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ELEKTRÁRNE



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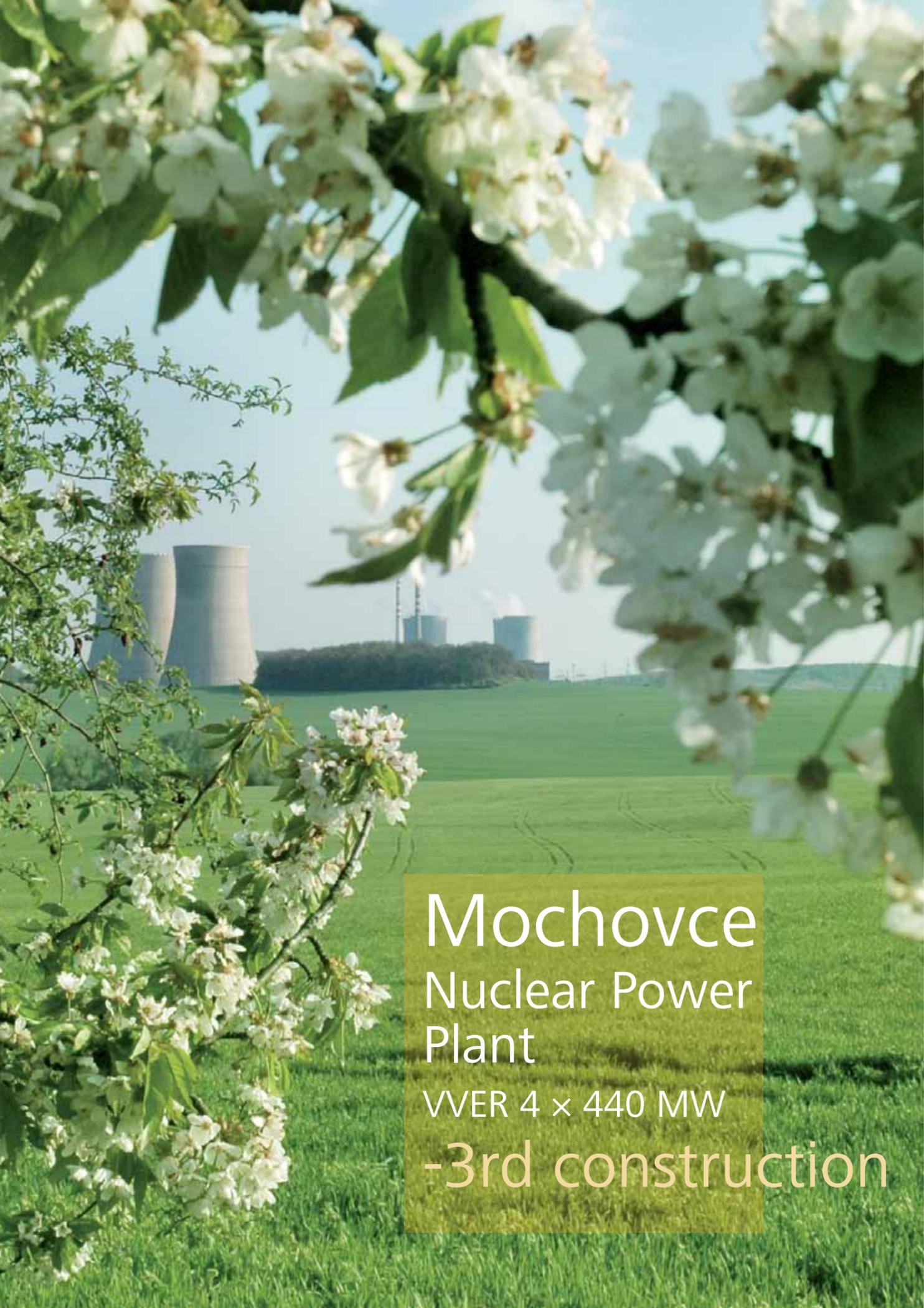
Executive Summary

Study of Environmental Impact Assesment for Mochovce NPP Units 3&4

 SLOVENSKÉ
ELEKTRÁRNE



August 2009



Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant

VVER 4 × 440 MW
-3rd construction

Executive summary

- Slovenské elektrárne a.s. ("SE") has commissioned Golder (Europe) EEIG ("Golder") to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report, in compliance with Act No. 24/2006 Coll., Annex 11 for the proposed activity, "Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant VVER 4 × 440 MW - 3rd construction".
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report also meets the requirements of the Exhibit II "Illustrative list of potential social and environmental issues to be addressed in the Social and Environmental Assessment documentation" in the International Finance Corporation (IFC) "Equator Principles" report of July 2006.

