

Brussels, 16 December 2004

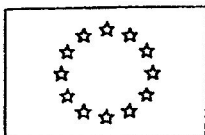
UK faces legal action for failure to implement Euratom health and safety provisions against ionising radiation

The European Commission has decided to send a reasoned opinion to the United Kingdom for failing to apply a requirement under specific provisions of the Euratom treaty concerning intervention and remedial action for the after-effects of past radioactive contamination.

A citizen's complaint drew the attention of the Commission to the non compliance of UK legislation with Article 53 of the Euratom Basic Safety Standards Directive¹ which provides for action by the Member States in situations of lasting exposure to ionising radiation. According to the Directive, such situations require "intervention" by the competent national authorities to prevent or decrease the exposure of individuals to radiation.

Current UK legislation implementing the provision of the Directive regarding intervention only allow for remedial action to be taken in case of redevelopment or disposal of radioactive waste. There is no regime to remedy other circumstances of past radioactive contamination. The adoption of national legislation to fill this gap has been delayed. The Commission has therefore decided to open infringement proceedings against the UK. A letter giving the Commission's reasoned opinion on the case will be sent and the UK will have an opportunity to correct the situation before a formal reference to the European Court of Justice.

¹ 98/29/Euratom



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

DIRECTORATE H - Nuclear Energy
Euratom coordination, international relations
Head of Unit

Luxembourg, 09 Aug 2005
TREN-H1/FS/jl D(2005) 117493

Mr Raymond Fox
Ground Floor Flat
15 Field Road
UK-Reading RG 1 6AP
E-mail:
raymond.fox2@ntlworld.com

Objet: **Your complaint 2001/4456/UK-Information on the infringement procedure**

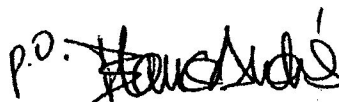
Dear Mr Fox,

With regard to the infringement procedure opened following your complaint, I am pleased to inform you that the Commission has decided, on 5.7.2005, to seize the Court of Justice with the case, for failure to implement Article 53 of the Basic Safety Standards Directive 96/29/Euratom.

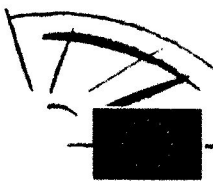
You can find the relevant decision on the Commission's Secretariat general website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/droit_com/decisions/dec_05_07_05.htm

Yours sincerely,

p.o. 

Massimo Garibba
p.o. Blanca Andres Ordax



PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKY PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
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Committee on Petitions
The Chairman

Brussels,
EP/sry/02-COM.PETI(2008)D/6728]

Mr Raymond James Fox
Ground Floor Flat
15 Field Road
Reading / Berkshire RG1 6AP
United Kingdom

302199 06.02.2008

Subject: Petition Nr. 0820/2007 (*reference to be quoted in all correspondence*)

Dear Mr Fox,

I would like to inform you that the Committee on Petitions considered your petition and decided that the issues which you raise are admissible in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, insofar as the subject matter falls within the sphere of activities of the European Union.

The committee began its examination of your petition and decided to ask the European Commission to conduct a preliminary investigation of the various aspects of the problem. The committee will continue its examination of your petition as soon as it is in receipt of the necessary information.

I will keep you informed of any further action taken on your petition in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Marcin Libicki
Chairman
Committee on Petitions