Nuclear Law Case Chart

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COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (ENV)							
Belgium	2019	Inter-Environnement Wallonie ASBL and Bond Beter Leefmilieu Vlaanderen ASBL v. Council of Ministers	ENV	The Court ruled that the ten-year lifetime extension of Units 1 and 2 of the Doel nuclear power plant established by Belgian legislation in 2015, constituted a "project" under the EU Environmental Impact Assessment Directive. Therefore, the extension should have been subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA).	Court of Justice of the European Union	Case C-411/17, EU:C:2019:622	NLB 104
Canada	2014	Greenpeace Canada et al. v. Attorney General of Canada and Ontario Power Generation Inc.	ENV	Court allowed in part the challenge to the environmental assessment (EA) for the Darlington site, determining that the EA failed to comply with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) as its analysis of hazardous substance emissions and on-site chemical inventories, spent nuclear fuel and severe common cause accidents was deficient. The EA was not quashed entirely as it was sent back to the Joint Review Panel for reconsideration on only those three matters and found that the applicant's Plant Perimeter Envelope approach was acceptable for an EA.	Federal Court	2014 FC 463	NLB 94
Canada	2015	Canada et al. v. Greenpeace Canada et al.	ENV	Overturns the Federal Court decision and states that the environmental assessment (EA) is complete and has no gaps, that it was adequate and met the requirements of the relevant legislation, and that the licence to prepare the site, which was issued by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on the basis of the EA decision, is reinstated. The Court of Appeal gave a good degree of deference to the expert scientific body that heard the evidence (the Panel, whose statutory task was to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the new build project) and reversed what it saw as the lower court's substitution of its view for that of the expert body.	Federal Court of Appeal	2015 FCA 186	NLB 96

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	2016	Greenpeace Canada et al. v. Attorney General of Canada and Ontario Power Generation Inc.	ENV	Court decided that there was no reviewable error made in an environmental assessment (EA) conducted by the "Responsible Authorities", the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), for a nuclear project. The EA had concluded that the refurbishment and continued operation of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station was not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. At present, at the appellate court level in Canada, there is a consistent message of deference to the Canadian nuclear regulator, the CNSC, in its EA decision-making.	Federal Court of Appeal	2016 FCA 114	NLB 97
Czechia	2007	Jihoceske matky (NGO) v. State Office for Nuclear Safety	ENV	Applicant for a licence to operate Temelín NPP, Unit 1 in accordance with Section 9(d) of the Atomic Act is the sole participant in this proceeding and the entities defined in Section 70(2) and (3) of the Nature and Landscape Protection Act are not participants in this proceeding. It is sufficient, if public participation is ensured in those proceedings in which the environmental impact of such operations is directly considered (e.g. under Act No. 100/2001 Coll., On Environmental Impact Assessment). A different situation would arise if there were only a single administrative procedure to bring a nuclear power plant into operation. In such a case, a systematic interpretation would lead to a different conclusion and participation in such proceedings would also have to be granted to the civic associations whose main objective is to protect nature and landscape.	The Supreme Administrative Court of the Czech Republic	2 As 12/2006-111	n/a

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Czechia	2016	Brigitte Artmann v. Czech Republic	ENV	A member of the public submitted a communication to the Compliance Committee under the Aarhus Convention alleging that the Czech Republic failed to comply with its obligations under Article 3(9), Article 6 and Article 9 of the Aarhus Convention (specifically, that members of the public in Germany did not have the same possibility to participate in the decision-making procedure concerning the two new reactors at the Temelín NPP as members of the public in the Czech Republic). The Committee found that the Czech Republic failed to comply with Convention by not providing a clear requirement in its legal framework to ensure that public authorities, when selecting means of notifying the public, are bound to select such means which, bearing in mind the nature of the proposed activity, would ensure that all those who potentially could be concerned, including the public outside the territory of the Party concerned, have a reasonable chance to learn about the proposed activity. Regarding the decision-making on the Temelín NPP, the Committee is convinced that if the public participation procedure on the environmental impact assessment (EIA) stage were to remain the last possibility for the public concerned, including the public concerned in Germany, to participate in the permitting procedure for the Temelín NPP, the Party concerned would fail to comply with the Convention. On the other hand, the use of the "envelope" or "black box" approach at the EIA stage does not, in itself, constitute non-compliance with the Convention; however, if the permitting procedure were to continue without providing the public concerned with the opportunity to participate effectively in that stage, the Party concerned would be in non-compliance with the Convention.	Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention	ACCC/C/2012/71 Czech Republic	n/a

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Czechia	2018	V havarijní zóně JE Temelín (NGO) v. Ministry of Regional Development	ENV	Court decided that there was no reviewable error made in an environmental impact assessment (EIA) conducted by the Ministry of Environment and therefore the subsequent decision on the Ministry of Regional Development on the location of the structure of spent nuclear fuel storage is not illegal. The EIA process should primarily investigate possible (relevant) and not totally unlikely accidents. When examining each individual case or setting criteria or thresholds, account shall be taken of the risks of accidents arising from particular substances or technologies used.	The Supreme Administrative Court of the Czech Republic	7 As 225/2018-116	n/a
Finland	2015	KHO 13.1.2015/53	ENV	Local organisation appealed the decision made by the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment concerning deviation of the demands on the preservation of the environment under the Environmental Protection Act at the Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant construction site. The appeal was dismissed.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	3678/1/13	n/a
Finland	2017	KHO 9.2.2017/508	ENV	Local property owner appealed the decision made by the Regional State Administrative Agency concerning compensation of the harm caused by the cooling and waste water discharges sourcing from NPP (Loviisa NPP). The Court ruled that the original amount of compensation was adequate.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	3895/1/15 and 3925/1/15	n/a
Finland	2019	KHO 1.12.2014/3793	ENV	Local organisation appealed on the adequacy of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regarding the environmental and water permits of the new Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant that is currently applying for a construction licence. The main issue was the disposal of spent fuel. The Court ruled that the EIA procedure had been performed appropriately and adequately given the stage of the process and the on-going separate process for disposal of spent fuel. The appeal was dismissed.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	3228/1/14	n/a

