

Brussels, March 25 2014

Anticipating planned outages of Doel 3 and Tihange 2 reactors

At the occasion of the restart of Doel 3 and Tihange 2 reactors, Electrabel had agreed with The Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (AFCN), to carry out additional tests in order to evaluate the behavior over time of the reactor vessels affected in their material by hydrogen flakes. This program has to be realized before maintenance outages scheduled⁽¹⁾ on April 26th for Doel 3 and May 31st for Tihange 2. Among all the realized tests, one of them related to the mechanical strength of a sample analogue to the composition of the concerned vessels did not deliver results in line with experts expectations. This test has been realized after accelerated radiation within a research reactor at the Nuclear Research Centre of Mol. New tests will be performed.

As a safety measure, Electrabel has decided to anticipate the planned outages of the two reactors as of today, in the expectation of additional results.

The results of these tests should be known as from June 15th and will be the subject of permanent exchanges with the nuclear safety authorities.

(1) Duration of those maintenance outages is 6 weeks

PRESS ELECTRABEL

Anne-Sophie Hugé (fr)
☎ + 32 2 518 60 20

Geetha Keyaert (nl)
☎ + 32 2 518 65 04

press@electrabel.com

www.electrabel.com