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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.6.2026)

The purpose of the in-depth investigation is to allow the Commission to gather all the evidence necessary to assess whether the proposed public support is compatible with the internal market. As part of its assessment, the Commission is required to conduct a balancing test, weighing the positive effects of the measure - including its contribution to security of supply, decarbonisation objectives and energy system resilience - against any potential negative effects on competition and intra-EU trade. This includes assessing whether the measure provides sufficient incentives for the nuclear power plant to operate efficiently in the electricity market, while avoiding overcompensation and unnecessary costs for consumers and taxpayers. Where the positive effects outweigh the negative, the Commission will approve the aid, provided that it complies with all relevant and intrinsically linked EU law provisions. The Commission cannot prejudge the outcome of this ongoing investigation.

The Commission is fully aware of the importance of this project and will do its utmost to carry out the assessment as fast as possible. However, the Commission must respect the procedural requirements established under Regulation (EU) 2015/1589 to ensure a decision is robust, well-founded and consistent with EU State aid rules. The Romanian authorities remain responsible for designing the support measures and the planning and implementation of the project, including measures to ensure security of supply during the refurbishment period.