This document represents an **executive summary** of the complete EIA report.

BASIC DATA ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Name: Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant VVER 4x440 MW, 3rd construction.
 Purpose: The aim of the project is to commission and operate the Mochovce NPP Units 3 and 4, already authorized for completion, in order to produce the required base load electricity needed to cover the significant gap between demand and supply of the Slovak electricity network.
 User: Slovenské elektrárne, a.s. Bratislava, Mochovce NPP, Units 3 and 4 (MO34)

SITE LOCATION

- Mochovce NPP is situated in Central Europe in the south-western region of the Slovak Republic (SR) at the western border of the Levice district. The area lies in the south-western part of the Kozmálovské hills mainly in the Hron highlands.
- For SR planning and administrative purposes, Mochovce NPP is situated in the eastern part of the Nitra region, in the north-western part of the Levice district, close to the border with the Nitra and Zlaté Moravce districts. Mochovce NPP is approx. 12 km from the district capital Levice, which is the largest town within a 20 km distance from the power plant.



■ in decommissioning ■ in operation ■ under construction



- Slovakia shares its borders with five other countries: Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland and the Ukraine. The approximate distance of the MO34 site from the individual state borders is shown in the table below:

Country	Distance of MO34 from state borders
Hungary	37 km
Austria	110 km
Czech Republic	85 km
Poland	130 km
Ukraine	270 km

MOCHOVCE POWER PLANT HISTORY

- Initial Mochovce site preparation began in 1981. In April 1998 the first fuel was loaded into Unit 1, and operation started in August 1998. Unit 2 started operation in January 2000.
Construction of Units 3 and 4 was halted in 1992 and from then on work was limited to preservation and protection of components to keep them in good condition.

MO34 CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

- The original Construction Permit No. Výst. 2010/86 for MO34 was issued by the District National Committee in Levice on the basis of the Land Planning Decisions on 12 November 1986.
- The deadline for completion of MO34 set out in the original Construction Permit has been extended as follows:
 1. until 31 December 2005 by the Regional Authority in Nitra No. 97/02276-004 dated 5 May 1997
 2. until 31 December 2011 by a Decision of the Regional Building Authority in Nitra No. 2004/00402-007 dated 15 July 2004, becoming final and conclusive as of 3 August 2004
 3. until 31 December 2013 by the Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR, which, according to the Atomic Act 541/2004, is also the Building Authority for Nuclear Installations), in the Decision No. 246/2008 dated 14 August 2008

Mochovce 3&4
have a valid construction
permit



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The Project consists of the commissioning and operation of Mochovce NPP Units 3 and 4, and includes the onsite management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste produced during the operating life of the power plant. Units 3 and 4 are about 70 % complete in terms of civil works and about 40 % complete in terms of mechanical plant.
- Since Mochovce NPP is an existing plant, EIA and environmental studies were carried out previously to assess the impact of the 4 units and their related facilities. Therefore the present Report focuses on the likely environmental effects as a result of commissioning and operating Units 3 and 4 that are additional to the impacts of the existing facility.
- For the purposes of this EIA, the Project life-cycle is assumed to extend from 2013 to 2053 (40 years). The commissioning activities are scheduled for 2012. Commercial operations of both Unit 3 and 4 are scheduled to begin in 2013.

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- The methodology used for this EIA is based on systematic consideration of the systems, works and activities which comprise the Project. The assessment of environmental effects involves four steps that progressively refine the focus of the assessment on the project's physical works and activities that may affect the environment:
 - I. Initial screening of physical works and activities
 - II. Description of existing conditions
 - III. Assessment of likely effects
 - IV. Determination of significance of residual effects
- Residual environmental effects are those that remain after the preceding assessment process, including the application of mitigation measures to eliminate, reduce or control the adverse effects of the project where appropriate.
- Each residual environmental effect was assessed against the following criteria (as shown in the Table below):



- **Magnitude:** the size or degree of the impact compared against baseline conditions
- **Extent:** the area over, or throughout which, the effects will occur
- **Duration:** the time period for which the effect will last
- **Frequency:** the rate of reoccurrence of the effect (or conditions causing the effect)
- **Degree of reversibility:** the degree to which the effect can be or will be reversed (typically measured by the time it will take to restore the environmental feature)

SPATIAL BOUNDARIES

- The scope of assessment requires that the study areas considered in the EIA encompass the environment that can reasonably be expected to be directly or indirectly affected by the project, or which may be relevant to the assessment of cumulative effects and the effects from future lifecycle phases of the facility. The following three study areas were chosen:
 - Site Study Area: this area, centred on the plant site (3 km radius), includes facilities, buildings and infrastructures at the Mochovce site (the Protection zone, where permanent residence is prohibited by the Decree of Regional Health Officer No. H-IV-2370/79 of 15 October 1979)
 - Local Study Area: the area outside the site study area boundary (10 km radius) where there might be a potential impact in the unlikely event of abnormal operating conditions
 - Regional Study Area: a 'conservative' area (50 km radius) where there is a potential for cumulative and social-economic effects
- The following table shows correlations between the environmental components considered and the study areas.