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France	2007	Decision of the Conseil d'État Quashing a Decree Concerning a Nuclear Installation in Brennilis, for the Want of Public Information and Consultation	ENV	The Conseil d'Etat revoked Decree No. 2006-147 of 9 February 2006 authorising Électricité de France (EDF) to carry out final shut-down operations and full dismantling of the nuclear installation EL-4-D, a disposal facility for materials at the Monts d'Arrée (Brennilis) NPP in the Finistère. The Conseil d'État judged that the proceedings that led to the decision to grant a licence did not comply with the purposes required by European Law on Public Information and Consultation, notably Council Directive 85/337/EC of 27 June 1985 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	N° 292386; ECLI:FR:CESSR:2007: 292386.20070606	NLB 80
France	2009	Judgment of the Conseil d'État rejecting the claims made by environmental NGOs against the Decree licensing the construction of the EPR at Flamanville	ENV	Three associations for environmental protection entered actions for annulment against the Decree licensing the construction of the nuclear installation Flamanville 3. Among her recommendations, the Rapporteur Public considered that the Aarhus Convention had no direct effect in the domestic legal system and that the application comprised a full EIA that was submitted to the public before the licence was delivered. The Rapporteur Public also found that there was no infringement of the Council Directive 85/337/EEC of 27 June 1985, on the assessment of certain public and private projects on the environment, and that EDF had sufficient financial capacity to cover future dismantling costs. The Conseil d'État followed all of the Rapporteur Public's recommendations and rejected the three actions filed against the Decree licensing the construction of Flamanville 3.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision N° 306242; ECLI:FR:CESSR:2009: 306242.20090423	NLB 83
France	2011	SARL Auxiliaire du Tricastin – SOCATRI (Areva)	ENV	Court acknowledged that no harm to the flora and fauna has been caused by the spillage of uranium-bearing effluent by SOCATRI following an incident in 2008 but as it temporarily led to modification of the normal water supply regime and restricted the use of swimming areas, the Court found SOCATRI guilty of polluting waterways and not declaring the incident without delay.	Court of Appeal of Nîmes	Judgment No. 11-00899	NLB 89

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France	2011	Association Réseau sortir du nucléaire v. Electricité de France (EDF)	ENV	The Conseil recognised that all obligations required to obtain an authorisation for the full dismantling of the Bugey NPP (information delivery to the public, public survey, public debate) have been complied with by EDF.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 324294)	NLB 89
France	2014	Association Réseau sortir du nucléaire and others v. ASN and Electricité de France (EDF)	ENV	The Conseil found no error in the ASN's (French Nuclear Safety Authority) assessment in not annulling two resolutions regarding reinforcements to the Fessenheim No. 1 reactor basemat. Environmental protection associations challenged the resolutions, stating that work on the basemat is a significant modification of a basic nuclear installation, which would require a new authorisation and a public enquiry.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 367013)	NLB 96
France	2016	EDF v. Republic and Canton of Geneva relative to the Bugey NPP	ENV	The Conseil found that ASN (French Nuclear Safety Authority) resolutions prescribing additional safety requirements following the Bugey NPP 3rd PSR were not implicit authorisation decrees. Further, there was no "implicit or disclosed" resolutions of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE) and the ASN authorising the continued operation of the Bugey-2 and Bugey-4 reactors because reactors in France have no set time period for the operating life and as long as no decree is passed enforcing final shutdown and decommissioning, a reactor is authorised to operate under safe conditions. Lastly, to the extent that the ASN resolutions establishing the additional safety requirements do not constitute operating authorisations, they are not subject to a mandatory environmental impact assessment and do not require a notification as stipulated in the Espoo Convention.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 373516)	NLB 98

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France	2023	Association Réseau "Sortir du nucléaire" v. EDF	ENV	Association Réseau "Sortir du nucléaire" ["Nuclear Phase-out" network] appealed a decision of the Administrative Court of Lyon, which rejected its request that Electricité de France (EDF) release information concerning a project for a centralised spent fuel storage pool. EDF had released a version that redacted information related to the monitoring tools used, the water temperature and the installation of the cooling and water supply system. The State Council explained that under the Environmental Code, the Government is entitled to refuse disclosure of environmental information if public security and commercial confidentiality are adversely impacted. While commercial confidentiality cannot be invoked to dismiss an application for information relating to the release of substances into the environment, information concerning purely hypothetical release does not fall within the scope of the Environmental Code and is not subject to a disclosure obligation. The State Council found that the Court provided sufficient reasoning to support its decision to reject the request for information with respect to the monitoring tools and the water temperature. However, they found that the Court did not provide sufficient reason to reject the request with respect to the installation of the cooling and water supply system and annulled that portion of the order.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	ECLI:FR:CECHR:2023:456871.20230315	NLB 110
India	2012	G. Sundarrajan v. Union of India and Others	ENV	Court dismissed eight writ petitions mostly claiming that the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) violated current environmental laws. Environmental clearance for KKNPP units 1 and 2 was obtained in 1989 at which time an environmental impact assessment report and a public hearing were not required as part of the clearance process. Court found that KKNPP has all necessary clearances, including environmental, and can therefore move forward with commissioning.	High Court of Judicature at Madras	Common Order dated 31-08-2012	NLB 90

