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Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania for the period 2028-2034, and repealing Regulation (EU) 2021/101
- Partial general approach

Delegations will find in the Annex the text of the partial general approach on the Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania for the period 2028-2034, and repealing Regulation (EU) 2021/101, reached at the meeting of the Council (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs) on 29 June 2026.

2025/0268 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION

establishing the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania for the period 2028-2034, and repealing Regulation (EU) 2021/101

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the 2003 Act of Accession, and in particular Article 56 thereof and Article 3(2) of Protocol No 4 attached thereto,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Protocol No 4 on the Ignalina nuclear power plant attached to the 2003 Act of Accession¹, Lithuania committed itself to the closure of Unit 1 and Unit 2 of the Ignalina nuclear power plant by 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2009 respectively, and to the subsequent decommissioning of those units.
- (2) In accordance with its obligations under the Act of Accession and with Union assistance, Lithuania shut down the two units within the respective deadlines and made significant progress towards their decommissioning. Further work is necessary in order to continue the decrease of the level of radiological hazard. Based on the available estimates, additional financial resources are required for this purpose beyond 2027.

¹ OJ L 236, 23.9.2003, p. 944, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/treaty/acc_2003/act_1/pro_4/sign.

- (3) The decommissioning of the nuclear power plant covered by this Regulation is to be carried out in accordance with Union legislation on nuclear safety, namely Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom², and waste management, namely Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom³. Pursuant to this legislation, the ultimate responsibility for nuclear safety and for the safety of spent fuel and radioactive waste management remains with Lithuania.
- (4) Recognising that the early shutdown and consequent decommissioning of the Ignalina nuclear power plant with two 1 500 MW RBMK-type reactor units inherited from the Soviet Union was of an unprecedented nature and represented for Lithuania an exceptional financial burden not commensurate with the size and economic strength of the country, Protocol No 4 to the 2003 Act of Accession stated that the Union assistance under the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania (the ‘Programme’) is to be seamlessly continued and extended beyond 2006, for the period of the next Financial Perspectives.
- (5) [This Regulation lays down an indicative financial envelope for the Programme.]
- (6) In implementing the Programme, consistency, coherence and synergies with relevant Union policies and programmes, in particular with the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation and Decommissioning established by Council Regulation [XXX]⁴, should be ensured.

² Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom of 25 June 2009 establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations (OJ L 172, 2.7.2009, p. 18, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/71/oj>).

³ Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom of 19 July 2011 establishing a Community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste (OJ L 199, 2.8.2011, p. 48, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2011/70/oj>).

⁴ COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) .../... establishing the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation and Decommissioning for the period 2028-2034 and repealing Regulations (Euratom) 2021/100 and (Euratom) 2021/948 (OJ, ..., ... ELI: ...).

- (7) In a rapidly changing economic, social and geopolitical environment, recent experience has shown the need for a more flexible multiannual financial framework and Union spending programmes. To that effect, in line with the objectives of the Programme, and while ensuring the delivery of the budget allocation for the period 2028-2034 and sufficient predictability for budget implementation, the funding should duly consider the evolving policy needs and Union priorities as identified in relevant documents published by the Commission, in European Parliament resolutions, and Council conclusions.
- (8) Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵ applies to the Programme. It lays down the rules on the establishment and the implementation of the general budget of the Union, including the rules on grants, prizes, non-financial donations, procurement, indirect management, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees.

⁵ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>).

(9) In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶, Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95⁷, Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96⁸, and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939⁹, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulations (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) may investigate and prosecute fraud and other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰. In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, EPPO, and the European Court of Auditors and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

⁶ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18.9.2013, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/883/oj>).

⁷ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1995/2988/oj>).

⁸ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15.11.96, p. 2, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1996/2185/oj>).

⁹ Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') (OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj>).

¹⁰ Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2017/1371/oj>).

