ASN was created by the 13 June 2006 Nuclear Security and Transparency Act. It is an independent administrative Authority responsible for regulating civil nuclear activities in France.

On behalf of the State, ASN ensures the oversight of nuclear safety and radiation protection in order to protect people and the environment. It informs the public and contributes to enlightened societal choices.

ASN decides and acts with rigour and discernment: its aim is to exercise an oversight that is recognised by citizens and regarded internationally as a benchmark for good practice.
Regulating
ASN contributes to drafting regulations, by giving the Government its opinion on draft decrees and Ministerial Orders, or by issuing technical regulations. It ensures that the regulations are clear, accessible and proportionate to the safety issues.

Authorising
ASN examines all individual authorisation applications for nuclear facilities. It can grant all licenses and authorisations, with the exception of major authorisations for Basic Nuclear Installations, such as creation and decommissioning. ASN issues the licenses provided for in the Public Health Code concerning small-scale nuclear activities and issues licenses or approvals for radioactive substances transport operations.

Monitoring
ASN is responsible for ensuring compliance with the rules and requirements applicable to the facilities or activities within its field of competence. Since the Energy Transition for Green Growth Act of 17 August 2015, ASN's roles now include monitoring the security of radioactive sources against malicious acts. Inspection is ASN's primary monitoring activity. More than 1,800 inspections are thus carried out every year in the fields of nuclear safety and radiation protection. ASN has a range of notification and enforcement powers (formal notice, administrative fines, daily fines, ability to carry out seizure, take samples or require payment of a guarantee, etc.). ASN’s sanctions will be enforced by a Sanctions Committees, created within ASN, in order to maintain the principle of separation between the investigative and sentencing functions.

Informing
ASN reports on its activities to Parliament. It informs the public and other stakeholders (environmental protection associations, Local Information Committees, media, etc.) about its activities and the state of nuclear safety and radiation protection in France. ASN enables all members of the public to take part in the drafting of its decisions with an impact on the environment. In line with the principle of transparency, it supports the actions of the Local Information Committees of the nuclear facilities. ASN’s main information channel is its website asn.fr.

In emergency situations
ASN monitors the steps taken by the licensee to make the facility safe. It informs the public of the situation. ASN assists the Government. It in particular sends the competent Authorities its recommendations concerning the civil security measures to be taken.

Regulation and monitoring of diverse activities and facilities
Nuclear power plants, radioactive waste management, nuclear fuel shipments, packages of radioactive substances, medical facilities, research laboratories, industrial activities, etc. ASN monitors and regulates an extremely varied range of activities and facilities.

This regulation covers:
• 58 nuclear reactors producing nearly 80% of the electricity consumed in France, along with the Flamanville EPR reactor currently under construction;
• all French fuel cycle facilities, from fuel enrichment to reprocessing;
• several thousand facilities or activities which use sources of ionising radiation for medical, industrial or research purposes (“small-scale nuclear facilities”);
• several hundred thousand shipments of radioactive substances nationwide, every year.

The support of experts
When drawing up its decisions, ASN calls on outside technical expertise, in particular that of the French Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN). The ASN Chairman is a member of the IRSN Board. ASN also calls on the opinions and recommendations of eight Advisory Committees of Experts, from a variety of scientific and technical backgrounds.
The Commission

The Commission defines ASN general policy regarding nuclear safety and radiation protection. It consists of five Commissioners, including the Chairman.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner</th>
<th>Appointment Date</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Appointed By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bernard DOROSZCZUK</td>
<td>13 November 2018</td>
<td>6 years</td>
<td>the President of the Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippe CHAUMET-RIFFAUD</td>
<td>10 December 2014</td>
<td>6 years</td>
<td>the President of the Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvie CADET-MERCIER</td>
<td>21 December 2016</td>
<td>6 years</td>
<td>the President of the National Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydie ÉVRARD</td>
<td>10 March 2017</td>
<td>6 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean-Luc LACHAUME</td>
<td>21 December 2018</td>
<td>6 years</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Impartiality

The Commissioners perform their duties in complete impartiality and receive no instructions either from the Government or from any other person or institution.

Independence

The Commissioners perform their duties on a full-time basis. Their mandate is for a six-year term. It is not renewable. The duties of a Commissioner can only be terminated in the case of impediment or resignation duly confirmed by a majority of the Commissioners. The President of the Republic may terminate the duties of a member of the Commission in the event of a serious breach of his or her obligations.

Competencies

The Commission issues resolutions and publishes opinions in ASN's *Official Bulletin*. The Commission defines ASN external relations policy both nationally and internationally. The Commission defines ASN regulatory policy. The Chairman designates the various ASN inspector categories. The Commission decides whether to open an inquiry following an incident or accident. Every year, it presents the *ASN Report on the state of nuclear safety and radiation protection in France to Parliament*. Its Chairman reports on ASN activities to the relevant commissions of the French Parliament’s National Assembly and Senate as well as to the Parliamentary Office for the Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Choices.

The departments

The ASN departments are headed by a Director General, appointed by the ASN Chairman. They carry out ASN’s day-to-day duties and prepare draft opinions and decisions for the ASN Commission. They comprise:

- head office departments organised according to topics, which oversee their field of activity at a national level, for both technical and transverse matters (international action, preparedness for emergency situations, information of the public, legal affairs, human resources and other support functions). They more specifically prepare draft doctrines and texts of a general scope, examine the more complex technical files and the “generic” files, in other words those which concern several similar facilities;

- eleven regional divisions, with competence for one or more administrative regions, covering the entire country and the overseas territories. The divisions conduct most of the oversight in the field of nuclear facilities, radioactive substances transport operations and small-scale nuclear activities. They represent ASN in the regions and contribute to public information within their geographical area. In emergency situations, the regional divisions assist the Prefect of the *département*¹, who is in charge of protecting the general public, and supervise the operations carried out to safeguard the facility affected by the accident.

¹. Administrative region headed by a Prefect.
Key figures in 2018

Personnel

- 516 staff members
  - of which 318 inspectors
  - 84% management

ASN Actions

- 1,813 inspections representing 4,178 days of inspection
- 21,602 inspection follow-up letters available on asn.fr as at 31 December 2018
- 327 technical opinions sent to ASN by IRSN
- 20 Advisory Committee meetings
- 2,606 individual licenses for facilities or activities
**Budget**

€84.45 MILLION  
total budget for ASN

€84.3 MILLION  
IRSN budget devoted to analysis and assessment work on behalf of ASN

**Information**

Nearly **850** answers to queries from the public and stakeholders

**17** press conferences

**63** information notices

**9** emergency exercises
Number of significant events rated on the INES scale

1,092 events in Basic Nuclear Installations
91 events in the transport of radioactive substances
165 events in small-scale nuclear facilities (medical and industry)

Number of significant events rated on the ASN-SFRO scale

139 significant events

THE NUCLEAR SAFETY AUTHORITY
The Caen and Orléans Divisions cover the Bretagne and Île-de-France regions respectively for the regulation and oversight of BNIs only.