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## **Electrabel continues vessel test program for Doel 3 and Tihange 2**

Following the findings of the irradiated material toughness test, which is part of the program agreed with the FANC regarding to the restarting of these units in 2013, Electrabel decided on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March this year to anticipate the planned outages of both reactors and to perform a more in-depth analysis in order to verify and explain these initial findings.

A second, accelerated irradiation program is being carried out on the reactor BR2 at the Mol Nuclear Research Centre. The results, which will be obtained gradually, will be used to guide and refine the rest of the testing and assessment program, since no definitive conclusions can be reached at this stage.

Due to its importance, its complexity and the fact that it represents a world first in the nuclear industry, this program of mechanical tests and metallurgical assessments will run until autumn. The tests will be performed with the help of national and international experts.

At the end of the program, a justification file will be submitted to the FANC which will decide on the restart of both reactors.

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