

Folketingets Europaudvalg
Christiansborg, den 12. juni 2002
Europaudvalgets sekretariat

Til
udvalgets medlemmer og stedfortrædere

Materiale fra debatten i Litauen om lukningen af Ignalina Atomkraftværk

Til udvalgets orientering omdeles materiale modtaget fra formanden fra det litauiske Europaudvalg vedrørende lukningen af Ignalina Atomkraftværket.

Materialet indeholder bl.a. uddrag fra debatten i det litauiske parlament samt en resolution om den litauiske position i forhandlinger med EU om lukningen af energikapitlet.

Med venlig hilsen

Peter Riis

Debate on the Draft Resolution on the Position of Lithuania in Negotiations with the European Union in the Energy Chapter and the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy Necessary for Ensuring Successful Accession to the European Union and Adoption Thereof

CHAIRMAN. Dear colleagues, I would like to invite you to proceed with the morning plenary. We are now debating the second item on the agenda of the morning plenary, i.e. No IXP-1569 (2), "Resolution on the Position of Lithuania in Negotiations with the European Union in the Energy Chapter and the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy Necessary for Ensuring Successful Accession to the European Union". We have entered the stage of debate. We are going to start from the presentation of conclusions by the principal committee, i.e. European Affairs Committee. If the Members of the Seimas support this idea, the conclusions will be presented as follows. Mr Adriukaitis, Chairman of the Committee, will make the introduction, and Mr Saudargas will continue with the remaining part. Do the colleagues support this arrangement? If you are against, I would then invite Mr Andriukaitis, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee, to present the conclusions of the Committee.

V.P. ANDRIUKAITIS. Mr Chairman of the sitting, dear colleagues, Members of the Seimas, allow me to present the conclusions of the European Affairs Committee. The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania decided to make the European Affairs Committee the principal committee in debating this draft Resolution submitted by the Government. The European Affairs Committee organised meetings with experts and conducted hearings in relation to this issue. The hearings made it possible to listen to the arguments by the representatives of Lithuanian organisations, comments by Lithuanian academic community, and analyse all the addresses received by the Seimas so far. To be precise, they include the address by the Lithuanian academic community, 4 statements to the Seimas from different societies and associations, and the letter of the employees of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. As a result, a working group was set up under the Committee to improve the draft Resolution submitted by the Government; the improved draft Resolution was presented to the Committee for approval on Monday. The Committee considered the comments made by Mr Veselka, Ms Prunskienė, Mr Saudargas, Mr Maldeikis, and Mr Andriukaitis. Some of the comments were taken into account and some of them were not. The Committee submitted an approved version of the draft by the Government. The Committee voted for the approved variant unanimously. Thus, we are now talking about the said improved draft Resolution of the Government.

How has this draft been improved? Firstly, the preamble of the Resolution was itemised and presented in a way that had logical unity; it was also supplemented with four additional proposals presented by individual Members of the Seimas and those resulting from the discussions in the Committee. First and foremost, the preamble reiterates welcome to the proposal of the European Commission to allocate financing for the period 2004-2006 through a separate budgetary line and its recognition that the decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Plant is a heavy long-term burden for Lithuanian economy. Moreover, it reaffirms the position that "... being aware of the

be between 2009 and 2015 and recognising a possibility to provide in the National Energy Strategy for an early closure of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, taking into account nuclear safety, financial and social circumstances; declaring that Lithuania is committed to the key provisions of the National Energy Strategy adopted on 5 October 1999 and **the Law on the Decommissioning Fund of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant adopted on 12 July 2001** and views the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant as a highly complex and unique challenge which is inevitable and will also have negative social and economic consequences for the contemporary society; has resolved as follows:

2. To delete the words "inter alia", "and financial conditions" in Article 1 and "supplement Article 1 with: **"provide a later date than 2009 (from 2013 to 2017) and more favourable terms supported by technological, economic and social arguments and the necessary EU financial support. To formulate the negotiation provisions of the Government on the possibility of financing the specific needs listed under the present Article on Lithuania's own funds (from the Fund of Decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, electricity tariff, etc.) and break the financing into particular needs by their percentage points in the total"**, and to replace the word "authorise" with the word **"propose"**, and to read Article 4 as follows.

