

The Hungarian National Atomic Energy Office announced that the automated shutdown of one of four units at the country's sole nuclear power plant Paks has occurred due to a control system malfunction.

According to OAH, the shutdown met all nuclear safety requirements and the meltdown did not compromise the safety of the unit nor it required the use of automatic defense system. The works on repairing the malfunction has already started and the unit will be restarted once the problem has been fixed.

Communications Director at NPP Paks Antal Kovasc said that the reactor will be back online on 15 July, adding that the plant's remaining three units were unaffected by this malfunction and shutdown.

Last week, OAH announced that the power output of this unit was scaled down by some 100 MW due to a generator malfunction. NPP Paks has four 500 MW units, put into operation between 1982 and 1987, with an operational lifespan of 30 years.

In 2015, NPP Paks produced 15,834 GWh of electricity in 2015, which is 1.2 % more than in previous year. It generated 52.7 % of the total electricity production in Hungary last year and covered about 36.2 % of domestic electricity demand. However, the company's revenues in 2015 dropped by 0.5 % to 552.4 million euros.