Impact of Covid-19 on nuclear: consultant's view

Two phases of Covid-19:
- 2020: concerns, uncertainty --> meandering responses
- 2021: restrictions, rules in place --> learned how to cope

Operators: Concerns re. availability of operators, other staff
- Restrictions on presence on NPP sites, impacting O&M
- Remote work for tech staff; extended operators’ shifts
- Extending outage schedules; less staff on site
- Postponement of non essential modifications
- Supply chain, transport issues causing (some) delays

Action plans early, focus on staff/material availability

*Generation was not substantially reduced*
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**Regulators:** Challenges on tech means for remote work, info flow

- Staff resources, interaction/collaboration & well being
- Difficulties to implement actions requiring physical presence, e.g. exams, site inspections, public hearings
- Validity of certain licences extended (MCR operators); other licences renewed, issued remotely
- Relaxation of rules (e.g. periodic check) allowed per Leg.
- Site inspections put on hold; remote/VC meetings

*No evidence of safety decline due to “weaker” oversight*

Industry’s own responsibility to comply with rules/regs