To read Article 1 as follows:

Article 1.

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to negotiate with the Member States of the European Union and the European Union institutions the terms for the closure of Unit 2, having regard to the proposals of the European Union on the terms, financial conditions and other terms of the final shutdown of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, **provide a later date than 2009 (from 2013 to 2017) and more favourable terms supported by technological, economic and social arguments and the necessary EU financial support. To formulate the negotiation provisions of the Government on the possibility to finance the specific needs listed under the present Article on Lithuania's own funds (from the Fund of Decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, electricity tariff, etc.) and break the financing into particular needs by their percentage points in the total** and to report regularly to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania on the process of the negotiations.

3. To supplement the Resolution with Article 3:

Article 3.

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to submit to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania the summary of analytical efforts aimed at the assessment of the cost burden on the State of Lithuania in the economy and the social field arising from the increase of energy prices and unreceived income as well as pollution costs as a result of the decommissioning of the Units of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. To submit these analytical data in a package with the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy.

4. To see Article 3 as Article 4 by inserting the words **"before the start of the negotiations on the Energy Chapter"** after the date "2002". To replace the word "authorise" with the word **"propose"** and to read **Article 4** as follows:

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to submit to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania as early as in the second quarter of 2002, **before the start of the negotiations on the Energy Chapter**, a draft Resolution of the Seimas on the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy setting the terms and conditions of the closure of Unit 2 and to submit to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania a draft Law on Additional Employment and Social Guarantees for the Employees of the State Enterprise "Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant" laid off as a result of its closure.

Submitted by:

Member of the Seimas

Kazimira Prunskienė



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO NARYS

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Proposals

6 May 2002

Concerning the Draft Resolution of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania "On the Position of Lithuania in Negotiations with the European Union in the Energy Chapter and the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy Necessary for Ensuring Successful Accession to the European Union" IXP-1569

1. To amend the preamble of the Draft Resolution by inserting the following sentence: **"and the Law on the Decommissioning Fund of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant adopted on 12 July 2001"**, after the words "declaring that Lithuania is committed to the key provisions of the National Energy Strategy adopted on 5 October 1999" and read the preamble as follows:

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania: having regard to Lithuania's aspiration to become a member of the European Union in 2004 and conclude accession negotiations in 2002; acknowledging the necessity to set the conditions for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant in line with Lithuania's timetable for accession to the European Union; taking into account the experience and results of the Donors' Conference of 20 June 2000 "Decommissioning of Unit 1 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant" in mobilising assistance; holding in high regard the call of the European Parliament on the Member States of the European Union to demonstrate solidarity with Lithuania and increase financial assistance for the decommissioning of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant and for dealing with other related consequences; expressing its approval for the 20-21 November 2001 conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee of the European Union and Lithuania providing for a shared responsibility for the decommissioning of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; concurring with the recognition of the European Commission that the burden of closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant is a common concern for Lithuania and the European Union; welcoming the proposal of the European Commission to allocate additional financing for the period 2004-2006 through a separate budgetary line and its recognition that the decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant is a heavy long-term burden for Lithuania's economy; re-affirming that additional financing from the budget of the European Union is necessary for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant and for addressing other issues related to the closure, for the re-establishment and upgrading of energy generation capacities of Lithuania as well as for interconnection of its electricity market with the electricity market of the European Union; emphasising the importance of high nuclear safety standards and the contribution of Lithuania and the international community to ensuring nuclear safety of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; being aware of the importance of the commitments of the Republic of Lithuania to co-finance, in accordance with its ability, the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, and to address other related problems; emphasising the importance of high nuclear safety standards and the contribution of Lithuania and the international community to ensuring nuclear safety of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; seeking full integration of Lithuania's energy system into the system of the European Union, adequate security of energy supply and upgrading of energy capacities; taking into consideration that the technologically feasible time period for the decommissioning of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant could



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14 May 2002

Statement On New Irresponsible Commitment by the Seimas to Urgently Close INPP Units

The Government having changed and the previous consistent negotiation position having been rejected, in autumn 1999 and spring 2000, unrealistic commitments and political statements on the closing of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant were adopted, which resulted in injury to the Lithuanian taxpayers amounting to billions and in the country's damaged defence interests accompanied by the complications of the accession negotiations with the European Commission.

The decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Plant that meets safety requirements has never been and is still not an official criterion for the membership of the European Union, which is proved by the opening of accession negotiations with the candidate countries whose nuclear power plants are in a worse state than the Ignalina NPP.

A premature and irresponsible commitment to decommission Unit 2 of the Ignalina NPP would make Lithuania dangerously dependent on its eastern neighbours and would encourage the generation of power in unsafe nuclear power plants of the region.

Therefore I propose that the Seimas should authorise the government to negotiate with the European Commission on the terms of safe operation of Unit 2 of the INPP rather than its decommissioning, to evaluate the decommissioning-related costs, as well as the residual value of the Units (potential income, though not received, and the difference in energy prices).

Member of the Seimas

Gediminas Vagnorius



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TO: Secretariat of the Plenary Sitzings of the Seimas

8 May 2002

PROPOSAL
CONCERNING THE DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE SEIMAS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
“ON THE POSITION OF LITHUANIA IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN
UNION ON THE ENERGY CHAPTER AND THE AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL
ENERGY STRATEGY NECESSARY FOR ENSURING SUCCESSFUL ACCESSION TO
THE EUROPEAN UNION”
NO IXP-1569

1. I suggest that the heading of the Resolution should be changed and worded as follows:
"On the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy for Negotiations with the European Union".
2. I suggest that the preamble of the Resolution be worded as follows:
The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania:
having regard to Lithuania's aspiration to become a member of the European Union in 2004 and conclude accession negotiations in 2002;
re-affirming a shared responsibility of the Republic of Lithuania and the European Union for the conditions and consequences of the decommissioning of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant;
taking into account the technological aspects related to the early decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant set forth in the Nuclear Safety Donor Account;
underlining the significance of complying with high nuclear safety standards;
declaring that the early decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant will have long-term social and economic consequences to the Republic of Lithuania, has r e s o l v e d as follows:
3. I suggest that Article 3 should be worded as follows:
To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to submit, by 1 September 2002, to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania a draft Law on the Early Decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 That should Take Place not before 2015 having taken into account substabtial long-term financial compensation available from the European Commission and European Union Member States and having ensured sufficient compensation from the European Union and its Member States for the early deciommissioning of Unit 1.
4. I suggest that Article 2 should be worded as follows:
To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to negotiate with European Union Member States and the European Commission on financial and other conditions related to the early decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant addressing technological, nuclear safety, environmental, as well as financial-economic and social issues resulting from the closure.

Member of the Seimas

Eugenijus Maldeikis

DECLARATION

OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE WORK COLLECTIVE OF THE STATE ENTERPRISE IGNALINA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

On a premature closure of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania has announced the date of an early closure of the first unit of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. Under the pressure from the European Union it will shortly announce the date for the closure of the second unit. This is a political decision and not a problem of nuclear safety or economics. It is evident that adoption of such a political decision is prompted by Lithuania's wish to become a member of the European Union and be invited to join NATO at any cost. As a result of this decision, Lithuania will turn from an electricity exporting state into a state that imports electric energy.

We have all the conditions for the development and expansion of nuclear energy. The use of nuclear technologies provides a possibility to develop the scientific and technological potential of the country, promotes the development of the economy, education and culture, enhances environmental protection. Throughout the time of its existence the Ignalina NPP has generated 220 billion kWh of electricity. If its maximum capacities are used, it could produce as much energy in future.

It is evident that the state does not make enough efforts to absorb the consequences of the closing down of the first unit of the Ignalina NPP. Without a state programme and investments we will not be able to resolve the growing problem of unemployment in the Ignalina NPP region.

