

## **11 DIFFICULTIES AND UNCERTAINTIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The potential uncertainty factors or practical difficulties encountered during the EIA work have been identified as comprehensively as possible during the assessment work, and their implications on the reliability of the impact assessment results have been taken into consideration. Identified uncertainties and difficulties and their implications are mainly described in the relevant sections of Chapters 7 and 10.

The available environmental data and the assessment of impacts always involve generalisations and assumptions. At this stage of the NNPP project for instance the technical data is still preliminary and incomplete, thus causing the need for above mentioned generalisations and assumptions.

The limited amount of data regarding the Belarus region has caused difficulties in parts of the assessment work. Only information on performed radiological monitoring was received from Belarus despite official requests through the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment for other information as well.

Some difficulties were encountered when trying to compile sufficiently reliable up to date data on Lake Druksiai hydrology and the hydrology of River Prorva and other rivers in Belarus. For instance actual data of the present outflow from the lake does not exist. Extrapolations from available measurement data had to be made in order to acquire sufficient hydrological data. Lack of sufficient data may cause uncertainties and inaccuracy in the assessment work. Therefore the represented assessment of water balance should be considered preliminary.

There are no regulations for releases in case of a severe nuclear accident in Lithuanian legislation. Therefore the limit for the release of radioactive materials arising from a severe accident (100 TBq release of Cs-137) defined in Finnish legislation had to be used for environmental impact estimation.

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