N268. New Steam Generators For Doel 3

Belgium's first steam generator replacement was completed in September. Electrabel's Doel 3 plant received three new steam generators in an outage lasting 96 days.

The replacement was carried out by Belgatom as part of an outage that also included:

- Ten yearly inspection of the reactor vessel and internals.

- Modifications arising from the first 10 years safety reassessment of the plant, including re-cabling of electrical penetrations, upgrade of safety injection systems and containment spray piping, etc.

- Replacement of the process computer.

- Maintenance of pumps.

- Replacement of reactor coolant pump snubbers.

The outage was planned on-line hour-by-hour, and workers from Belgatom, Eletrabel, and subcontractor Siemens received a combined radiation dose of 1.96 Sv.

Installation of the new steam generators will also enable the plant to be uprated by 10% from its current 945 MWe.