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The Netherlands	2008	Greenpeace Netherlands Foundation v. Ministers of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, of Economic Affairs and of Social Affairs and Employment	ENV	The Court dismissed a claim against three Ministers over their decision to issue a licence amendment to Urenco for their uranium enrichment facility. The licensing decision was challenged on the grounds that the requirements of the Nuclear Energy Act and underlying legislation were not met. The Court dismissed the appeal as unfounded, holding that: (1) the enrichment of uranium is a justified act under the Regulation on the Analysis of the Effects of Ionising Radiation; (2) when making a justification decision only damage to human health can be weighed against the economic, social and other benefits of the act and there was no reason to consider environmental consequences in general; and (3) because the facility was not located within the sphere of influence of a designated area under the Nature Conservation Act a permit under this Act is not required.	Raad van State [Council of State]	ECLI:NL:RVS: 2008:BG4711	n/a
The Netherlands	2018	Greenpeace Netherlands Foundation and LAKA Foundation v. Minister of Infrastructure and the Environment	ENV	Two non-governmental organisations challenged the revision of the licence conditions of the Borssele Nuclear Power Plant claiming the implementation of 11 new safety measures must be proceeded by an environmental impact assessment (EIA) under the Dutch EIA Decree and the Aarhus and Espoo Conventions. The Appellants filed an appeal of the revised licence with the Council of State. The Council of State held that the 11 safety measures had no impact on the licence amendment. Further, the Court held that the Dutch EIA Decree had been correctly implemented and there is no requirement under the Aarhus and Espoo Conventions to perform an EIA for every licence amendment. The appeal was found to be without merit and the case dismissed.	Raad van State [Council of State]	ECLI:NL:RVS: 2018:1448	n/a

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The Netherlands	2021	Association World Information Service on Energy Amsterdam and Greenpeace Netherlands Foundation v. Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection	ENV	Two non-governmental organisations appealed the decision of the Council of State's judgment regarding the amendment of the licence conditions for Borssele Nuclear Power Plant on the basis that the implementation of the Western European Nuclear Regulators Association's (WENRA) Reference Levels (RL) must be proceeded by an environmental impact assessment (EIA). The Court noted that the WENRA RLs licence amendment did not change the lifetime of the Borssele plant, it only added a set of additional safety regulations to the licence that would not lead to any physical changes or affect the radiation risk of the facility. Furthermore, the Court found that the ruling of the EU Court of Justice regarding the Doel 1 and Doel 2 Nuclear Power Plants in Belgium is not applicable as no physical works are being undertaken and the lifetime of the Borssele plant is not being extended. The appeal was found to be without merit and dismissed.	Raad van State [Council of State]	ECLI:NL:RVS: 2021:174	n/a
Slovak Republic	2010	Friends of Earth luxe and others v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	The Compliance Committee found that the Slovak Republic failed to provide for early and effective public participation in the decision-making process with respect to the grant of an additional construction permit related to the Mochovce NPP. Recommended that the Slovak Republic review its legal framework.	Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention	Case C/41 (2009), ACCC/C/2009/41	NLB 88

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Slovak Republic	2013	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	In 2008, the ÚJD SR approved modifications to construction, prior to the completion of the Mochovce NPP Units 3 and 4 by the licensee (Slovenske elektrarne) (Decision No. 246/2008). Greenpeace Slovakia appealed ÚJD SR Decision No. 246/2008 stating: it should be considered a "participant" under the Aarhus Convention to the administrative procedures for the approval of the modifications and that a full-scope EIA was required. In 2009, Greenpeace was admitted as a participant but in Decision No. 79/2009 the ÚJD SR dismissed Greenpeace's appeal. On appeal, the District Court found in favour of the ÚJD SR. On appeal, the Supreme Court overturned the District Court's decision and abolished Decision No. 79/2009 and therefore the ÚJD SR is obliged to renew the administrative proceedings on Greenpeace's original appeal against Decision No. 246/2008 and hold EIA proceedings. ÚJD SR reopened the administrative proceedings and issued a first Decision No. 761/2013 that denied the suspensory effect of the Greenpeace appeal on the ÚJD SR's 2008 decision.	Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	Decision No. 761/2013	NLB 92
Slovak Republic	2013	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	Attorney General denied Greenpeace Slovakia's protest against Decision No. 761/2013.	Attorney General	VI/1 Gd 343/13 - 7	NLB 93
Slovak Republic	2013	Slovenske elektrarne v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	Slovenske elektrarne filed a constitutional claim with the Slovak Constitutional Court objecting to the denial of its basic rights by the Supreme Court judgment (requiring the ÚJD SR to renew its administrative proceedings on Greenpeace's original appeal against Decision No. 246/2008 and hold EIA proceedings) because its rights were directly affected by the judgment without being afforded the opportunity to participate and defend its interests.	Constitutional Court	[Unknown]	NLB 93

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Slovak Republic	2014	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	Following a two-day public hearing, the ÚJD SR issued Decision No. 291/2014 dismissing Greenpeace Slovakia's appeal of Decision No. 246/2008, and at the same time confirming decision No. 246/2008. This decision closed Greenpeace Slovakia's claims.	Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	Decision No. 291/2014	NLB 95
Slovak Republic	2014	Slovenske elektrarne v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	Constitutional Court found it to be a breach of the licensee's (Slovenske elektrarne) right to be a participant in the Supreme Court proceeding. But, due to the already existing second instance administrative decision issued by the ÚJD SR in favour of Slovenske elektrarne (Decision No. 291/2014), it was not necessary to cancel the judgement of the Supreme Court and send the decision back for a new judicial procedure.	Constitutional Court	III. ÚS 304/14-88	NLB 95
Slovak Republic	2014	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	The ÚJD SR informed the Regional Court of Bratislava (the court of first instance review of administrative decisions) about the Constitutional Court decision, as well as about the existing valid second instance ÚJD SR decision (No. 291/2014). When the court asked Greenpeace Slovakia for their final statement prior to the adoption of the court decision, Greenpeace Slovakia withdrew its claim and the court ceased the proceedings.	Regional Court of Bratislava	[Unknown]	NLB 95

