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From unclear to nuclear –A more effective licensing process in Sweden

The last decades the policy and decisions affecting nuclear power in Sweden have shifted many times. Since the referendum in the 1980's, setting a definite end time to year 2010 which later was lifted, the possibilities and interest to invest in new nuclear power has been very low. After the election in 2022, as in many other countries, policy has made a U-turn and the Swedish Government has expressed short and long-term goals for expansion of the use of nuclear energy in Sweden.

As a step in the Swedish process for legal changes, in November 2023 the Swedish Government decided to appoint a Committee of Inquiry to perform analysis and propose possible legal changes to clarify important pre-requisites and issues in the existing licensing process for nuclear power in Sweden. This paper gives an overview of the assignment and issues to be investigated by the committee, including an assessment of how the parallel and partly overlapping licensing processes according to the Environmental Code and the Act on Nuclear Activities can be made more effective and efficient, supporting international cooperation and with due account to nuclear safety, security and safeguards.

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Sweden

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