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ANNEX II to the report by Mr Y. GALLAND drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology

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OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION OPINION

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mrs WALZ, chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology

Subject: Proposal for a Council decision adopting a programme of research on the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-1988) (COM(83) 298 final - Doc. 1-524/83)

Dear Mrs Walz,

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection considered the above Commission proposal at its meeting of 3 November 1983.

This research programme involves the continuation of the four-year programme adopted by the Council on 27 March 1979 and due to terminate on 31 December 1983.

The committee approves the objectives of this new research programme with reservations. It fully agrees that the decommissioning of nuclear installations and the management of the radioactive wastes produced when the plant is dismantled should be carried out in such a way as to afford the best possible protection of the public and the environment. However, it is very concerned that no reference is made to the final storage of the radioactive waste produced when the plant is dismantled. Provision is made simply for research into 'large containers for radioactive waste' (Project No. 5) and the 'estimation of the quantities of radioactive waste' (Project No. 6). In fact, these projects already formed part of the current programme.

In this connection, the committee would refer to the Community programme on the management and storage of radioactive waste (1980 to 1984)¹. It considers that the programme under consideration should be based on the findings of the abovementioned programme and on the possibilities of final storage.

¹ OJ No. L 78 of 1980

PE 87.278/fin.

Please regard this letter as the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection.

> (sgd) K. COLLINS Chairman

The following took part in the vote: Mr Collins, chairman; Mr Ryan, vicechairman; Mr Bombard, Mr Forth, Mr Johnson, Mrs Krouwel-Vlam, Mrs Lenz-Cornette, Mrs Schleicher, Mrs Seibel-Emmerling, Mr Sherlock and Mrs Squarcialupi.