

My observations and comments

Listening to the conference today, the enormous need for funds to develop SMR one might gain the impression that we would not have any existing and reliable electricity generation options already commercially available. But we do, it is well known as renewable energies - wind, solar and of course energy efficiency. Instead, billions are to be poured into more the less new NPP designs.

This intention we have to call what it is: industry welfare. If this design developments deliver results states are most likely expected to fully finance those SMR as they are currently doing to make those very few nuclear power plants possible, only with the help guarantees, loans, CfD unlimited.

From the point of view of public and civil society

This SMR pre-partnership is certainly industry-driven.

- issues such as waste are pushed aside

- societal acceptance of SMR in general and in particular close to cities in the world of the future is not seriously discussed. On top of the well-known risks leading to severe accidents in nuclear power plants, new ones are increasingly coming up:

- Terror threats

- Wars and military conflict

- cyber threats

- the understanding that nuclear facilities should be kept out of military conflicts does not exist, not only the NPP Zaporishia was under serious danger several times, now also NPP Khmelnytsky

Furthermore I see a

Lack of

- Real interest to involve critical voices
- Unbiased and factual information e. g. on status of SMR development
- Funds for independent research

- Funding for all critical type of work

First news from the ground

The first EIA for SMR started recently in Poland, EIA usually being the only chance for the public to engage, but the public involvement is not encouraged.

The scoping phase is being conducted WITHOUT the public, both domestic and transboundary. EU and national legislation (ESPOO and Aarhus Convention) was violated when no SEA was conducted which is necessary for programmes such as the plan for 70 SMR in Poland.

In the morning, The EU Commission's representative ensured us that regarding stakeholder involvement and independent research steps will be taken, we would appreciate if we could discuss this soon.