Environmental component	Spatial boundaries	
Atmospheric Environment	• Local atmosphere	Local Study Area
	• Human health, human health workers and members of the public	Regional Study Area
	• Pathway to terrestrial environment VECs quality	Local Study Area
	• Pathway to aquatic environment VECs	Local Study Area
Geology and Seismicity	No interaction between project activities and component	
Hydrology and Hydrogeology	• Aquatic temperature	Local Study Area
	• Aquatic quality	Regional Study Area
	• Human health and members of the public	Regional Study Area
	• Pathway to aquatic environment VECs	Regional Study Area
Terrestrial Environment	• Vegetation communities and specie	Local Study Area
	• Wildlife habitat	Local Study Area
	• Pathway to aquatic environment VECs	Local Study Area
Land Use and Cultural and Historical Heritage	• Land resources	Regional Study Area
	• Land use	Site Study Area
Economic and Demographic Conditions	• Pathway to socio-economic conditions VECs	Regional Study Area
	• Population and employment	Regional Study Area
	• Economic activities	Regional Study Area
	• Municipal Finance, infrastructure, services	Regional Study Area
	• services	Regional Study Area

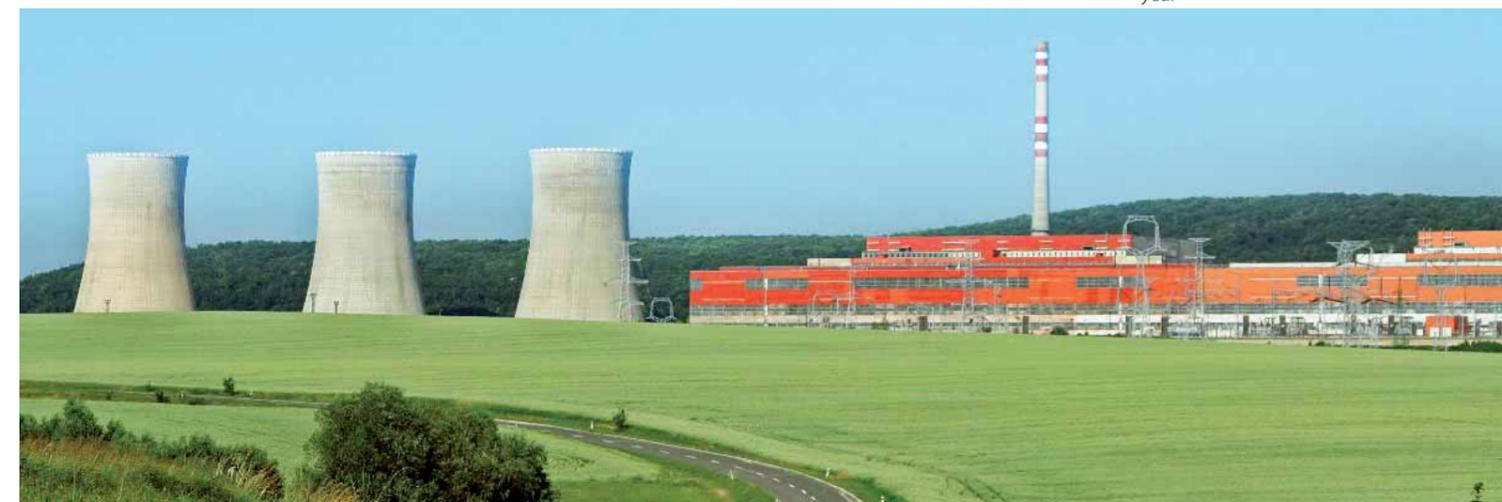
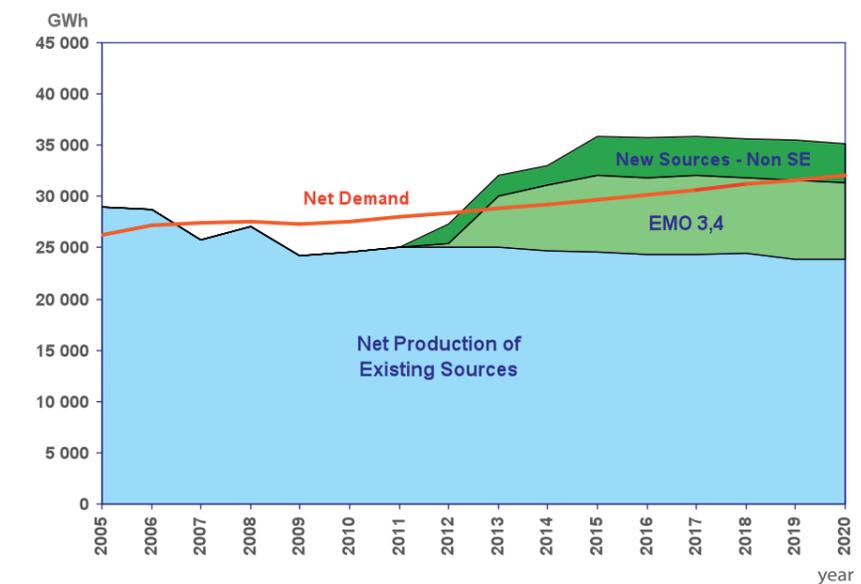
THE ALTERNATIVES FOR THE COMPLETION OF MOCHOVCE NPP