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Slovak Republic	2013	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	Greenpeace Slovakia demanded that the ÚJD SR disclose the text of the preliminary safety report on Mochovce units 3 and 4 in accordance with Act No.211/2000 Coll. Freedom of Information Act, as amended. Greenpeace wanted information, especially environmental information, and the ÚJD SR dismissed Greenpeace's application in ÚJD SR Decision No. 39/2010, stating that such important information may endanger the public security if made publicly available. Greenpeace lodged a claim for review of the lawfulness of the decision with the District Court and the District Court decided in favour of the ÚJD SR, denying Greenpeace's claim. Greenpeace then appealed this decision to the Supreme Court, which reversed the District Court judgment. The case was then returned to the District Court. On remand, the District Court overturned ÚJD SR Decision No. 39/2010 and returned the case to the ÚJD SR for renewed administrative proceedings.	District Court	3S/142/2010-212	NLB 92
Slovak Republic	2015	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Slovak Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ÚJD SR)	ENV	On appeal by the ÚJD SR to the Supreme Court, the judgment of the District Court was confirmed and ÚJD SR was required to re-open the previous administrative proceedings and include Greenpeace and the licensee (Slovenske elektrarne) as participants. A redacted version of the safety documentation for Mochovce Units 3 and 4 had previously been made available. When asked by the District Court if it wished to have access to the preliminary safety report, Greenpeace withdrew its appeal reasoning that the legislative restrictions on the disclosure of sensitive information and the cost of copying the redacted preliminary safety report was not justified without the ability to gain any relevant or meaningful information. Thus, the ÚJD SR closed the reopened administrative proceedings.	Supreme Court	3Sži/22/2014	NLB 96

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Slovak Republic	2013	Greenpeace Slovakia v. Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic (ÚJD SR)	ENV	The Appellant contested the decision of the ÚJD SR on the grounds that they should be allowed to participate in the permit procedure regarding modifications to construction prior to the completion of Units 3 and 4 of the Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant. The Appellant filed an appeal with the District Court in Bratislava seeking annulment of decision No. 79/2009. The District Court decided in favour of the ÚJD SR and a subsequent appeal was filed with the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court decided in favour of the Appellant on the grounds that public participation is mandatory under the national legislation of the Slovak Republic, the EU Environmental Impact Assessment Directive and the Aarhus Convention. The Supreme Court reversed the judgment of the District Court and annulled ÚJD SR decision No. 79/2009. The case was remanded to the ÚJD SR to renew the proceeding. The ÚJD SR held a public hearing and issued a decision dismissing the appeal and confirming their earlier decision.	Supreme Court	5Sžp/21/2012	n/a
Slovak Republic	2023	Global 2000 v. Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic (ÚJD SR)	ENV	The plaintiff lodged a request with the ÚJD SR for information and documentation related to the application and permit for the Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant, Units 3 and 4. The ÚJD SR partially withheld documentation containing sensitive information. The plaintiff appealed this decision to the Chairperson of the ÚJD SR, who confirmed the first instance decision. The plaintiff then filed suit with the Regional Court in Bratislava arguing that there was a compelling public interest and that the plaintiff had a right of access pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and the Aarhus Convention. The ÚJD SR argued that it had followed domestic and international law and its own internal regulations in partially denying the plaintiff's request for information. The Court held that the ÚJD SR acted in accordance with the Aarhus Convention and the Freedom of Information Act and dismissed the case without awarding costs of the proceedings to the defendant.	Regional Court of Bratislava	1S/305/2017	NLB 111

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United States	2006	San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace v. US NRC	ENV	San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace (SLOMFP) challenged two NRC decisions in a proceeding to license an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. The first NRC decision declined to suspend the ISFSI licensing proceedings to await NRC physical security enhancements. The second NRC decision rejected contentions filed by SLOMFP relating to the NRC's analysis of the potential environmental consequences of a terrorist attack under the US National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as they had previously determined that an environmental analysis of the potential environmental consequences of terrorist attacks was not necessary in the matter of private fuel storage. The Court held that it was unreasonable for the NRC to refuse to consider the environmental effects of a terrorist attack on nuclear facilities and remanded the case to the NRC for further NEPA proceedings on the terrorist issue. However, the Court upheld the NRC's decision not to suspend its licensing proceeding and agreed that a licensing proceeding was not an appropriate forum to revisit the validity of NRC security regulations.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	449 F. 3d 1016 (9th Cir. 2006)	NLB 80
United States	2007	Pacific Gas and Electric Company v. San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, et al.	ENV	PG&E filed a writ of certiorari with the US Supreme Court, which was denied. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) agreed that the 9th Cir. decision on the NEPA terrorism issue was incorrect, but did not support Supreme Court review at the time.	Supreme Court	127 S.Ct. 1124 (2007)	NLB 80

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United States	2007	Nuclear Information & Resource Service v. US NRC	ENV	The Court dismissed the claims that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in issuing a licence to the Louisiana Energy Services, LP (LES) Uranium Enrichment Facility in New Mexico, violated the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) by "supplementing" the environmental impact statement (EIS) after the hearing closed and determining that LES had presented a reasonable cost estimate for disposal of depleted uranium waste, as well as violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by insufficiently analysing the environmental impacts of depleted uranium waste from the LES facility. The Court found that the petitioners' EIS claims under the AEA were irrelevant because the agency "prepared" an EIS before the hearing was completed. The Court also held that the petitioners had not presented sufficient evidence that the NRC's cost estimate was unreasonable. Additionally, the Court found the petitioners' NEPA claim unpersuasive as both the EIS and the administrative record demonstrated that the agency met the requisite NEPA "hard look" standard for assessing environmental impacts of waste disposal. Finally, the court dismissed the claim that NRC Commissioner McGaffigan should have disqualified himself from the licensing proceeding as it is presumed that administrative officers are objective and capable of judging a particular controversy fairly.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	509 F.3d. 562 (DC Cir. 2007)	NLB 81