- (9A) The Programme should be implemented with full transparency and accountability in the use of Union resources in order to preserve public trust in the use of Union funds. All financial needs underpinning each phase of implementation should be documented and justified in a transparent manner.
- (10) [The Programme is to be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) [XXX] of the European Parliament and of the Council¹¹ [Performance Regulation] which establishes the rules for the expenditure tracking and the performance framework for the budget, including rules for ensuring a uniform application of the principles of ‘do no significant harm’ and gender equality referred to in Article 33(2), points (d) and (f), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 respectively, rules for monitoring and reporting on the performance of Union programmes and activities, rules for establishing a Union funding portal, rules for the evaluation of the programmes, as well as other horizontal provisions applicable to all Union programmes such as those on information, communication and visibility.]
- (11) This Regulation does not prejudice the outcome of any future State aid procedures that may be undertaken in accordance with Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).
- (12) The financing pursuant to this Regulation should concentrate on activities implementing the safety objectives of the decommissioning.

¹¹ OJ L..., p.

- (13) The Programme should involve the creation of knowledge and the sharing of experience, with the objective of retaining such knowledge and expertise within the Union to strengthen its industrial competitiveness, technological sovereignty and strategic autonomy in the nuclear decommissioning sector. Knowledge and experience gained and lessons learnt under the Programme with regard to the nuclear decommissioning process and waste management should be disseminated across the Union and beyond, with third countries where appropriate, in line with Union policy and objectives, in coordination and synergy with the Commission's nuclear installations at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) sites, as such measures bring the greatest Union added value and contribute to the safety of the workers and the general public as well as protection of the environment. The scope, procedure and economic aspects of cooperation should be detailed in multiannual work programmes and could also be subject to agreements between the Member States or between the Member States and the Commission.
- (13A) The Programme should ensure the highest standards of radiation protection for workers involved in decommissioning activities and for the general public and the environment, including health and safety measures, skills development, and fair working conditions, in full respect of Union laws, standards and the precautionary principle. Given the potentially severe and long-term risks associated with nuclear installations and the management of radioactive waste, all activities under the Programme should avoid placing undue burdens for future generations.

- (14) The JRC should facilitate the dissemination of knowledge on nuclear decommissioning among different Union stakeholders in a coordinated way, for example by carrying out market analysis, reviews and assessments of knowledge needs in the Union and, where relevant, third countries, identifying potential directions for cooperation, interested stakeholders and spheres in which knowledge created in the implementation of the Programme would bring the greatest added value, and developing formats for knowledge sharing. The dissemination of knowledge created should be financed by the JRC. Any Member State should be able to initiate the development of ties and exchanges for knowledge dissemination. Where relevant, such exchanges could involve third countries, in line with the Union's strategic interests and priorities, in consistency and complementarity with actions carried out under Regulation [XXX] of the European Parliament and of the Council¹² [Global Europe] and Council Regulation [XXX]¹³ [INSC-D]. Knowledge generated under the Programme should primarily reinforce Union capacities. Any dissemination beyond the Union should ensure appropriate protection of the Union's security interests, intellectual property, sensitivity and confidentiality of information and technological leadership.
- (15) The decommissioning of the Ignalina nuclear power plant should be carried out with recourse to the best available technical expertise, and with due regard to the nature and technological specifications of the installations to be decommissioned, in order to ensure safety and the highest possible efficiency, taking into account European and international best practices in order to ensure an efficient implementation of decommissioning activities.

¹² OJ L., p.

¹³ OJ L., p.

- (16) The efficiency of the Programme implementation should be optimised via a proportionate reduction and a reorganisation of the workforce operating on decommissioning activities at the Ignalina nuclear power plant. In view of the dismantling activities to be performed [during 2028-2034] and considering the choice of the Ignalina nuclear power plant to outsource the full dismantling of reactor shaft central zones, the reduction of the workforce involved in the decommissioning activities should be targeted to one third compared to the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) at the end of 2024. Where relevant, employees affected by the workforce reorganisation and the outsourcing process may be offered targeted access to retraining, upskilling and redeployment opportunities.
- (17) An effective monitoring and control of the evolution of the decommissioning process should be ensured by Lithuania and the Commission in order to ensure the highest Union added value of the funding allocated under this Regulation, although the ultimate responsibility for the decommissioning remains with Lithuania. The monitoring and control include effective measurement of progress, and the enacting of corrective measures where necessary. To that end, a committee with monitoring and information functions has been established and co-chaired by a representative of the Commission and of Lithuania, as specified in the work programmes.
- (18) It should be possible to review the amount of the appropriations allocated to the Programme based on the results of an implementation report.