We are convinced that the new National Energy Strategy should reflect the tendency to retain and develop the country's nuclear power sector. The second unit of the Ignalina NPP can and must be operated throughout the whole of its designed operating lifetime, i.e. until 2017. After modernisation, its operating lifetime can be extended by another 10-15 years. During this period, a project for the regeneration of the Ignalina NPP capacities should be prepared that would indicate ways of making maximum use of especially valuable equipment, operational period of which significantly exceeds the designed operating lifetime of the power plant. Implementation of such a project would decrease the costs of constructing the new unit by 25-30 per cent.

The specialists of the Ignalina NPP have proved that they are capable of operating the power plant safely, therefore they could also implement the project for the regeneration of the Ignalina NPP capacities. Agreement should also be reached on the return of spent nuclear fuel to the producer, as this would ensure a better protection of the country's population and the environment.

On behalf of the collective of the Ignalina NPP we urge that the following decisions be taken:

- an immediate decision on the development of nuclear energy sector in the country and on measures aimed at retaining the specialists currently working at the Ignalina NP;
- on creating a legal basis for the restructuring of the Ignalina NPP into a joint-stock company, for its possible privatisation, and for attracting foreign private capital investments to Lithuanian nuclear energy sector;
- to start negotiations on the return of spent nuclear fuel to Russian Federation.

The Declaration was adopted at the conference of the Ignalina NPP collective on 9 January, 2002. Protocol No. 1.

price of electricity to consumers as much as up to 38-45 cents per kWh. **The negative consequences of an early closure of the Ignalina NPP will affect all the consumers in the country.** The social situation of not only the inhabitants of the Ignalina region but also of the whole of Lithuania will undoubtedly get worse, and the unemployment and poverty problems will become more acute.

In our opinion, **the second unit of the Ignalina NPP should be used throughout the whole of its operating lifetime and Lithuania should further remain a nuclear power state.** Lithuania's nuclear energy sector could become not only the driving force for the development of the country's economy but also an energy reliability guarantor for the eastern part of NATO and the EU.

We hope that in the process of taking a decision, which is of extreme importance for the country, on the future of the Ignalina NPP and Lithuania's nuclear energy sector, account will be taken of our opinion expressed here.

Signatures of 34 Lithuanian scientists.

**To His Excellency Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania
Esteemed Chairman of the Seimas Artūras Paulauskas
Esteemed Prime Minister Algirdas Brazauskas
Distinguished Members of Seimas**

Nuclear power plants are a reality today. In Europe alone, they generate more than one third of all the electricity. Almost half a million highly qualified specialists are currently employed in the sphere of nuclear energy in European Union countries. Nuclear power plants enhance the independence of countries' from imported fuel, especially when the prices for the latter are growing or in cases of unexpected interruption in supplies (remember the energy blockade of Lithuania). They emit no gasses that cause acid rain or hothouse effect.

Lithuania does not boast sufficient resources of fossil fuel to meet its needs, that is why the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant constitutes the basis of the country's energy sector. **All the necessary conditions for the development of safe nuclear energy** and training of research and operating personnel **have been created in the country**. After the nuclear power sector is destroyed, the fate of the country would depend on the resources of fossil fuel of one neighbouring country.

A proper infrastructure for ensuring safe operation of nuclear power facilities has been created, research and operational specialists have been and are being trained and latest methods and tools for modelling and prognostication have been acquired in Lithuania. **We have no right to waste this intellectual wealth.**

The insistent demand of the European Union to shut down immediately the two safe and reliable units of the Ignalina NPP that might still operate for more than 15-20 years is unmotivated and biased, besides, it is fraught with risk from the economic, psychological and, what is especially important, safety point of view. Lithuania, in contrast to other countries seeking membership in the EU, finds itself in an exceptionally unenviable situation: she is the only one at whom demands are pressed to destroy the whole nuclear energy sector, without negotiations on either the designed operation period or the possibility to build a new nuclear power plant or to replace the old reactors by new, more modern ones. The second unit of the Ignalina NPP must continue operating at least until 2015-2020, while a comprehensive assessment is made of the possibility to renovate the power plant in future, by replacing the RBMK reactors by different, more modern ones.

