

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003334/25
to the Commission
Günther Sidl (S&D)
(29 August 2025)**

Subject: Investments associated with nuclear power

As reported last week, the nuclear sector needs over EUR 240 billion by 2050 in order for the nuclear energy plans of some Member States to be realised ⁽¹⁾.

1. What contribution is the Commission expected or intending to make towards these costs?
2. Are there estimates regarding costs associated with risk prevention and requisite safety measures for the planned nuclear power plants?
3. What is the estimated cost of the additional final nuclear waste repositories required?

Submitted: 29.8.2025

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(21 November 2025)**

The Commission does not provide any direct funding from the EU budget for Member States' investments in nuclear energy production capacities ⁽¹⁾.

The EUR 240 billion figure quoted by the Honourable Member is presented in the eighth Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC) published on 13 June 2025 ⁽²⁾ by the Commission as an aggregated amount to deliver on Member States' national plans regarding nuclear energy deployment.

The Commission's cost assessment is based on a fixed unit cost per installed capacity and is not disaggregated into separate safety-related sub-categories. The detailed assumptions are set out in the Staff Working Document SWD(2025) 160 final ⁽³⁾.

In a recent Commission report ⁽⁴⁾, the overall EU cost estimate for the management of all radioactive waste — including waste from past activities, waste expected from ongoing and future activities, and decommissioning of operational activities — is around EUR 300 billion ⁽⁵⁾.

This figure encompasses the costs that Member States anticipate for facilities needed for the responsible management of radioactive waste and spent fuel, also arising from future nuclear installations as far as they are already covered by the national programmes.

The financial responsibility for facilities for the management of radioactive waste and spent fuel rests with the Member States and is to be covered through national radioactive-waste management and nuclear-decommissioning funds established under Directive 2011/70/Euratom and related provisions.

¹ <https://energynewsmagazine.at/2025/06/13/eu-kommission-milliarden-fuer-ausbau-der-atomkraft-notwendig/>

⁽¹⁾ The Euratom Research and Training Programme supports research, innovation and training in nuclear safety, radiation protection and waste-management, but it does not finance the building of new nuclear power plants or the continued operation of existing ones.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025DC0315&qid=1756994388566>.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025SC0160&qid=175206994701833>.

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2024) 197 final, Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on progress of implementation of Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom and an inventory of radioactive waste and spent fuel present in the Community's territory and the future prospects — Third report.

⁽⁵⁾ This figure represents the sum of Member States' individual estimates. However, Member States' estimates vary widely in terms of methodology, assumptions, completeness of data, scope and time frames.