

No: 137344/2008-MPO

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic presents its compliments to the Austrian Embassy and has the honour to confirm receipt of the Note of the Austrian Embassy ref.no. Prag-ÖB/RECHT/0053/2008 of 12 September 2008 which reads as follows:

“The Austrian Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and, bearing in mind the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (Vienna, 26 September 1986) and the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Vienna, 26 September 1986) has the honour to confirm the following interpretation of Article 2 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the Czech Republic to settle Issues of Common Interest in connection with Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection, as amended by the Protocol of 20 December 2007:

1. For the purposes of Article 2 of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall inform each other about incidents in nuclear facilities which, according to the international scale of the IAEA for the classification of nuclear incidents (INES) fall within level 2 or a higher level. Preliminary information about these incidents shall be notified to the other Contracting Party immediately, at the latest, when measures for the information of the Contracting Party's own population are initiated.

2. Furthermore, for the purposes of this Article of the Agreement information about significant foreseeable or unforeseeable events in the near vicinity of

nuclear facilities, such as major alarm exercises, major demolition works, fires, earthquakes and similar occurrences, shall be transmitted, where it is necessary to respond to the information needs of the population of the other Contracting Party.

3. If a Contracting Party has information about an event which was not notified in accordance with this Article, it may, by way of the Contact Point, request clarification of this event.

This exchange of notes replaces the exchange of notes between the Austrian Embassy in Prague and the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic of 27 May 1991.

The Austrian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic the assurances of its highest consideration.”

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic has the honour to confirm, on behalf of the State Office for Nuclear Safety of the Czech Republic, the understanding expressed in the above-mentioned note.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Austrian Embassy the assurances of its highest consideration.

Prague, 21 November 2008

Austrian Embassy  
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