- As already mentioned, the Mochovce power plant was designed and constructed as a four-unit NPP, with common civil structures and technological components shared by all four units. The civil structures are 70 % built. All the environmental evaluations submitted in support of permit applications have been carried out taking into account the likely impacts and the needs of four units.
- The Mochovce site is already capable of supporting the external services and infrastructure requirements of Units 3 and 4. Moreover, due to the advanced stage of completion, the Mochovce site represents the most feasible opportunity to cover, within a relatively short timeframe, the significant gap between demand and supply of electric energy on the Slovak network.
- For these reasons, it seems clear that there are no reasonable alternatives to the completion and operation of Mochovce Units 3 and 4.



Programmatic framework

- Due to the shutdown of two old nuclear units in Bohunice (V1) in 2006 and 2008 (as a consequence of the political decision taken during the negotiation of the Pre-accession Treaty with the EU), Slovakia ceased to be an exporter of electricity and became an importer. The total capacity of NPPs in Slovakia has been reduced by 880 MW. Such conditions will continue until appropriate additional capacity is put in operation. Taking into account the current status and viability of new potential investments, MO34 will probably be the only equivalent substitution for the closed power plants. Based on the current MO34 construction schedule, Slovakia will be dependent on electricity imports until 2013 at least.
- The following figure shows that the electricity supplied by MO34 would be sufficient to make Slovakia a minor exporter during the period 2013-2019. It is also expected that some additional new projects with a capacity of some 400 MW will be implemented in the medium-term and the export capacity of Slovakia will increase accordingly.



Design framework

- The design of Units 3&4 is based on the design of Units 1&2, which feature VVER 440 (Water-Water Energy Reactor) pressurized water reactors of the V 213 type. The main difference between the operating Units 1&2 and Units 3&4 is that some safety and efficiency improvements will be applied to Units 3&4.

Main safety improvements

- The safety improvements for MO 3&4 have been conceived mainly on the basis of the guidance in IAEA document "IAEA-EBP-VVER-03, Safety Issues and their Ranking for VVER-440 model 213 Nuclear Power Plants". The most important modifications can be grouped into the following areas:

- Design measures for Severe Accident Management
- Improvements of I&C and electrical equipment
- Seismic upgrade
- Design measures for the reduction of internal hazards
- Improved design of safety systems and safety-related equipment

- It has to be pointed out, however, that Units 1&2 are already 100 % compliant with the IAEA recommendations.

Efficiency improvements

- Due to the use of new higher performance components (turbogenerators and other equipment) in the MO34 secondary circuit, the efficiency will be increased up to 31.7 %, without any change in the primary circuit. The reactor rated thermal power (1375 MWt) is equal, so the gross electrical power output will be 471 MWe and the net electrical power output 436 MWe.

- The most important improvements and their environmental benefits include:
 - New turbines of higher efficiency and other optimization work in the secondary thermal cycle (resulting in decreased thermal discharge to the environment)
 - New titanium tubes in condensers (resulting in higher performance)
 - New natural draft cooling tower packing (resulting in higher thermal performance)
 - New natural cooling tower drop retainers (resulting in decreased water consumption).

