

## Response of the ANVS to the "Cooperation on Nuclear Safety" report by the Dutch Safety Board

Today the Dutch Safety Board (OVV) has published their report titled "Cooperation on Nuclear Safety". The Safety Board has performed an investigation into the Dutch cooperation with Belgium and Germany to the improvement of the safety of nuclear power plants and minimization of the potential consequences of a nuclear accident. Two recommendations of the Safety Board are addressed to the State Secretary for the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management; one recommendation is addressed to the Dutch Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Authority (ANVS). The ANVS agrees in general with the investigation results as well as with the Safety Board's recommendation.

This investigation has not been focused on whether the nuclear power plants in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany are safe. An international system for monitoring the safety of nuclear power plants is in place. The Dutch Safety Board states that there is no reason to question this system. Nonetheless, Dutch citizens, especially in the border regions, are concerned about the safety of nuclear power plants. The Dutch Safety Board indicates that these concerns deserve more attention both in the Netherlands and in the neighboring countries. The ANVS supports this assessment.

The ANVS is going to follow up on the Safety Board's recommendation. In consultation with the neighboring countries, we are going to actively provide information on nuclear licenses in a wider area around a nuclear power plant. Information about incidents will be presented in a more comprehensible way, and we will improve the communication about nuclear risks. In order to do so, the ANVS will use both the Safety Board's recommendations and the results of the inquiry into the public perception of nuclear risks that the ANVS has conducted in 2017.

Since its establishment, 1st January 2015, the cooperation with responsible authorities in the neighboring countries has been a priority for the ANVS. On each of the subjects mentioned by the Safety Board, a large effort has been made in the past few years by different organizations to enhance the safety of the nuclear power plants, to minimize the potential consequences of a nuclear accident, and to improve the communication. The Safety Board's investigation has also identified that the cooperation between the Netherlands and Belgium as well as between the Netherlands and Germany is well established, although improvement is needed in some areas. To further improve the cooperation with the neighboring countries the ANVS will utilize the Safety Board's report.