- (19) Activities co-financed under this Regulation should be identified within the boundaries laid down by the decommissioning plan submitted by Lithuania under Regulation (Euratom) 1369/2013¹⁴, and its subsequent revisions. The decommissioning plan defines the scope of the Programme, the decommissioning end-state and end-date; it covers the decommissioning activities, their associated schedule, costs and required human resources. Where relevant, in accordance with the provisions of Lithuanian law or within a shorter time frame, in case of any significant event that has an impact on the content of that plan, Lithuania should submit an updated decommissioning plan to the Commission for its consideration in preparing the multiannual work programmes.
- (20) Activities under the Programme should be conducted with a joint financial effort by the Union and Lithuania. A maximum Union co-financing threshold has been established in line with the co-financing practice established under the predecessor programmes. Taking into account the practice of comparable Union programmes and the strengthened Lithuanian economy, from the inception of the Programme until the end of the implementation of the activities financed under this Regulation, [the Union co-financing rate should be no higher than 86% of eligible costs.] The remaining co-financing should be provided by Lithuania and sources other than the Union budget, such as international financial institutions and other donors.
- (21) Due account was taken of the Court of Auditors' Special Report No 22/2016¹⁵, its recommendations, and the reply from the Commission.
- (21A) Note has been taken of the European Parliament legislative resolution of [...] on the proposal for a Council regulation establishing the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania (Ignalina programme) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 2021/101.

¹⁴ Council Regulation 1369/2013 and Council Regulation (EU) 2021/101 on Union support for the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme in Lithuania (OJ L 346, 20.12.2013, p. 7, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1369/oj>).

¹⁵ Special Report No 22/2016 – 'EU nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia: some progress made since 2011, but critical challenges ahead', European Court of Auditors.

- (22) The Programme falls within the scope of the Lithuanian National Programme under Directive 2011/70/Euratom.
- (23) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of the objectives of the Programme, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁶.
- (24) The methods of implementation and the forms of Union funding laid down in this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. That should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in Article 125(1), point (a), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.
- (25) The Programme replaces the programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/101 for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027. That Regulation should therefore be repealed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

¹⁶ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by the Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/182/oj>).

Article 1

Subject matter

1. This Regulation establishes the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme of the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania ('the Programme') [for the period from 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2034].
2. This Regulation also lays down the objectives of the Programme, its budget [for the period from 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2034], the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such funding.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

- (1) 'decommissioning' means administrative and technical measures which allow the removal of some or all of the regulatory controls from a nuclear facility and which aim at ensuring the long-term protection of the public and the environment, including the reduction of the levels of residual radionuclides in the materials and on the site of the facility;
- (2) 'decommissioning plan' means a document containing detailed information on the proposed decommissioning and covering the selected decommissioning strategy; the schedule, type and sequence of decommissioning activities; the waste management strategy applied, including clearance; the proposed end state; the storage and disposal of the waste from decommissioning; the timeframe for decommissioning; the cost estimates for the completion of decommissioning; and the objectives, expected results, milestones, target dates, as well as the corresponding key decommissioning indicators, including earned value based indicators. The plan is prepared by the nuclear facility license holder and is reflected in the multiannual work programmes of the Programme.

