

## Milestones

Country: BELGIUM

Reporting Year: 2007

Start Year or Reference Year:	2006	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
On 23rd June 2006, the Belgian Government approves of surface disposal as the final solution for Belgium's low and intermediate level short-lived waste.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	2002	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
Building 156, a purpose-designed facility for the dry storage of irradiated fuel elements used by the PWR BR3, is put into operation on the Belgoprocess-site in Dessel..			
Start Year or Reference Year:	2001	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
EIG EURIDICE is the joint venture set up by ONDRAF/NIRAS and the Nuclear Research Centre to implement the PRACLAY programme. PRACLAY is a demonstration programme designed to prove the technical feasibility of disposing of category B- and category C-waste in deep clay layers.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	2000	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The first transport of vitrified waste, arising from the abroad reprocessing of Belgian spent fuel, arrives at the Belgoprocess site in Mol-Dessel and is stored in building 136, a purpose-designed facility for the storage of category B- and category C-waste.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1994	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
CILVA, a solid and liquid low level waste processing plant, is commissioned on the Belgoprocess site.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1986	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
Since 1986, ONDRAF/NIRAS has used its subsidiary Belgoprocess N.V. in Mol-Dessel for processing and interim storage of radioactive waste and decommissioning of nuclear facilities.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1986	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
Building 150, the first Belgian purpose-designed storage facility for category A-waste, is put into operation on the Belgoprocess-site.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1985	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The PWR's Doel 4 (980 MW) and Tihange 3 (980 MW) commence operations. They represent the final units of the Belgian fleet of nuclear power plants.			

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Start Year or Reference Year:	1983	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The PWR Tihange 2 (900 MW) commences operations.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1982	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The PWR Doel 3 (900 MW) commences operations.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1980	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
ONDRAF/NIRAS, the Belgian National Agency for Radioactive Waste Management and Enriched Fissile Materials, is established by law in 1980.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1978	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
Since 1978 great progress has been made in research on deep disposal of radioactive waste, thanks to the HADES underground laboratory at Mol.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1975	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The first commercial nuclear power plants are commissioned in Doel and Tihange. There are now seven reactors in operation, all of the PWR-type.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1975	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The PWR's Doel 1 (392,5 MW), Doel 2 (392,5 MW) and Tihange 1 (870 MW) commence operations.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1966	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The Belgian government gives the go-ahead for the construction of the first commercial nuclear power plants at Doel and Tihange.			
Start Year or Reference Year:	1963	End Year:	1987
Description of Milestone:			
The PWR BR3 (Belgian Research 3) commences operations. It is operated by the Nuclear Research Centre on its Mol-site. The BR3 is the first operational PWR in Western Europe. The operational era of the BR3 ends in 1987. It is the first PWR that is to be decommissioned in Western Europe.			

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Start Year or Reference Year:	1959	End Year:	1978
Description of Milestone:			
Eurochemic's experimental spent nuclear fuel reprocessing plant is commissioned in Dessel, Belgium.			

Start Year or Reference Year:	1952	End Year:	
Description of Milestone:			
The Research Centre for Nuclear Energy Application is founded, later renamed the Nuclear Research Centre. The Nuclear Research Centre's site in Mol houses two research reactors and has a staff of 700.			

Start Year or Reference Year:	1922	End Year:	1986
Description of Milestone:			
Umicore opens a refinery in Sint-Jozef-Olen, Belgium. For years, the factory is the world's largest producer of radium.			