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Dutch utility Delta adds impetus to nuclear new-build in Europe

The announcement on 10 September that Dutch utility Delta has submitted proposals for the building of a second reactor at its Borssele plant has sent out a strong political signal that nuclear new-build is back on the energy agenda in the Netherlands. It also reflects the growing trend for nuclear new-build across Europe.

The submission yesterday of proposals by the Dutch utility Delta to build a second reactor at its Borssele nuclear power plant in the Netherlands is a highly significant development not only for the domestic market but also for the European energy market as a whole. It underlines that nuclear new-build, far from being a myth, is now increasingly recognised as an essential component of Europe's future energy mix.

FORATOM, the trade association representing the European nuclear industry, welcomed developments in the Netherlands, highlighting their significance within a wider European context. Santiago San Antonio, FORATOM's Director General, emphasised: "Delta's proposal, which follows on from the recently-launched construction of a new 2,000MW nuclear power plant at Belene (Bulgaria) and other new-build projects launched or announced in France, Finland, the UK, Romania, Slovakia and the Baltic States, provides further evidence that the nuclear revival in Europe is a sustainable reality. Nuclear energy is here to stay and will continue to play a lead role in defining Europe's low-carbon energy future."

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