Programme objectives

1. The Programme has the following general objectives:
 - (a) to assist Lithuania in implementing the decommissioning of the Ignalina nuclear power plant, with specific emphasis on managing the radiological safety challenges and optimising the efficiency of the programme implementation via a proportionate reduction and a reorganisation of workforce;
 - (b) to create knowledge on the nuclear decommissioning process and the management of radioactive waste resulting from the decommissioning activities, delivering explicit knowledge products on decommissioning and waste management governance issues, managerial best practices, technological challenges and, if achievable, health and safety protocols for workers and the general public relating to decommissioning activities , with a particular focus on preventing environmental contamination and adverse health effects from radioactive materials.

The knowledge referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph shall be disseminated at Union level, and beyond, with third countries where appropriate, in line with Union policy and objectives, in all relevant areas, developing potential Union synergies, under programme Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation and Decommissioning (INSC-D), as set out in Article [X] of Regulation (Euratom) [XXX].

2. The Joint Research Centre shall coordinate the structuring and dissemination of knowledge, referred to in paragraph 1, first subparagraph, point (b), to Member States and with third countries where appropriate, in line with Union policy and objectives, while ensuring appropriate protection of the Union's security interests, intellectual property, sensitivity and confidentiality of information and technological leadership. Those activities shall be financed under the INSC-D programme and funded by the Union at 100% of eligible costs.
3. The specific objective of the Programme shall be to carry out the engineering, dismantling and decontamination of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant equipment and reactor shafts in accordance with the decommissioning plan, including the management of radioactive waste resulting from the decommissioning activities, and to continue with the safe management of the decommissioning and legacy waste.
4. The list of activities to be performed under the Programme is set out in the Annex. The Commission may , by means of implementing acts, define in more detail the content of the activities listed in the Annex in order to achieve the objectives of the Programme. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 11(2).

[Article 4

Budget

1. The indicative financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period from 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2034 is set at EUR 678 000 000 in current prices.
2. Budgetary commitments for actions extending over more than one financial year may be broken down over several years into annual instalments.

3. Appropriations may be entered in the Union budget beyond 2034 to cover the expenses necessary and to enable the management of action not completed by the end of the Programme.
4. The financial envelope referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the amounts of additional resources referred to in Article 5 may also be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, corporate information technology systems and platforms, information communication and visibility activities, including corporate communication on the political priorities of the Union, and all other technical and administrative assistance or staff-related expenses incurred by the Commission for the management of the Programme.]

Article 5

Additional resources

1. Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries, international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties, may make additional financial or non-financial contributions to the Programme. Additional financial contributions shall constitute external assigned revenue within the meaning of Article 21(2), points (a), (d), or (e), or Article 21(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

2. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be made available to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly or indirectly in accordance with Article 62(1), point (a) or (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. Such resources shall be additional to the amount referred to in Article 4(1) of this Regulation. Such resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned. Where the Commission has not entered into a legal commitment under direct or indirect management for additional amounts thus made available to the Programme, the corresponding uncommitted amounts may, at the request of the Member State concerned, be transferred back to one or more respective source programmes .

Article 6

Alternative, combined and cumulative funding

1. The Programme shall be implemented in synergy with other Union programmes. An action that has received a Union contribution from another programme may also receive a contribution under the Programme. The rules of the relevant Union programme shall apply to the corresponding contribution or a single set of rules may be applied to all contributions and a single legal commitment may be concluded. If the Union contribution is based on eligible costs, the cumulative support from the Union budget shall not exceed the total eligible costs of the action and may be calculated on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the documents setting out the conditions for support.

2. Award procedures under the Programme may be jointly conducted under direct or indirect management by Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries, international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties ('partners to the joint award procedure'), provided the protection of the financial interests of the Union is ensured. Such procedures shall be subject to a single set of rules and lead to the conclusion of single legal commitments. For that purpose, the partners to the joint award procedure may make resources available to the Programme in accordance with Article 5 of this Regulation, or the partners may be entrusted with the implementation of the award procedure, where applicable in accordance with Article 62(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. In joint award procedures, representatives of the partners to the joint award procedure may also be members of the evaluation committee referred to in Article 153(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

Article 7

Implementation and forms of Union funding

1. The Programme shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, under direct management or under indirect management with entities referred to in Article 62(1), point (c) of that Regulation.
2. Union funding under the Programme may be provided in any form in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, in particular, prizes, procurement and non-financial donations.