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United States	2009	Entergy Corp. v. Riverkeeper, Inc.	ENV	The Court upheld the EPA's reliance on cost-benefit analysis in determining national performance standards as well as permitting cost-benefit variances from those standards to determine the best technology available to minimise the adverse environmental impact of cooling water intake structures. In doing so, the Court applied the general rules of statutory construction and the *Chevron* standard of deference. It held that the Clean Water Act need not be interpreted so strictly as to require facilities to spend billions of dollars on improved cooling technology that would have little or no environmental benefit.	Supreme Court	556 US 208 (2009)	NLB 83
United States	2009	New Jersey Dep't of Env. Prot. v. NRC	ENV	A New Jersey state agency challenged the NRC's decision to relicense a nuclear power plant located in the state, arguing that an analysis of the environmental impacts of an airborne terrorist attack on the nuclear power plant was required by NEPA prior to relicensing. The Court ruled that the NRC was not required to consider terrorism in its NEPA analysis. NRC relicensing would not be a reasonably close cause of terrorist attacks and their resulting environmental effects as a terrorist attack lengthens the causal chain beyond the "reasonably close causal relationship" required. Amongst other justifications, the Court held that such an attack would be extraordinarily unusual, wrongful and independent of the NRC and would be far more responsible for resulting harms than the NRC's decision to relicense a nuclear plant.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	561 F.3d 132 (3rd Cir. 2009)	NLB 84
United States	2009	New York v. US NRC	ENV	The NRC's generic treatment of the environmental impacts of spent fuel pool fires at NPPs (finding that the risk is low and does not create a significant environmental impact within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act) was acceptable.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	589 F.3d 551 (2nd Cir. 2009)	NLB 85

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United States	2010	Morris v. US NRC	ENV	Court upheld the NRC's issuance of a licence to conduct in situ leach mining for uranium on four sites, finding that the NRC's decision did not violate either the Atomic Energy Act or the National Environmental Policy Act because its consideration of airborne radiation at the sites was not plainly erroneous or inconsistent with the plain language of the regulation; it sufficiently considered the cumulative environmental effects of past and future operations; and the NRC's final environmental impact statement took a "hard look" at the environmental impacts of the proposed mining operations on groundwater.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	598 F.3d 677 (10th Cir. 2010)	NLB 85
United States	2011	San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace v. US NRC	ENV	Neither the Atomic Energy Act nor the National Environmental Policy Act require the NRC to hold a closed hearing to allow public access to sensitive security information that are part of the environmental review that the NRC was required to complement by considering environmental impacts of terrorist attacks.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	635 F.3d 1109 (9th Cir. 2011)	NLB 87
United States	2011	Brodsky v. US NRC	ENV	Court held that the NRC has authority to issue exemptions to its fire safety regulation; a hearing is not mandatory for challenges to exemptions; the NRC reasonably determined that an environmental impact statement was not necessary; and the NRC's decision to issue the exemption was not arbitrary or capricious, in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.	Federal District Court	783 F. Supp. 2d 448 (S.D.N.Y. 2011)	NLB 87
United States	2013	Brodsky v. US NRC	ENV	Court affirmed the validity of the NRC's actions regarding the issuance of exemptions to its regulations, but it reversed the District Court's decision regarding its conclusion concerning the right of the public to participate in the Commission's preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impacts (EA/FONSI). In that respect, the Court found that the record before it did not adequately explain why the EA/FONSI excluded an opportunity for public comment. Case was remanded to the District Court with instructions to remand to the NRC.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	704 F.3d 113 (2nd Cir. 2013)	NLB 91

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2016	Brodsky v. US NRC	ENV	Court found that the NRC was not arbitrary or capricious, in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act, in considering risks from terrorism when determining that granting a nuclear power plant licensee an exemption from a federal fire safety regulation would have no significant impact on the environment under the National Environmental Policy Act.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	650 Fed.Appx. 804 (2nd Cir. 2016)	NLB 98
United States	2012	New York v. US NRC	ENV	The NRC update of its 2010 Waste Confidence Decision, which enables the NRC to license reactors or to renew their licences without examining the environmental effects of extended waste storage for each individual site pending ultimate disposal is a "major federal action" requiring the NRC to either (1) take a "hard look" at the environmental consequences of the revisions in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or (2) develop an Environmental Assessment (EA) that demonstrates that the revisions will have no significant environmental impact and thus that no EIS "hard look" is required.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	681 F.3d 471 (DC Cir. 2012)	NLB 90
United States	2013	Beyond Nuclear v. US NRC	ENV	Court found that the NRC did not violate the National Environmental Policy Act in its review of the applicant's Environmental Report, which did not consider wind power as an energy alternative to relicensing. The Court found that a "reasonable alternative" is that which can bring about the ends of the project being contemplated; here, baseload power generation. In addition, the NRC was rational in relying on near-term technology as a proxy for energy alternatives during the renewal period.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	704 F.3d 12 (1st Cir. 2013)	NLB 91

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2013	Massachusetts v. US NRC	ENV	Court denied petition to reopen and suspend a licence renewal. Found that the severe accident mitigation alternatives (SAMA) analyses in the Pilgrim NPP supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) and the analysis of spent fuel pool environmental impacts (specifically as it pertains to spent fuel pool fires) in the generic environmental impact statement for licence renewal (GEIS) do not need to be updated because the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident did not present "new and significant information".	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	708 F.3d 63 (1st Cir. 2013)	NLB 91
United States	2013	Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League v. US NRC	ENV	Court rejected petitioners' claim that the Fukushima Task Force Report constitutes "new and significant circumstances or information" requiring supplementation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), holding that the EIS in fact considered severe accidents and "precisely the types of harm that occurred as a result of the Fukushima accident." The Court also rejected the argument that the NRC's recognition of Fukushima as a "safety-significant" event automatically rendered it "environmentally significant" for purposes of needing to supplement the EIS.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	716 F.3d 183 (DC Cir. 2013)	NLB 91
United States	2015	DTE Electric Co. (Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3)	ENV	Petitioners asked the NRC to suspend licensing activities because, without the "reasonable assurance findings" that a repository for spent fuel disposal is technically feasible, the petitioners argued that the NRC lacks a lawful basis under the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) to issue initial or renewed licences. The Commission reaffirmed its historic interpretation of the AEA that an explicit finding regarding the technical feasibility of spent fuel disposal is not required as a prerequisite to reactor licensing decisions.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-15-4, 81 NRC 221 (2015)	NLB 95

