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Proposed Nuclear Power Station at Sizewell C, Notification, Response Austria

Thank you for your letter of 31 October 2019 regarding the notification pursuant to Article 3 Espoo Convention and Article 7 EIA Directive for the proposed nuclear power station at Sizewell C.

Austria would like to refer to its request for notification, pursuant to Article 3 Espoo Convention and Article 7 EIA Directive, by letter of 12 November 2014 (BMLFUW-UW.1.4.2/0076-I/1/2014) and to its comment of 26 November 2016 (BMLFUW 1.4.2/0141-I/1/2016) during the stage 2 consultation in the pre-application phase. Austria would like to repeat its concerns regarding the potential effects of the project:

According to the "HERCA-WENRA Approach for better cross-border coordination of protective actions during the early phase of a nuclear accident", *Fukushima has shown again that a severe nuclear accident anywhere in the world, including Europe, cannot be completely excluded.*

To keep the probability of such accidents low "Council Directive 2014/87/EURATOM of 8 July 2014 amending Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the

nuclear safety of nuclear installations" Article 8a (1) (Nuclear safety objective for nuclear installations), obliges Member States to *ensure that the national nuclear safety framework requires that nuclear installations are designed, sited, constructed, commissioned, operated and decommissioned with the objective of preventing accidents and, should an accident occur, mitigating its consequences and avoiding: (a) early radioactive releases that would require off-site emergency measures but with insufficient time to implement them; (b) large radioactive releases that would require protective measures that could not be limited in area or time.*

With this, it is clear beyond any doubt that severe accidents with long-range adverse transboundary impacts are possible. Therefore, Austria intends to participate in the transboundary procedure according to the Espoo Convention and EIA Directive and requests that severe accidents are covered by the Environmental Impact Assessment with sufficient detail to enable an assessment to which extent Austria may be affected taking into account different weather scenarios.

Kind regards,

2019-12-12

On behalf of the Federal Minister:

Dr. Ursula Platzler-Schneider

Signed electronically.