- The general reduction of the thermal discharges (about 7 %) into the environment follows from the increased efficiency compared to the original figure of 29.5 %.

- Moreover, the increase of the NPP efficiency will allow for:

- extension of the nuclear fuel life
- decrease of radioactive waste production
- decrease of the radioactive discharges

Environmental framework

- Likely impacts of the proposed activity have been evaluated following the methodology described above with respect to the existing environmental conditions (baseline) in the Mochovce area.
- The baseline conditions are generally considered to be those existing during 2006 - 2008 within the study areas. Where appropriate, relevant historical data have been used to supplement current data.

Impacts on population

- Likely impacts on population are described in terms of human health as a consequence of radioactive discharges in the air and water and in terms of socio-economic conditions.
- Regardless of where people live and work, they are continually exposed to natural sources of radiation. The magnitude of radiation dose from natural sources varies greatly, both spatially and temporally, and is mainly attributable to:

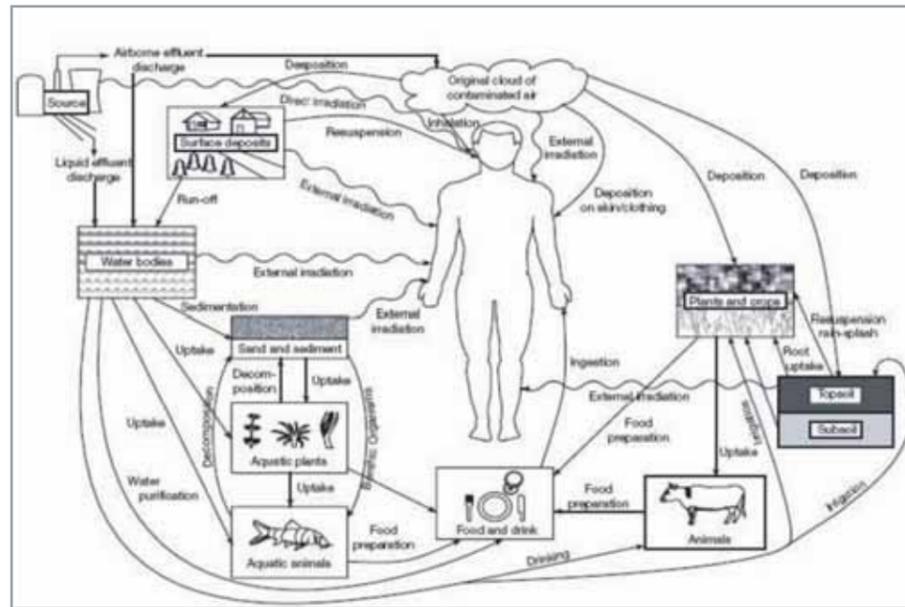
- ionizing radiation from cosmic rays
- radon exhalation from ground
- naturally occurring radionuclides in air and water
- gamma radiation from radioactive material in the soil, rocks and building materials

- Mochovce NPP, like any other nuclear power plant, emits small quantities of radioactive effluents, both gaseous (discharged through the stack in the atmosphere) and liquid (released to the Hron river).

- Adoption of efficient technologies and good engineering practices for the treatment and purification of the effluents allows releases, and therefore radiation exposure, to be always kept as low as reasonably achievable' and well below the regulatory limits.

- The amount of radioactivity emitted during normal operation of nuclear power plants is so small compared to the radiation background which naturally exists in the environment that the doses conferred to population are often below the analytical limits of detection and cannot be directly measured. These can therefore only be assessed through model calculations on the basis of possible pathways for human exposure.

- Therefore, radiological impacts on population living in the surroundings of Mochovce (within a radius of 60 km) have been evaluated using the deterministic RDEMO© code taking into account all the possible human exposure pathways (schematically shown in the following figure) and making very conservative assumptions (e.g. that all the drinking water is directly taken from the river Hron).



