

Question for written answer E-000907/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Maria Zacharia (NI)

Subject: Management of Bulgarian nuclear waste in earthquake-prone Greece

In the spring of 2024, the Greek Regions were asked by the Government to provide an opinion on the strategic environmental impact assessment concerning the plan for the ‘management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste from Bulgaria’, which was sent to them without a public consultation having taken place first and without the prior agreement of civil society. So far, there has been no official update on the project examined in the strategic environmental impact assessment and there has been lingering public concern over the announcements made back in 2022 by Bulgaria’s then deputy prime minister about an agreement for Greece to fund a new nuclear power plant in Kozloduy.

As is known, Bulgaria continues to seek burial sites for radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel as there are no such facilities in the country, despite the massive amounts of EU funding that have been absorbed for the decommissioning of the Russian-type Kozloduy nuclear reactor.

Greece is situated in one of the most seismically active regions in Europe, experiencing frequent and powerful earthquakes, and this can affect the stability of geological formations. It is also home to many aquifers that are crucial for irrigation and agricultural production. All the above make Greece an unsuitable location for the burial of radioactive waste as there is a serious risk of radioactive leaks and groundwater contamination.

In view of this, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Has it been informed about the above?
2. How dangerous does it think it would be for earthquake-prone Greece to manage these kinds of waste?

Submitted: 4.3.2025