

**Question for written answer E-003711/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Compatibility between the declaration of public interest for the 'Cigéo' radioactive waste disposal project in Bure, France, and Directive 2011/92/EU

The French Government has issued a decree giving a planned radioactive waste disposal project – 'Cigéo' – in Bure, France, a 'declaration of public interest' (*déclaration d'utilité publique* or DUP). Among other things, the DUP allows land to be appropriated for the project. Concerns have been raised, however, about the DUP's compatibility with Directive 2011/92/EU.

1. The DUP was issued before documents authorising the project's construction and implementation, including the choice of site and certain operating arrangements. Should the DUP be considered a first authorisation in the meaning of that directive?
2. The overall project is spread out over time and implementation hinges on a series of authorisations being granted. Does the possibility to update the impact assessment when granting later authorisations, however, not allow the developer to submit an incomplete impact assessment that does not include all the foreseeable effects of the project as a whole right from the first authorisation?
3. The project is also split over different sites, with sub-projects carried out by different developers. Can public information and participation also be split into a number of separate procedures, or does Article 6 of the directive require an overall public information and participation procedure?

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