The consequences of an early closure of the first unit of the Ignalina NPP for the country's economy might amount to over 40 billion Litas. Meanwhile, while acceding to the EU, Lithuania can expect support amounting to no more than 20 billion Litas, which, in the best case, will be sufficient only for the closure of the nuclear power plant but not for boosting the economy of one of EU candidate countries. One would not wish to see **Lithuania** go down in history as a **country that, in times of peace, voluntarily destroyed its energy potential.**

In 2001, per capita consumption of electricity in Lithuania was 2857 kWh on average. If we strive to at least come closer to the present EU average, in 15-20 years' time the country will be short of approximately the same capacities that we would lose now by closing down both units of Ignalina. The minimum demand for electricity in 2020 will amount to some 24-27 billion kWh, while all the power stations of Lithuania without Ignalina can only generate 12 billion kWh. Construction of new power plants will require investment from some 7-15 billion Litas (if fossil fuel is used) to around 20 billion Litas (in case of building a new nuclear power plant). Repayment of the investments into the construction will increase the electricity generation costs by 8-12 cents per kWh, and raise the

Lithuania has the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant with two reactors. Both (i.e. all of them) must be decommissioned

Ignalina	RBMK-1500	Built in 1983	To be decommissioned before 2005
	RBMK-1500	Built in 1987	To be decommissioned

Table 2. Types and numbers of reactors

Reactors	Operating N, no (P, MWe)	Under construction N, no (P, MWe)	Suspended N, no (P, MWe)
PWR	256 (227 690)	26 (25 800)	21 (10 155)
BWR	92 (79 774)	6 (7 900)	15 (4 793)
PHWR	43 (21 839)	4 (2 552)	2 (466)
GCR, AGR	32 (10 850)	-	19 (4 619)
LGR	13 (12 545)	1 (925)	13 (5 508)
LMBR	2 (793)	3 (1 780)	4 (1 646)

Table 3. Third generation reactors

Type	Name	Power, MWe	Manufacturer
BWR	ABWR	1 300	USA, Japan
PWR	80+ APR	1 300 1 400	USA, South Korea
PWR	80+ APR	1 300 1 400	USA, South Korea
PWR	AP-600 AP-1000	600 1 000	USA
PWR	APWR	1 500	Japan
PWR	EPR	1 550-1 750	France, Germany
BWR	SWR	1 000	Germany
BWR	BWR 90+	1 500	Sweden
PWR	V-407 V-392	640 1 000	Russia
PWR	VVER-91	1 000	Russia
PHWR	CANDU-9	925-1 000	Canada
PWR	CANDU-NG	600	Canada
Modular	PBMR	110	South Africa
Modular	GT-MHR	285	USA, Russia, etc.

Seven candidate countries of the European Union, including **Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary**, have nuclear energy:

Bulgaria has one plant (Kozloduy) with 6 reactors. 4 reactors must be decommissioned and the remaining two will be further upgraded:

VVER-440/230	Built in 1974	To be decommissioned in 2003
VVER-440/230	Built in 1974	To be decommissioned in 2003
VVER-440/230	Built in 1974	To be decommissioned in 2006?
VVER-440/230	Built in 1974	To be decommissioned in 2006?
VVER-1000/320	Built in 1987	Will be upgraded
VVER-1000/320	Built in 1991	Will be upgraded

“Belene” (1 and 2) under construction VVER 1000/320

Czech Republic has two plants: Dukovany (4 reactors) and Temelin (2 reactors)

Dukovany VVER-440/213	Built in 1985
VVER-440/213	Built in 1986
VVER-440/213	Built in 1986
VVER-440/213	Built in 1987
Temelin VVER-1000/320	Built in 2001
VVER-1000/320	Under construction

Dukovany is being upgraded, no decommissioning is planned

Hungary has one plant Paks with 4 reactors

Paks VVER-440/213	Built in 1982
VVER-440/213	Built in 1984
VVER-440/213	Built in 1986
VVER-440/213	Built in 1987

They will be upgraded as urged by the EU. None of them will be decommissioned

Romania has one plant with one Canadian reactor in Chernovoda

Chernovoda CANDU-6	Built in 1996
CANDU-6	Under construction (50%)
CANDU-6	Construction is suspended