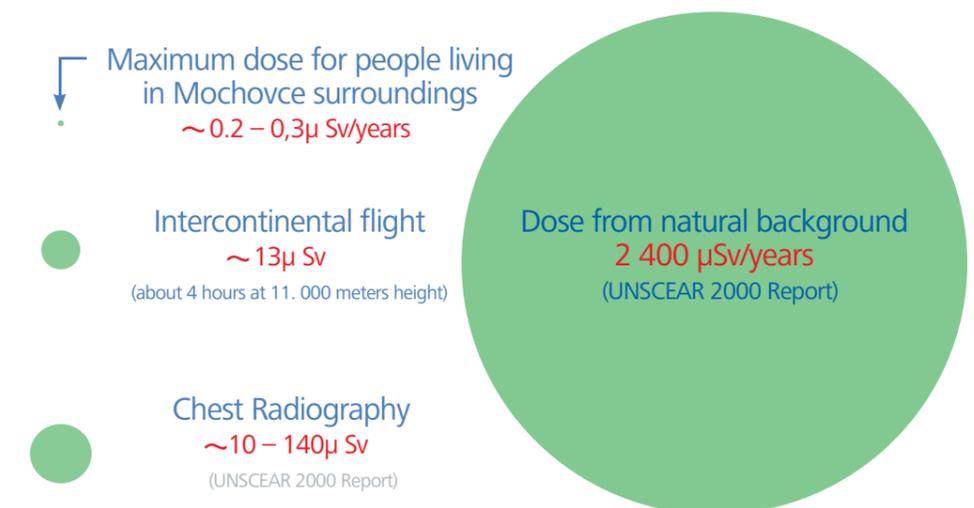
- Calculations have been performed taking into account two scenarios:
 - Normal operation; and
 - Anticipated operational occurrences.
- In the first scenario, radiation doses have been evaluated on the basis of the expected releases from all the four units (assessed as double the corresponding Unit1&2 figures in the last three years).
- In contrast, anticipated operational occurrences' include plant conditions deviating from normal operation. Generally, such conditions do not cause any significant damage to items important for safety nor lead to emergency conditions; however, for the purposes of this study a discharge equivalent to 100 % of the regulatory limits has been conservatively assumed.

Radiation doses for the most exposed individuals are shown in the following Table.

Natural background (UNSCEAR, 2000)	Regulatory limit (*)	Max. annual effective dose for inhabitants				
		Normal operation conditions			Anticipated operational occurrences	
μSv/year	μSv/year	Year	μSv/year	Regulatory limit (%)	μSv/year	Regulatory limit (%)
2400	250	2006	0.215	0.09	4.47	1.79
		2007	0.259	0.10		
		2008	0.295	0.12		

(*) Slovakian Ordinance of the Government No 345/2006

- As it can be seen from the table above, even in the case of anticipated operational occurrences, the dose commitment to the most exposed individuals is a negligible fraction of the natural background and well below its natural fluctuations.
- As far as transboundary impacts of radioactive discharges (through hydrosphere and atmosphere) in the neighbouring countries are concerned, a separate evaluation shows that the deriving doses are practically equal to zero.
- For example, the estimated doses at the Austrian border are of the order of 10 ÷ 100 pSv/year; given that these doses are roughly seven orders of magnitude lower than the natural background, it can be inferred that they are practically zero from a radiation protection point of view. Based on the negligible level of these doses, the conclusions are assumed to be applicable for the other neighbouring countries.
- A graphical comparison between doses deriving from the Mochovce NPP normal operation and doses deriving from some common human activities and natural sources of radioactivity are shown in the following figure.



- As it can be seen, the predicted doses resulting from these human activities are greater than (or at least of the same order of magnitude as) the dose arising from anticipated operational occurrences.
- Taking also into account that the radioactivity levels in the area surrounding the plant show no increase compared with natural background values after Unit 1&2 commissioning, the likely impacts on human health due to the proposed activity are predicted to be of negligible significance.
- As far as impacts on socio-economic conditions are concerned, the proposed activity is expected to have a beneficial effect on population through the creation of new employment opportunities, new business activities and increased community stability.

Atmospheric impacts

- The impacts of Units 3&4 on the atmospheric environment are due to the release of combustion products (NO_x, SO_x and CO), water vapour emissions from cooling towers, and radioactive gas originating from a gas cleaning system and the off gas from the liquid radioactive waste treatment facility (LRAWTF).
- The Power Plant is not a significant emitter of conventional air pollutants (NO_x, SO_x, CO₂ and particulate). The largest sources of such emissions during operations are the stand-by diesel generators. The maximum 1-hour ground-level concentrations from the operation of emergency generators have been assessed and any effect is predicted to be minor.
- In respect of water vapour releases through the cooling towers, the size of the impact of all four units was evaluated through mathematical modelling by the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute in Bratislava. The conclusion was that the effects of cooling tower emissions on the local microclimate are trivial or barely noticeable.
- As explained in the relevant chapter concerning impacts on population, the effects of radioactive airborne emissions are negligible.
- The Project has a beneficial effect on the terrestrial environment compared to alternative power generating plants that result in greater SO_x, NO_x and other emissions; moreover, electricity produced by NPPs leads to a significant reduction of CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere, hence contributing to the EU's commitment to reduce CO₂ emissions by 20 % by 2020.
- Taking 2005 as the reference (during which Units 1&2 generated 6,240 GWh) and an average specific CO₂ emission factor of approximately 800 kg/MWh, the avoided CO₂ emission can be estimated at 5,000,000 tonnes of CO₂. The same reduction, year by year, will be achieved with the future operation of MO 3&4.

