SAFETY OF THE TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS FOR CIVILIAN USE IN FRANCE

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

980,000 PACKAGES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED EACH YEAR IN FRANCE

15 MILLIONS PACKAGES TRANSPORTED EACH YEAR IN FRANCE

All transport operations of radioactive materials for civilian use are covered by international regulations and are subject to specific regulatory mechanisms, which vary from one mode of transport to another. The transport is covered by a wide variety of substances, physical and chemical forms, radioactivity quantities and types of packaging. A package can range from less than 10 centimetres to 8 metres in length and it can be of any weight.

The transport of radioactive materials for civilian purposes in France. This report is published every two years and covers events reported during 2014 and 2015.

In transportation solely by road, 70% of events reported in 2014 and 2015 concerned the fuel cycle activities. Some operators declare events to ASN that are not significant for safety reasons. They are referred to as “safety-relevant events.”

In 2014 and 2015, respectively, 139 and 122 events were reported, a significant increase compared to 2013. This trend can’t be considered as a degradation of the safety of transport of radioactive materials. It is mostly explained by a better detection of “minor” safety events as remarkable events (3 events classified at Level 1 and 1 event classified at Level 2).

In 2014 and 2015, the number of significant events involving the transport of radioactive materials for civilian purposes in France. None of these events had significant radiological consequences for the workers, the population or the environment.

ALLOCATION OF EVENTS RELATED TO GAMMA RADIOPHONY DEVICES

2013 2014 2015

4 2 2

EVENTS RELATED TO GAMMA RADIOPHONY DEVICES

EVENTS OF A RADIOLOGICAL NATURE

PACKAGES TIED DOWN DEFECTS

EVENTS RELATED TO PACKAGING CONFIGURATIONS

IN 2014 AND 2015

122 139

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