Slovakia has two plants: Bohunice (4 reactors) and Mochovce (4 reactors)

Bohunice VVER-440/230	Built in 1978	To be decommissioned in 2006
VVER-440/230	Built in 1980	To be decommissioned in 2008
VVER-440/213	Built in 1984	To be upgraded
VVER-440/213	Built in 1985	To be upgraded
Mochovce VVER-440/213	Built in 1998	
VVER-440/213	Built in 1999	
VVER-440/213	Incomplete	
VVER-440/213	Incomplete	

Slovenia has one western reactor Krsko. No critical comments by the EU

Table 1. Nuclear energy throughout the world

States	Operating reactors	Operating power, MWe	Reactors under construction	Installed capacity, MWe
Argentina	2	935	1	1 627
Armenia	1	376	0	376
Belgium	7	5 712	0	5 712
Brazil	2	1 855	1	3 084
Bulgaria	6	3 538	0	3 538
Canada	22	15 149	0	15 149
China	3	2 167	8	8 587
Taiwan	6	4 884	2	7 484
Czech Republic	4	1 648	2	3 610
Finland	4	2 656	0	2 656
France	57	60 303	2	63 203
Germany	20	22 360	0	22 360
Hungry	4	1 755	0	1 755
India	14	2 548	4	5 320
Iran	0	0	1	950
Japan	52	43 255	6	48 893
Lithuania	2	2 370	0	2 370
Mexico	2	1 364	0	1 364
Netherlands	1	452	0	452
North Korea	0	0	2	2 000
Pakistan	2	425	0	425
Romania	1	655	4	3 135
Russia	26	19 849	5	24 174
Slovakia	6	2 512	2	3 392
Slovenia	1	620	0	620
South Africa	2	1 842	0	1 842
South Korea	16	12 970	4	16 770
Spain	9	7 345	0	7 345
Sweden	11	9 460	0	9 460
Switzerland	5	3 170	0	3 170
Ukraine	13	11 195	5	15 945
United Kingdom	33	12 038	0	12 038
USA	104	98 083	3	101 688
Total	438	353 491	490	400 492

educated scientists and technicians, and has acquired the latest methods and means of scientific modeling and forecasting.

The European Union demands that other nuclear power states – candidate countries (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Rumania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Hungary) should close some reactors down, while others should be modernised on EU funds. However, there is not a single country, which is suggested to do away with its nuclear energy. Lithuania stands out as an exception – it is pressed to destroy its nuclear energy. Therefore European Union funds should be made available not only for compensation of the costs of the exercise but for construction of new nuclear units in Lithuania. The youth is well educated in Lithuania, and having undergone internships and training in Western nuclear plants they would be able to operate new units safely and reliably. This would not result in losses to the European Union because the mantling of modern reactors developed by European Union experts would ensure jobs for highly skilled EU experts, production capacities of EU companies would be utilised, and their unemployment rate would drop. Lithuania as a future eastern part of the European Union and NATO would have an alternative source of energy, independent of its eastern supplier, and that source together with the Kruonis Hydro Pumped Storage Power Plant would be a pillar in the Baltic power ring that would cover Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finl. , Sweden, and Poland.

In case the European Union cannot allocate the necessary funds, Lithuania has a right to postpone the date of the decommissioning of Unit 2 and to operate it as long as it meets safety requirements. Lithuania has already made its sacrifice by announcing the date of the decommissioning of Unit 1, a well operating unit. One more sacrifice of the type will have grave economic and social consequences. Urgent closure of Unit 2 is grounded on neither psychological, nor economic, nor social, nor safety reasons. Early decommissioning must be well prepared. Safety issues must not be neglected during a decommissioning stage.

Nuclear energy of Lithuania should become the foundation of its economy and secure energy stability in the eastern part of NATO and the European Union.

We suggest that Lithuanian Negotiation Delegation should seek to reach the goals highlighted in the Appeal during accession negotiations because Lithuania people find the reason of requests, commitments and decisions concerning the INPP less and less understandable.