Impacts on water

- Interactions of the proposed activity with hydrology and groundwater were identified both for non-radiological and radiological parameters.
- The likely effects of normal operation on hydrology and groundwater are related to heat release, quality of discharged water and radioactive emissions.
- In line with Slovak Decree No. 296/2005, the liquid effluent released to the river Hron is regularly monitored to verify that its temperature complies with the regulatory limit.
- For non-radiological parameters, no long-term build-up of pollutants in the environment is likely because of the limited volume of water-based releases. The proposed activity is predicted to have negligible adverse effects on hydrology and groundwater.
- As explained in the relevant chapter concerning impacts on population, the effects of radioactive liquid emissions are of minor significance.

Other impacts

- No other relevant effect of the proposed activity has been identified during the assessment study; therefore, any impact on other Environmental Components not previously mentioned is predicted to be negligible.

Social analysis

- SIA (Social Impact Assessment) and community involvement is as central to project success as any other factor and involves the proper management of relationships with people in the local communities.
- In summary, the Social Impact Assessment contains an analysis of:
 - social and socio-economic aspects
 - community perception
 - media reports
- The Mochovce NPP is an existing facility in an established and stable community. All necessary construction permits have been granted. A detailed socio-economic assessment is therefore not required.
- Notwithstanding this, the company will consult with the public on the results of this study and there will be opportunities for comment and feedback on the analysis. The consultation programme will include public hearings, presentations, newsletters, and briefing of local, regional and national government officials as appropriate (see Annex on the Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan).

Follow-up and monitoring programme

- To assist in determining whether the environmental and cumulative effects of the Project are as predicted in the EIA Report, and to confirm if the impact mitigation measures are effective and thus whether new mitigation strategies are required, a follow-up and monitoring programme is proposed.
- The follow-up programme would incorporate current Mochovce monitoring programmes and other environmental studies, as appropriate. Accordingly, the follow-up programme should achieve the following three goals:
 - *Confirm assumptions in the analysis of the EIA Report*
 - *Verify the predictions and assessment of the environmental effects*
 - *Verify the effectiveness of implemented mitigation measures*



Conclusions

Taking into account the findings of the EIA Study, including the identified mitigation measures, it is concluded that the project is not likely to have any significant adverse effects on the environment. Indeed, the project will result in a number of positive effects through reducing greenhouse gases emissions and providing economic benefits to the immediate and surrounding communities.

A summary of the residual environmental effects and their significance is presented in the following table.

Likely adverse/beneficial environmental effect	Residual adverse /beneficial effect
Atmospheric environment	
Non radiological parameters	
Reduction of CO ₂ emission	Beneficial effect
Radiological parameters	
Increase in the average individual radiation doses to members of the public as a result of the Completion of MO34	Radiation doses to member of the public are low or not detectable
Geology and seismicity	
None	None
Hydrology and groundwater including aquatic environment	
Non radiological parameters	
None	
Radiological parameters	
Increase in the average individual radiation doses to members of the public as a result of the Completion of MO34	Radiation doses to member of the public are low or not detectable
Increase of background tritium concentration in surface water and groundwater	Radiation doses to member of the public are low or not detectable, therefore the expected doses to aquatic biota will be as well low or not detectable
Terrestrial environment	
None	None
Land use and cultural and historical heritage	
None	None
Socio-economic conditions	
Increase of economic activity through process expenditures and pay-roll	Beneficial effect
Increase community stability through a long term existence of the power plant with employment opportunities	Beneficial effect

Legal and Regulatory Consultation Requirements

Slovak Republic

- The primary source of requirements for public consultation and information disclosure on EIA matters is the Act 24/2006 (hereafter referred to as "the Act") on the Assessment of the Effects on the Environment, which covers the entire scope of the EIA and associated information required, consultation arrangements within the Slovak Republic, and evaluation by appropriate authorities of the information provided by the proponent and comments made.

EU legislation

- The EIA Directive (85/337/EEC) on Environmental Impact Assessment of the effects of projects on the environment was introduced in 1985 and was amended in 1997 (97/11/EC), providing general principles for the assessment of environmental effects.

