Priority question for written answer P-004728/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Incident at Almaraz nuclear power plant

According to the Spanish news agency EFE, the two reactors at Almaraz nuclear power plant – which is some 150 km from Spain’s border with Portugal – stopped on 27 June for safety reasons.

In 2011, there was a fault in a coolant pump at the plant and, given the high temperatures being recorded, the Spanish Nuclear Safety Council decided to suspend production of electric energy by one of the reactors.

In 2016, Almaraz claimed the highest number of incidents of any nuclear power plant in Spain: seven, the last of which took place in October and was classified as level 1.

According to CSN reports, since it began operations, more than 50 incidents affecting essential safety components have been recorded at the plant.

In June 2020, its reactors stopped three times in the space of one week.

1. Is the Commission aware of these incidents?
2. In the light of the fact that the CSN intends to extend this obsolete plant’s life span until 2028, what is the Commission’s position?
3. Is the Commission able to ensure that the plant meets all safety requirements, in accordance with Directive 2014/87/Euratom?