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*Brussels, 3 June 2020*

**Subject : EU actions in regard to the scheduled launch of the Ostrovets Nuclear Power Plant**

Dear President Von der Leyen,  
Dear Commissioner Simson,  
Dear Commissioner Sinkevičius,  
Dear Commissioner Kyriakides,  
Dear Commissioner Breton,

We, the undersigned Members of the European Parliament, are deeply concerned about Belarus' ongoing plans to imminently launch the Ostrovets Nuclear Power Plant (NPP), located only 20 km from the EU border.

Despite the numerous safety gaps, and having failed to address questions about the suitability of the selected NPP site, to remedy violations of international conventions and to implement any concrete security measures which would address very serious security deficiencies, identified in the Ostrovec NPP design by the EU experts during the 2018 EU Stress Tests, Belarus proceeds with its plans to launch the first nuclear reactor in the very near future.

The economic viability of this Russian-funded project depends on the ability to sell produced electricity in the EU Single Electricity Market. However, imports of electricity from the Third Countries, where safety and environmental standards are significantly lower than in the EU, will create unfair competition for the electricity, produced in compliance with the EU standards, within the EU market and will affect the development of the renewable electricity production in the EU.

What concrete actions does the European Commission envisage to take in order to protect the EU Single Electricity Market from imports of electricity, produced under lower standards of environmental protection and nuclear safety?

In the absence of EU-wide measures, Lithuania adopted a national law prohibiting imports of electricity from unsafe nuclear power plants in Third Countries. However, the Ostrovets NPP project is not just an isolated bilateral issue between Lithuania and a neighbouring country – it is a common matter for Europe as a whole. In this context, what measures does the European Commission intend to undertake to support Lithuania in this endeavour and to ensure that



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unsafe electricity, produced in Third Countries, does not enter the EU market - via other EU Member States?

We would welcome if you can provide us with answers to these important questions as soon as possible and invite you to exchange views with us on how to proceed further.

*Yours sincerely,*

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