International Conventions

- The Slovak Republic ratified the UNECE Conventions:
 - on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making Process and Access to Justice in Environmental Issues (the "Aarhus Convention")
 - on EIA in a Transboundary Context (the "Espoo Convention")
- The Intent for the current project states that impacts across state borders are not expected. Notwithstanding this, the principles and requirements of the Espoo convention will be followed. Copies of the Intent, the EIA Scope, and the complete EIA Report have been submitted to the governments of potentially affected neighbouring countries.



Public Consultation

Intent

The Intent for this project was submitted to the Ministry of Environment and distributed to selected stakeholders in December 2008. After commenting, it was revised and resubmitted in February 2009. Copies were sent to stakeholders and to the governments of neighbouring countries, and the local municipalities informed the public. The 21 day consultation period ended in March 2009, at which point comments from stakeholders, the public and the Austrian Government were collated for analysis.

Scoping

A Scoping Report setting out the proposed scope and timetable for the EIA study was submitted to the Ministry of Environment, and the local municipalities then informed the public. The 10-day Scoping consultation period ended in April 2009.

EIA Report

The main EIA study was submitted to the Ministry of Environment in mid-August 2009, which initiated the process for allowing a 30-day period for public comments.

Consultation Programme

The consultation programme for the EIA includes the following activities:

- Announcement of EIA Consultation:** on completion, a copy of the EIA and a project summary is sent to interested authorities, the interested municipalities and registered stakeholders. The municipalities then inform the public, giving 10 days notice of the start of the consultation period. Instructions are provided for making comments;
- Consultation Documents:** the EIA is made publicly available by the local municipality for reviewing, copying and commenting for the period of 30 days. Other interested municipalities may make copies available if they choose to do so. In addition to that, hard copies will be available at Mochovce NPP Information Centre, Slovenské elektrárne's offices in Bratislava, and the embassies of the Slovak Republic in neighbouring countries. Copies of the full EIA Report in Slovak and English and a General Summary in German, Hungarian, and Polish are available for download by all stakeholders on the web pages of the Ministry of Environment and of Slovenské elektrárne.

Public Hearing in the Slovak Republic

A public meeting during the consultation period will be organised and chaired by the local municipality in conjunction with Slovenské elektrárne. Stakeholders from Slovakia and neighbouring countries will be invited. Simultaneous translation to neighbour-country languages will be provided.

The meeting will be open, but if more people wish to participate than can be accommodated, priority will be given to stakeholders who informed the municipality of their intention to attend. Details of the venue etc. will be confirmed at least 10 days in advance.

The reporting of the meeting will be arranged by the local municipality, in cooperation with SE. The public comments and main points arising during the hearing will be recorded and transcribed into the Minutes of the meeting to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment within 6 days.

Other Information Channels

Background information on nuclear power for the public will be provided by Slovenské elektrárne through its own information channels.

- The Mochovce Civic Information Committee meets regularly with the Mochovce power plant management and provides a further channel for local inhabitants to obtain information and convey their views. The Mochovce CIC was established 5 years ago and comprises 15 independent representatives from the region.
- Mochovce NPP has a dedicated Information Centre and a range of publications which provide interested citizens with information about the site, and about nuclear safety and nuclear power generally. Site tours are also available. Every year between 10,000 and 12,000 visitors visit the power plant from across Slovakia and abroad.
- The monthly newsletter "atom.sk" covering Bohunice and Mochovce NPP is delivered free of charge to communities around the power plants.

Internet Arrangements

The Slovenské elektrárne website (www.seas.sk) provides a thorough and comprehensive update on all areas of the Company's activities. Stakeholders and members of the public will be able to download copies of documents through the SE website, and request additional information or comment via email.

The website of the Ministry of Environment includes relevant information (www.enviro.gov.sk).

Comments and Analysis

Comments should generally be sent directly to the Ministry of Environment. Comments made to the local municipality or to SE will be passed on to the Ministry of Environment.

Comments will be accepted by post, fax or email, in Slovak or (for stakeholders in neighbouring countries) in English or German. Comments will be translated if necessary and collated with comments made at the public meetings.

The Ministry of Environment will then consider the comments received, prepare a summary, and request further information or additional work on the EIA as required. Relevant Slovenské elektrárne and international experts will contribute to this process.

Comments will also be considered by an independent professional evaluator appointed by the Ministry of Environment to review the EIA and taken into account during the preparation of his report.

When it is available, the Ministry's Final Statement on the project will be communicated and made available to the local public by the municipality. It will also be sent by email to all registered stakeholders and neighbouring governments.