

Press Release

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Nuclear to remain a major contributor to EU's 2050 low-carbon energy mix

FORATOM today restated its firm conviction that in spite of the impact that the Fukushima accident has had on political developments and public opinion in certain countries, nuclear energy's role as a major contributor to EU's 2050 low-carbon energy mix will not be significantly undermined.

FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, recently updated its report [Energy 2050 Roadmap: Contribution of Nuclear Energy](#) to take into account the post-Fukushima context. In it FORATOM stresses that the political decisions taken in Germany, Italy and Switzerland, and the decrease in public acceptance that inevitably followed the accident, will not decisively affect the contribution that nuclear energy will make to Europe's 2050 low-carbon energy mix. Speaking at the European Nuclear Assembly (ENA 2011), an annual international conference organised by FORATOM, Jean-Pol Poncelet, FORATOM's Director General, emphasised: "Nuclear energy currently accounts for one third of the EU's total electricity production and two thirds of its CO₂-free electricity production. Nuclear energy plays a crucial role in the decarbonising of Europe's economies. The confirmation that existing nuclear power plants will continue operating, the ratification of new build projects across Europe, the successful completion of the safety and risk reassessment process and the EC's recent endorsement of the nuclear industry's safety credentials, lead us to believe that nuclear will maintain a similar level of contribution to the EU's low-carbon energy portfolio up to 2050 and beyond."

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