

COMMISSION OPINION**of 29 April 2004****concerning the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste arising from the dismantling of various installations at CIEMAT in Spain, in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty**

(2004/C 115/11)

(Only the Spanish text is authentic)

On 19 May 2003, the European Commission received from the Government of Spain, in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty, General Data relating to the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste arising from the dismantling of various installations at CIEMAT.

On the basis of these data and the additional information requested by the Commission on 12 August 2003 and provided by the Spanish authorities on 5 December 2003, and following consultation with the group of experts, the Commission has drawn up the following opinion:

- (a) The distance between the installation and the nearest border with another Member State, which is Portugal, is 265 km.
- (b) During normal operation, discharges of liquid and gaseous effluents will not cause an exposure of the population in other Member States that is significant from the point of view of health.
- (c) Solid radioactive waste arising from the dismantling will be stored in a facility on site and finally transferred to the storage facility at El Cabril. Non-radioactive solid waste and materials which are released from regulatory control subject to compliance with clearance levels will be released for disposal as conventional waste or for recycling or reuse. This will be done in compliance with the criteria laid down in the Basic Safety Standards (Directive 96/29/EURATOM).
- (d) In the event of unplanned discharges of radioactive waste, which may follow an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the General Data, the doses likely to be received by the population in other Member States would not be significant from the point of view of health.

In conclusion, the Commission is of the opinion that the implementation of the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste in whatever form arising from the dismantling of various installations at CIEMAT in Spain, both in normal operation and in the event of an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the General Data, is not liable to result in radioactive contamination, significant from the point of view of health, of the water, soil or airspace of another Member State.