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2016	Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station)	ENV	The Petitioners sought review of, and a discretionary hearing on, the legality of the US NRC's issuance of an exemption to its regulations governing decommissioning on the grounds that it was a licence amendment and as such inadequately considered the environmental impacts of the exemptions. The Commission of the US NRC determined that the Agency had validly issued the exemption. It further ruled that issuance of the exemption was justified by "special circumstances" and the fact that similar exemptions had been granted to other licensees did not mean that the Agency had effectively modified the underlying legal requirement. The Commission of the US NRC determined that no hearing was required because the facility licence had not been amended. However, it directed the US NRC Staff to perform an environmental analysis of the exemption.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-16-17, 84 NRC 99 (2016)	n/a
United States	2018	Natural Resources Defense Council v. NRC	ENV	Plaintiffs argued that the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) failed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act by providing an inadequate Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) before issuing a licence to an in-situ uranium mining facility. Upon review, the NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (the Board) determined that, despite lacking sufficient information in the FEIS, the evidentiary statements made by NRC staff supplemented the FEIS. On appeal to the DC Circuit, following an appeal to the NRC Commission, the Court rejected the claim that the Board could not supplement the FEIS with evidentiary testimony after the issuance of the licence.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	Decision No. 16-1298, 2018 WL 472547 (DC Cir. 2018)	NLB 100

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2018	Oglala Sioux Tribe v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	ENV	The Oglala Sioux Tribe filed a petition for review on the grounds that the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) failed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) during the licensing adjudication procedure for an in situ uranium recovery project. They also challenged the NRC decision to affirm a decision by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel's (ASLBP) keeping the licence in place despite identification of deficiencies under NEPA and NHPA. The Court held they lacked jurisdiction over most of the Tribe's NEPA challenges because the NRC's adjudication was not yet complete, but did exercise jurisdiction over the Commission's decision to keep the licence in place pending completion of the NRC adjudication. Although the Court held that because the NRC considered the non-compliance to be "significant" they erred in requiring the petitioners to show irreparable harm in order to obtain vacatur or suspension of the licence, the Court did not vacate the licence, and instead remanded the case to the Agency for further proceedings. The administrative adjudication remains ongoing.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	896 F.3d 520 (DC Cir. 2018)	NLB 101

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2022	Oglala Sioux Tribe v. NRC	ENV	The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit denied a petition for review of the NRC's decision to issue a licence to Powertech, Inc., for a proposed in situ uranium recovery facility in South Dakota. The petition claimed that the NRC failed to meet its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Court held that the NRC did not violate NEPA, nor was further supplementation of the agency's environmental impact statement required, because the Agency made reasonable efforts to gather information concerning the Tribe's cultural resources and had already explained, in the Agency's hearing record, why the additional cultural resource information was "effectively unavailable". The Court also held that the NRC had satisfied its obligations under the NHPA, because the NRC had offered the statutorily required opportunities to the Tribe to provide input regarding cultural resources. Additionally, the Court upheld the NRC's dismissal of environmental contentions relating to the NRC staff's analysis of groundwater impacts, disposal of byproduct material generated from uranium extraction and potential measures to mitigate environmental impacts. The Petitioners sought rehearing en banc before the full DC Circuit, which was declined.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	45 F.4th 291 (DC Cir. 2022)	NLB 108/109

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2018	City of Boston Delegation v. FERC	ENV	The Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia upheld the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC's) authorisation of a project to upgrade Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC's natural gas pipeline. The Court held that FERC adequately considered the cumulative impacts of other projects in its analysis, did not act arbitrarily and capriciously by declining to consider three projects in a single environmental impact statement (EIS), and appropriately relied on another Federal agency's analysis in addressing safety concerns about project activities near a nuclear energy facility.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	897 F.3d 241 (DC Cir. 2018)	NLB 101
United States	2019	Interim Storage Partners LLC (Consolidated Interim Storage Facility)	ENV	The NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) issued a decision in the case challenging Interim Storage Partners, LLC's (ISP) licence application to build and operate a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) for spent nuclear fuel and greater-than-Class C waste (SNF) in Andrews County, Texas. ISP seeks a 40-year licence to store canisters of SNF. The ASLB granted the Sierra Club's request for a hearing and petition to intervene based on the unavailability of ecological studies that ISP relied on in its Environmental Report. ISP provided these studies and requested the ASLB dismiss the contention. In response, Sierra Club filed an amended contention for the ASLB's consideration. Appeals by the other petitioners and the application are pending before the NRC Commission.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-19-7, 90 NRC 31	NLB 103