Article 8

Eligibility

1. Only activities implementing the objectives set out in Article 3 shall be eligible for Union funding.
2. The work programmes referred to in Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 may further specify the eligibility criteria set out in this Regulation or set more detailed eligibility criteria for specific actions to ensure the achievement of the objectives set out in Article 3 of this Regulation.

Article 9

Co-financing rates

The overall maximum Union co-financing rate applicable under the Programme shall be no higher than 86%. The remaining financing shall be provided by Lithuania and additional sources other than the Union budget.

Article 10

Work programme

1. The Programme shall be implemented by work programmes referred to in Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. The work programmes shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in article 11(2).
2. The work programmes shall reflect the applicable decommissioning plan that is to serve as the baseline for the programme monitoring and evaluation.

Article 11

Committee

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where the opinion of the committee is to be obtained by written procedure, that procedure shall be terminated without result when, within the time limit for delivery of the opinion, the chair of the committee so decides or a simple majority of committee members so requests.

Article 12

Repeal

Regulation (EU) 2021/101 is repealed with effect from 1 January 2028.

Article 13

Transitional provisions

1. This Regulation shall not affect the continuation or modification of actions initiated under Regulation (EU) 2021/101, to which that Regulation shall continue to apply until their closure.
2. The financial envelope for the Programme may also cover technical and administrative assistance expenses necessary to ensure the transition between the Programme and the measures adopted under Regulation (EU) 2021/101.

Article 14

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2028.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

ANNEX

The activities included in the decommissioning plan submitted by Lithuania in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1369/2013, and its subsequent revisions are covered under the specific objective set out in Article 3(3), in particular the following:

- (I) Dismantling of reactor shafts:
 - (1) completion of dismantling and decontamination of top and bottom zones (called zones R1 and R2, respectively);
 - (2) completion of Steam Drum Separators dismantling;
 - (3) reactor cores (called zone R3):
 - (a) dismantling technology engineered and licensed;
 - (b) dismantling equipment installed and operational;
 - (c) dismantling and decontamination of the reactor shafts central zone in accordance with the decommissioning plan; progress has to be measured by the quantity and type of materials removed as well as through earned value);
 - (e) reactor waste interim storage facility in operation.
- (II) Implementation of the building demolition programme. Progress made in respect of this objective is to be measured by the quantity of demolished buildings as well as through earned value.

- (III) The efficiency of the Ignalina nuclear power plant (INPP) decommissioning programme shall be optimised, in particular through a proportionate reduction and a reorganisation of workforce (employees) involved . In view of the scheduled dismantling activities and considering the choice of the INPP to outsource the full dismantling of reactor shaft central zones, the reduction of the workforce involved in the decommissioning activities shall be targeted to one third compared to the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) at the end of 2024. Where relevant, employees affected by the reorganisation and the outsourcing process may be offered targeted access to retraining, upskilling and redeployment opportunities. Progress shall be measured with respect to specific Key Performance Indicators approved in the implementing work programmes.
- (IV) Safe management of the decommissioning and legacy waste up to storage or to disposal (depending on the waste category), including the completion of the waste management infrastructure, and near surface repository. It has to be accomplished in accordance with the decommissioning plan, in its final revision. Progress has to be measured by the quantity and type of waste safely stored or disposed of, as well as through earned value.
- (V) Downgrading of radiological hazards. Progress has to be measured through the safety assessments of the activities and the facility, identifying ways in which potential exposures could occur and estimating the probabilities and magnitude of potential exposures.

The specific objective set out in Article 3(3) shall not cover the disposal of spent fuel and radioactive waste in a deep geological disposal facility and the funding for the realisation of a deep geological disposal facility .