



Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) Resolution No. 2011-DC-0242 dated September 27, 2011, subjecting the restart of the melting or incineration furnaces of Basic Nuclear Installation 160 (CENTRACO) to prior authorization by ASN further to the accident that occurred on September 12, 2011

The Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN),

In view of Act No. 2006-686 of 13 June 2006 on Transparency and Security in the Nuclear Field, particularly articles 28 and 29 thereof;

In view of the amended Order dated August 27, 1996 authorizing the industrial waste and effluents conditioning company (SOCODEI) to create the CENTRACO basic nuclear installation in Codolet (Gard region);

In view of Decree 2007-1557 of 2 November 2007 concerning basic nuclear installations and the supervision of the transport of radioactive materials with respect to nuclear safety, particularly article 18 thereof;

In view of the Nuclear Safety Authority's Decision No. 2008-DC-0091 dated January 8, 2008 concerning the delegation of certain decision-making powers to the President;

In view of SOCODEI document BDDX/LBRN-11.1721 dated September 14, 2011, in which SOCODEI reports the accident that occurred in its facility on September 12, 2011;

Considering the severity of the accident's consequences;

Considering that prior to restarting the melting or incineration furnaces it is necessary, on the one hand, to verify the absence of damage potentially affecting the safety of the facility and, on the other hand, to take measures to reduce the risk of a new accident,

HEREBY DECIDES THE FOLLOWING:

Article 1

Without prejudice to the legal proceedings currently in progress, the restart of the melting or incineration furnaces of Basic Nuclear Installation 160 shall be subject to the prior approval of ASN.

This approval shall be issued in view of the documents mentioned in articles 2 and 3 above and under the conditions defined in the first paragraph of article 1 of the above-mentioned decision dated January 8, 2008.

Article 2

Prior to restarting the incineration furnace, the operator shall submit to ASN all the information needed to justify that this operation shall be carried out under satisfactory safety conditions.

In particular, the operator shall submit the following:

- the results of facility check operations prior to restart, particularly regarding the condition of equipment needed to ensure the safety of the incineration furnace;
- a report that, on the one hand, presents the conclusions of a reassessment of explosion risk situations within the incineration unit and, on the other hand, presents and justifies the technical and organizational measures to be implemented in order to prevent the occurrence of such situations, as well as the procedures for implementing these measures.

Article 3

Prior to restarting the melting furnace, the operator shall submit to ASN all the information needed to justify that this operation shall be carried out under satisfactory safety conditions.

In particular, the operator shall submit the following:

- a report presenting the analysis and experience feedback associated with the accident of September 12, 2011, as well as the technical and organizational measures adopted to take into account the results of this analysis;
- a report presenting the conclusions of a design and operating review of the melting unit with regard to the risk of explosion, and proposing, where applicable, any supplementary technical and organizational measures to be implemented in order to prevent this risk. This review will include experience feedback on the best practices and technical and organizational measures currently implemented in melting facilities with regard to the risk of explosion;
- an assessment report of operations for the repair and, if necessary, modification of equipment needed to ensure the proper operation of the melting unit;
- an assessment report of the results of the safety-related tests performed after these operations.

Article 4

The Director-General of the Nuclear Safety Authority shall be responsible for implementing the present decision, which shall be notified to the company SOCODEI and published in the Official Bulletin of the Nuclear Safety Authority.

Paris, September 27, 2011

The Nuclear Safety Authority's Commission*

Signed by

Michel BOURGUIGNON

Marie-Pierre COMETS

Jean-Jacques DUMONT

Philippe JAMET

*Commissioners present during this session