

Press Release from the 3-rd Meeting of the Commission for the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Nuclear Power Plant Temelin (4/5 April 2001)

The EIA commission held its third meeting with representatives of Austria, Germany and the European Commission on 4/5 April in Prague. The participants recognised that the meeting examined further progress towards the implementation of the Melk Protocol with regard to some complex key issues. Apart from administrative matters, the commission discussed the format and outline of the documentation that will be made available on 10 April for the public consultations foreseen under the voluntarily extended EIA procedure guided by the EIA directive under the Melk Agreement.

The commission further addressed some logistical issues of the public hearing to be held in Linz on 9 May 2001 and the Czech public hearing on 25 April 2001 in C. Budjevice. Further details will be arranged through diplomatic channels.

In parallel to the meeting of the EIA commission, experts from Czech Republic, Austria, Germany and the European Commission addressed the subject of principles and methods of emergency planning and response with regard to the Temelin NPP, including the assessment of beyond design and severe accidents' consequences. Recognising the interest of the general public in the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany, the Czech side announced that it will make available a public presentation of this subject to be made available on the web-side of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the report of the EIA commission according to Chapter V of the Melk Protocol. At the public hearing to be arranged in Linz on 9 May 2001, a representative of SUJB will be available to cover this topic that does not fall under the mandate of the Czech EIA commission as well as be available to answer eventual written questions on this issue. At the said public hearing, this subject will be addressed under an extended sub-item of item 2.7.3 of the published scoping list with the heading of "Consequences of Accidents and Severe Accidents, Emergency Plans, Agreements with other States concerned".