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2021	Interim Storage Partners LLC (WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility)	ENV	Fasken Land and Minerals, Ltd. and Permian Basin Land and Royalty Owners (Fasken) sought to reopen proceedings against Interim Storage Partners LLC (ISP) regarding their application for a licence to construct and operate a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). Fasken alleged that there was new information concerning the adequacy of the NRC staff's environmental analysis of transportation routes to and from the proposed CISF. The Board found that the contention was virtually identical to previous inadmissible contention and therefore did not warrant the reopening of proceedings.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-21-2, 93 NRC __ (slip op.)	NLB 107
United States	2021	Interim Storage Partners LLC (WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility)	ENV	Fasken Land and Minerals, Ltd. and Permian Basin Land and Royalty Owners (Fasken) appealed the decision of the NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board not to reopen proceedings against Interim Storage Partners LLC (ISP) to the Commission who dismissed the claim. The Commission issued ISP a licence for consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). This decision is currently being appealed before the DC Circuit. The licence is also subject to a challenge before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals of its legality under a newly enacted state statute.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-21-09, 93 NRC __ (slip op.)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2021	Friends of the Earth, et al. v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	ENV	The DC Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed a petition for review concerning the NRC's renewal of the operating licences for two nuclear power reactor units at the Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station. The operator submitted an application seeking approval of a second 20-year renewal of its licences, making this the NRC's first issuance of a "subsequent licence renewal" (SLR). The plaintiffs sought a hearing concerning the plant's environmental impacts and the sufficiency of the NRC staff's environmental analysis. The NRC's Board denied the request and ruled that the NRC staff's Environmental Impact Statement was sufficient and that the plaintiffs were improperly challenging the validity of codified NRC regulations on generic environmental impact determinations. After the Board dismissed the hearing request, the NRC staff issued the renewed licences. The plaintiffs appealed to the Commission. While their administrative appeals before the Commission were still pending, they also sought judicial review of the decision to issue the licences. The DC Circuit dismissed the petition for judicial review as premature as only "final orders" of NRC licensing decisions can be challenged in federal court and held that the plaintiffs could not simultaneously seek judicial review during the pendency of their separate administrative appeal. The administrative appeals remain pending before the Commission.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	No. 20-1026 (DC Cir. 2021)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2022	Florida Power & Light Co. (Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Units 3 and 4)	ENV	The Commission of the US NRC reversed its earlier rulings and held that the generic environmental impact statement for licence renewal at nuclear power plants (LR GEIS) only applied to the initial licence renewal proceedings and not subsequent licence renewal (SLR) proceedings. The Commission, separately, directed the US NRC Staff to provide a rulemaking plan to update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR. The Commission also directed US NRC Staff to shorten the licence terms of the Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station in Florida until completion of the National Environmental Policy Act analysis. The Commission approved the NRC staff's recommendation to update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR and to amend NRC regulations codifying the conclusions of the LR GEIS.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-22-2, 95 NRC 26 (2022)	NLB 108/109
United States	2022	Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3)	ENV	The Commission of the US NRC reversed its earlier rulings and held that the generic environmental impact statement for licence renewal at nuclear power plants (LR GEIS) only applied to the initial licence renewal proceedings and not subsequent licence renewal (SLR) proceedings. The Commission, separately, directed the US NRC Staff to provide a rulemaking plan to update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR. The Commission also directed US NRC Staff to shorten the licence terms of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, until completion of National Environmental Policy Act analysis. The Commission approved the NRC staff's recommendation update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR and to amend NRC regulations codifying the conclusions of the LR GEIS.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-22-3, 95 NRC 40 (2022)	NLB 108/109

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2022	Exelon Generation Co., LLC (Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3)	ENV	The Commission of the US NRC reversed its earlier rulings and held that the generic environmental impact statement for licence renewal at nuclear power plants (LR GEIS) only applied to the initial licence renewal proceedings and not subsequent licence renewal (SLR) proceedings. The Commission, separately, directed the US NRC Staff to provide a rulemaking plan to update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR. The Commission also directed US NRC Staff to shorten the licence terms of the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, until completion of National Environmental Policy Act analysis. The Commission approved the NRC staff's recommendation update the LR GEIS to clearly include evaluation of the environmental impacts of SLR and to amend NRC regulations codifying the conclusions of the LR GEIS.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-22-4, 95 NRC 44 (2022)	NLB 108/109
LICENSING AND REGULATION (LR)							
Belgium	2018	Greenpeace Belgium v. Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC)	LR	Greenpeace Belgium brought a case against the FANC contesting the legality of an authorisation for the transport of spent fuel. The claim was based on two parts of Euratom's Basic Safety Standards Directive: the failure of FANC to perform a justification study and an issue related to the ALARA principle. On the first issue, the Council held that a justification study is only required when the scope of the authorisation concerns an act that is considered a new type of practice, not those that have already been justified. On the second issue, the Council ruled that the application of the ALARA principle was correct, and therefore the regulator is not obliged to evaluate possible transport alternatives.	Raad van State [Council of State]	Nr. 241.575	NLB 102

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Belgium	2020	Ruling by the Court of First Instance in Brussels, 3 September 2020, regarding Tihange 2	LR	The Court of First Instance in Brussels ruled in favour of the Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC) regarding the restart of the Tihange 2 Nuclear Power Plant. The plaintiffs filed a claim against the FANC, the Belgian State and the operator, Electrabel, to prevent the restart of Tihange 2 in 2015 after hydrogen flakes were found in the reactor vessel in 2012. The plaintiffs alleged that the FANC made the decision to restart based on an insufficient examination, failed to act in a transparent way and intentionally withheld evidence from the public. They further claimed to be suffering psychological damage caused by the constant fear of an imminent severe accident because of the presence of the hydrogen flakes. The Court rejected these claims and held that the FANC had acted as a diligent regulator when evaluating the restart of Tihange 2 by conducting a thorough safety examination and communicating with the public clearly and transparently. Furthermore, the court held that no legal framework exists with regard to the phenomena of hydrogen flakes and their presence does not exclude the safe operation of a reactor vessel.	Court of First Instance in Brussels	[Unknown]	NLB 105
Brazil	2009	Public Prosecutor v. National Nuclear Energy Commission (Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear – CNEN)	LR	Court confirmed the legality of the partial construction licence granted to Eletrobràs Termonuclear S.A. – Eletronuclear for preliminary works carried out at the Angra III NPP. The public prosecutor had filed a public claim against the National Nuclear Energy Commission (Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear – CNEN) arguing that its granting of the partial construction licence was not lawful as Act No. 6/189/74 does not explicitly mention partial construction licences, though it does allow for a licence under specific conditions as long as it is in accordance with CNEN's prerogatives. The Court found that CNEN acted within the limits of its regulatory powers.	1st Federal Court (Angra dos Reis region)	[Unknown]	NLB 85

