

Information Circular

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General Distribution

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Communication from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency

- 1. On 4 April 2024, the Secretariat received a Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency.
- 2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.



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The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to communicate the following.

Today, on 04 April 2024, as a result of shelling of the city of Kharkiv by the Russian Federation, the nuclear subcritical installation (NSI) "Neutron Source", suffered a loss of external power supply. The diesel generators were activated by the emergency power supply system of the facility.

The NSI "Neutron Source" is located on the site of the National Research Center "Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology" and is used by Ukrainian scientists for scientific and applied research in the field of nuclear physics, radiation materials science, biology, chemistry, as well as for the production of medical radioisotope.

In these circumstances, the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna wishes to draw attention to the fact that the Russian Federation has previously attempted to destroy this Ukrainian peaceful nuclear facility.

In particular, on 6 March 2022, the NSI "Neutron Source" in Kharkiv came under significant shelling. As a result, severe damage to the building structure was recorded, including loss of power. On 25 June 2022, as a result of another shelling of Kharkiv by the Russian Federation, the buildings and infrastructure of the facility were further damaged.

Secretariat
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna

The IAEA Statute emphasizes the importance of ensuring the safety and security of peaceful nuclear activities. Shelling of the scientific research facility containing nuclear materials raises serious safety concerns. Disruptions to the power supply can affect critical cooling systems and other safety measures, potentially leading to radioactive releases or accidents.

Furthermore, the IAEA Statute provides for the promotion of the international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. An attack on a facility dedicated to scientific research and medical isotope production, in contrast, undermines this cooperation and threatens the well-being of people around the world who rely on these isotopes for medical treatment, and demonstrates that Russia does not intend to comply with the requirements of the IAEA Statute and the objectives of the organisation.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine requests the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency to promptly circulate this Note Verbale as an Information Circular to all IAEA Member States.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 04 April 2024