Signatures of Lithuanian scientists (118):

**APPEAL
TO**

**H.E. VALDAS ADAMKUS, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
H.E. ARTŪRAS PAULAUSKAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LITHUANIA
H.E. ALGIRDAS BRAZAUSKAS, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LITHUANIA**

On Lithuanian Nuclear Energy

Nuclear power plants generate 35 per cent of electric power, and they do so in a safe, reliable and non-polluting way. They reduce dependence on imported fuel, which is particularly important in case of supply problems or price increases. They do not contribute to the emission of greenhouse gases and acid rains. They play an important role in international efforts to restrict CO₂ emissions and fight against global warming. A nuclear sector employs over 400,000 high skilled workers in the European Union. Europe alone has 218 nuclear generating units. 35 per cent of power is produced by nuclear energy, 31 per cent by coal, 13 per cent by gas, 11 per cent by hydropower, 8 per cent by oil, and 2 per cent by using alternative sources.

Lithuania is characterised by very scarce solid fuel resources and unfavourable climatic conditions for alternative energy resources. For these reasons it must remain a nuclear energy industry state. Lithuania has created all the necessary conditions for the development of nuclear energy. Dependence on a sole source, the neighbouring Russia's energy resources, would lead to a higher economic dependence and weaker security of our state, thus that is not acceptable.

The existence of preconditions for the development of nuclear energy in Lithuania is a result of a long-term endeavour on the part of numerous scientific, research and education institutions as well as international co-operation. We have no right to waste the accumulated intellectual potential and to destroy a large sector of our modern-technology-based industry.

The units installed in the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant are channel type boiling water reactors with a graphite moderator, and its thermohydraulic parameters are comparable to those of BWR reactors. Research carried out by Lithuanian and foreign scientists shows that after having been modernised INPP reactors are as safe and reliable as western reactors are and have sufficient barriers to protect the environment. The licence issued for the operation of Unit 1 proves the safety and reliability of the Unit. The INPP has already produced 220 billion kWh of power and is still capable of producing the same amount.

The pressure from the European Union on Lithuania to shut down both operating units at an earlier date pointing to their inherent danger is not reasonable. It is not fair to speculate with danger of INPP radioactive pollution, which is really much lower than the natural background, with danger to human health and life.

Early decommissioning of the units of an operating nuclear power plant is an exceptional phenomenon, which will hinder the development of Lithuanian economy if, with the help of the EU, no new nuclear units are constructed, and redundancy, as well as other social economic problems are solved. Lithuania has its own specialists capable of operating nuclear reactors. Lithuania has already created an infrastructure for ensuring safe operation of nuclear power facilities, has

Article 4

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to submit to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania as early as in the second quarter of 2002 a draft Resolution of the Seimas on the amendments of the National Energy Strategy setting the terms and conditions of the closure of Unit 2 and to submit to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania a draft law on the additional employment and social guarantees for the employees of the State enterprise "Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant" laid off as a result of its closure.

CHAIRMAN OF THE SEIMAS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

ARTŪRAS PAULAUSKAS

Lithuania as well as for interconnection of its electricity market with the electricity market of the European Union;

being aware of the importance of the commitments of the Republic of Lithuania to co-finance, in accordance with its ability, the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, and to address other related problems;

emphasising the importance of high nuclear safety standards and the contribution of Lithuania and the international community to ensuring nuclear safety of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant;

seeking full integration of Lithuania's energy system into the system of the European Union, adequate security of energy supply and upgrading of energy capacities;

taking into consideration that the technologically feasible time period for the decommissioning of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant could be between 2009 and 2015 and recognising a possibility to provide in the National Energy Strategy for an early closure of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, taking into account nuclear safety, financial and social circumstances;

declaring that Lithuania is committed to the key provisions of the National Energy Strategy adopted on 5 October 1999 and views the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant as a highly complex and unique challenge which is inevitable and will also have negative social and economic consequences for the contemporary society;

has resolved as follows:

Article 1

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to negotiate with the Member States of the European Union and the European Commission the terms for the closure of Unit 2, taking into consideration the proposals of the European Union on the terms and financial conditions of the final shutdown of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, and continue negotiations in respect of the financial and other related conditions of the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to report regularly to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania on the process of negotiations and their results.

