in the press that the operator, the French electricity company Electricité de France (EDF), plans to increase the yield from fuel elements at this large power station, as well as the limit values for the discharge of radioactive substances into the Moselle.

Is the Commission aware of this plan, and if so, what is its assessment?

Is the Commission prepared to urge the French Government to ensure that the competent authorities do not approve any increase in limit values, and that the yield from fuel elements can be increased only on the basis of tighter safety requirements?

Can the Commission say whether limit values for French nuclear power stations are several times higher than those for German reactors?

Is it possible, on the basis of European legislation, to oblige Electricité de France to make technical alterations to its installations so as to allow a reduction in radioactive discharges from the power station?

Tabled: 10.09.2003

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