

# The ENVI in Session

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Nuclear power plants are certainly one of the most recently discussed topics. They pose multiple disadvantages, but they also pose some economic advantages. In the Committee Session of the ENVI this topic was again picked up and examined with a fine tooth comb.

The common position contains propositions of the shutting down of power plants within a time limit – until 2030. But until the closure of those nuclear power plants attention should be given to achieving security standards. It will be a long and tough way, but members of the Greens and the S&D urge towards a newer, greener future – without fossil fuels.

They are aware of the possible energy shortages, but they want to adopt certain measures, such as transparency, to overcome the eventual crisis.

They named several disadvantages of nuclear power plants, all of which are well-known. The increasing concerns about safety were mentioned, especially those concerning the use of plutonium and uranium, and the consequent problems surrounding this. So why not use renewable energy sources? This would be better for the environment and also prevent future crisis. But we should not act on impulse, firstly because we need other options. We need other energy sources before we shut down the nuclear power plants. We have to decrease the use of energy, since we cannot change directly into renewable sources, it wouldn't be enough to simply cover the demand for energy. It is most important that the society regulates its needs and that industries get stimulated for the use new energies. When the industry and the economy are ready for this change, the renewable energy sources should replace nuclear power plants. A gradual decrease of nuclear power plants is better, because sudden changes will have a deep impact on the economy of various countries.

Of course, not everybody is in favour of this common position. The EPP and ALDE fractions are against it, because they think that the common position is incomplete and contradictory. This will no doubt lead to a huge amount of amendments and a very active debate!