Article 2

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to seek substantial long-term financial support from the European Union for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant with provisions for a part of the European Union funds to be allocated exclusively for the needs of the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, *inter alia* for the maintenance of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Plant after their shutdown, dismantling of the units, radioactive waste management, dealing with social and economic consequences of the decommissioning, upgrading of the existing facilities and establishment of new electricity generating capacities, and addressing the environmental protection issues resulting from the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant.

Article 3

To propose to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to submit to the Seimas an amending provision of the National Energy Strategy to the effect that Lithuania will consider a possibility of becoming, in future, a state producing a safe nuclear energy.



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
RESOLUTION

**ON THE POSITION OF LITHUANIA IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH
THE EUROPEAN UNION IN THE ENERGY CHAPTER AND THE
AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY
NECESSARY FOR ENSURING SUCCESSFUL ACCESSION TO
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

14 May 2002, No. IX-882

Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania:

having regard to Lithuania's aspiration to become a member of the European Union in 2004 and conclude accession negotiations in 2002;

acknowledging the necessity to set the conditions for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant in line with Lithuania's timetable for accession to the European Union;

taking into account the experience and results of the Donors' Conference of 20 June 2000 "Decommissioning of Unit 1 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant" in mobilising assistance;

holding in high regard the call of the European Parliament on the Member States of European Union to demonstrate solidarity with Lithuania and increase financial assistance for the decommissioning of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant and for dealing with other related consequences;

expressing its approval for the 20-21 November 2001 conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee of the European Union and Lithuania providing for a shared responsibility for the decommissioning of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant;

concurring with the recognition of the European Commission that the burden of closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant is a common concern for Lithuania and the European Union;

welcoming the proposal of the European Commission to allocate additional financing for the period 2004-2006 through a separate budgetary line and its recognition that the decommissioning of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant is a heavy long-term burden for Lithuania's economy;

re-affirming that additional financing from the budget of the European Union is necessary for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant and for addressing other issues related to the closure, for the re-establishment and upgrading of energy generation capacities of



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO
EUROPOS REIKALŲ KOMITETAS
SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

53 Gedimino Ave., LT-2002 Vilnius, LITHUANIA Tel. +370 2 39 67 63 Fax +370 2 39 64 09

Modestas
EU. Seko.
d. 12.06.2002.

Mr. Claus LARSEN-JENSEN
Chairman of the EU Committee
Folketinget
Christiansborg
DK-1240 Copenhagen K
Denmark

24 May 2002 No. 016-313spp

Dear Mr. Claus Larsen-Jensen,

As you well know this year is the decisive year by the end of which the present applicant countries hope to successfully complete their accession negotiations with the EU. Lithuania is also making considerable effort to find itself among the successful candidates.

In this letter I would like to touch upon one of the most difficult and controversial issues Lithuania faces on its way to the membership in the EU, i.e., the closure of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant.

On 14 May 2002, following heated debates, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania passed the Resolution on the Position of Lithuania in Negotiations with the European Union in the Energy Chapter and the Amendments to the National Energy Strategy Necessary for Ensuring Successful Accession to the European Union. In the Resolution the Seimas, *inter alia*, proposed to the Government to negotiate with the Member States of the European Union and the European Commission the terms for the closure of Unit 2, taking into consideration the proposals of the European Union on the terms and financial conditions of the final shutdown of Unit 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, and to seek substantial long-term financial support from the European Union for the closure of Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant.

To illustrate the scale and intensity of the debates in Lithuania with regard to the multi-faceted issue of the future of Ignalina I enclose a number of documents that might be of interest to you and your colleagues at the Danish Parliament. Among the documents are two appeals by prominent Lithuanian scholars, a declaration of the staff of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant, and the minutes of the plenary sittings of the Seimas when the draft of above mentioned Resolution was debated on 14 May 2002.

I do hope that the broad perspective that the documents open will be of a significant use in understanding the specific circumstances Lithuania finds itself at this decisive moment of the accession negotiations.

Yours sincerely,

Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis
Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs