

Hungary gave a report on the progress it has made regarding the upgrade of the Paks nuclear power plant to the International Atomic Energy Agency at a meeting of the body's board of governors in Vienna yesterday, government commissioner for the project Attila Aszódi told Hungarian news agency MTI.

Hungary last gave a progress report on the Paks upgrade to the IAEA two years ago, said Attila Aszódi.

In his presentation to the board of governors, Aszódi said the European Commission had approved Hungary's inter-governmental agreement with Russia on the upgrade and the Euratom Supply Agency had cleared the project. The EC also accepted the related law on the release of information in the public interest, after some modification, he added.

A review is underway of whether it was appropriate to directly select the general contractor for the project, Russia's Rosatom, as well as the Russian technology that will be used, Aszódi said. Negotiations on questions of state aid are also being conducted, he added.

Cooperation with the Russian side on crafting the plan for the upgrade is "intensive and harmonious" and preparations for obtaining the necessary environmental and zoning permits are underway, he said.

source: bbj.hu