**Unit 2 of Belarus NPP starts reaching the design capacity**

On May 19 at 10:50 аm, Roman Golovchenko, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, and Alexey Likhachev, Director General of Rosatom State Corporation, started the program of reaching the design capacity for Unit 2 of Belarus NPP (its general designer and general contractor being the Rosatom State Corporation Engineering Division).

The stage of low power testing is one of the most important in the program of a nuclear facility commissioning. The program provides for a gradual increase of unit power to the rated level of 100%, with dynamic testing in various operating modes and shutdown of the main equipment, including a check of the blackout operating mode.

Commissioning is the final stage of construction of new NPP power units. At this stage, compliance of power unit systems and equipment with the design is verified. The process of commissioning consists of several consecutive phases: pre-commissioning and adjustment works, physical start-up, power start-up and pilot operation.

“The beginning of low power testing of the reactor plant of Unit 2 can be called the final straight in the implementation of the entire construction project of Belarus NPP”, noted Alexey Likhachev, Director General of Rosatom State Corporation. “The first nuclear construction in a fraternal Belarus laid the basis for further development of Russian-Belarusian interaction both in the power industry and in new areas of the Republic’s economy, including nuclear medicine and digital technologies, rising them to a completely new level.”

“Full-scale commissioning of the NPP Unit 2 and the achievement of design capacity by both Units will allow us to save from 4 to 5 billion cubic meters of natural gas and to generate 18-19 billion [kilowatt-hour](https://www.multitran.com/m.exe?s=kilowatt-hour&l1=1&l2=2)s of electric power. For Belarus, it is the most important project of the decade”, said Roman Golovchenko, Price Minister of the Republic of Belarus.

Belarus NPP Unit 1 was taken over for commercial operation on June 10, 2021. Acceptance of Belarus NPP Unit 2 for commercial operation is scheduled for autumn 2023, upon which the total power output of Belarus NPP will be about 18 billion kilowatt-hours per year. The power plant will ensure about 40% of the internal power demand in Belarus and will allow substituting about 4.5 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually.

Belarus NPP having two VVER-1200 reactors with the total capacity of 2400 MW is located in Ostrovets (the Republic of Belarus). The Russian Gen III+ design was chosen for the first nuclear power plant in the country, which fully complies with the international standards and the safety requirements of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Rosatom State Corporation is recognized as a global leader and the only company in the world to implement the full-scale construction of nuclear power plants abroad. 106 nuclear power facilities of the Russian design have been constructed worldwide, of which 80 are power units equipped with VVER reactors. Presently, Rosatom international order portfolio includes 34 units equipped with VVER reactors that are being delivered at various stages in 11 countries.

Russia is consistently developing international trade and economic relations, focusing on cooperation with friendly countries. Despite external restrictions, the domestic economy is augmenting its export potential to supply goods, services and raw materials all over the world.

Communications Division

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