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	2012	Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation v. Canada (Attorney General)	LR	Appellants challenge a licence renewal decision made by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) respecting a uranium mine and mill operating licence held by AREVA Resources Canada Inc. (AREVA). Court recognised that the CNSC has jurisdiction to determine whether a constitutional duty to consult Aboriginal groups has been triggered by a potential licensing decision to operate a uranium mine and mill, and if so, whether that duty has been satisfied through its licensing process and decision-making. The Court also makes clear that for the constitutional duty to consult to be found, there must be evidence that a right may be harmed in some non-trivial, non-speculative way.	Federal Court of Appeal	2012 FCA 73	NLB 89
Canada	2022	Citizens Against Radioactive Neighbourhoods (CARN) v. BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.	LR	The Federal Court of Canada dismissed a judicial review application to challenge a licensing decision of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The applicant argued that the CNSC's decision to renew BWXT Nuclear Energy Canada Inc.'s licence to operate two nuclear fuel fabrication facilities was unlawful and unreasonable. The applicant argued for judicial review on the grounds that the CSNC failed to meet the appropriate standard of review, the licence renewal application materials and information provided for hearings were insufficient, the use of "hold point" licence conditions was unlawful and the CNSC exercised its statutory discretion unreasonably in light of the ALARA, justification and precautionary principles. The Court found the applicant's claims to be insufficient and concluded that the CNSC's decision was lawful and reasonable, and dismissed the application seeking to have the licence decision quashed.	Federal Court	2022 FC 849	NLB 108/109

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Czechia	2009	Land Oberösterreich v. ČEZ a.s.	LR	The Court held that a licence issued to a nuclear power plant by the competent authorities in the Czech Republic had to be valid in Austria due to the principle of mutual recognition of licences. Nuclear facilities can only be licensed by competent authorities if they comply with the required safety standards, which are, on a high level, uniform in the EU. This is because the Euratom Treaty and secondary legislation establish a common EU legislative framework for nuclear safety, ensuring the protection of the health and safety standards of EU citizens. Consequently, the provision of Austrian law that depended on the fact that the facility was operated without a licence could not be applied in the Austrian courts, in the case of the Czech nuclear power plant.	Court of Justice of the European Union (Grand Chamber)	Case C-115/08, ECLI:EU:C:2009:660	NLB 84 NLB 106
Czechia	2025	EDF v. Czech Competition Authority	LR	In October 2023 Westinghouse, Électricité de France (EDF) and Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power (KHNP) submitted binding bids for the construction of new nuclear reactors at EDU II (Dukovany II). The Czech government announced that Westinghouse's bid would be removed because it "did not meet the necessary conditions." Ultimately, the KHNP bid was selected. EDF and Westinghouse appealed to Czechia's competition authority about the selection process. Westinghouse withdrew their appeal and the Czech competition authority rejected EDF's appeal. EDF submitted a motion against the decision and applied for a preliminary injunction against the signing of the contract between KHNP and EDU II to the Regional Court in Brno. The Court granted the preliminary injunction because of the "serious harm that the plaintiff (EDF) is threatened with". After a cassation appeal by EDU II to the Supreme Administrative Court cancelled the preliminary injunction, the Regional Court in Brno finally rejected EDF's motion against Czechia's competition authority's decision.	Regional Court in Brno	30 Af 15/2025-76	NLB 114

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Czechia	2025	EDU II v. Regional Court in Brno	LR	The semi-state-owned energy company Dukovany II (EDU II) submitted a cassation appeal with the Supreme Administrative Court against the injunction granted by the Regional Court in Brno blocking the signing of a contract between EDU II and Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power (KHNP). The Supreme Administrative Court cancelled the preliminary injunction granted by the Regional Court, arguing it "incorrectly assessed and measured the public interest".	Supreme Administrative Court	10 As 95/2025-325	NLB 114
Finland	2019	KHO 29.8.2019/3864	LR	Local cooperative associations appealed the issuance of the operating licence for the new Olkiluoto 3-unit nuclear power plant claiming that the safety requirements concerning the area of NPP were not met and therefore the decision was unlawful. The Court ruled that no evidence concerning safety or other matters were found that would result in the decision being unlawful. The appeal was dismissed.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	1475/1/19 and 1805/1/19	n/a
Finland	2014	KHO 1.12.2014/3793	LR	Local organisation appealed the Decision-in-Principle (DiP) made by the Government and confirmed by the Parliament concerning the new, planned Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant. Since the national legislation does not allow for appeals against DiP, the appeal was not investigated.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	3228/1/14	n/a
Finland	2013	KHO 5.12.2013/3825	LR	NGO and private persons appealed the Government decision for uranium production in the Talvivaara mine claiming that the decision was unlawful. The Court returned the decision to the Government for re-consideration as to whether the application fulfilled the requirements that were set for granting the licence. Reconsideration was also needed because of the economic changes in the company after the licence was granted.	Supreme Administrative Court of Finland	1035/1/12	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
France	2007	L'affaire Collectif national d'information et d'opposition à l'usine Melox – Collectif Stop Melox et MOX v. France	LR	The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) dismissed the claim of Collectif Stop Melox et MOX concerning a decree authorising increased production of nuclear fuels from mixed oxides uranium/plutonium (MOX) at the Melox plant. The applicant lodged an appeal against this decree to the Council of State in 1999, which was dismissed, and the plaintiff was required to pay FRF 5 000 (EUR 750) to the operator, Cogema. Before the ECHR, the applicant claimed a violation of Article 6§1 of the European Convention on Human Rights, on the grounds that the Council of State had not questioned the standing of a private-law company, Cogema, to intervene in an action against a ministerial decision. The ECHR held that there had been no violation of Article 6§1 and Cogema was entitled to intervene in litigation concerning a ministerial decision directly affecting its economic activity.	European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)	N° 75218/01; ECLI:CE:ECHR:2007: 0612JUD007521801	NLB 80
France	2011	Association trinationale de protection nucléaire (ATPN) v. Minister of Economy, Industry and Labour	LR	Court confirmed the government's refusal to immediately close the Fessenheim NPP. Such a decision must be made by decree by the Conseil d'État, after review by the NSA. The Court recognised that the NPP was not in compliance with the Law on Water but complainants had not demonstrated the existence of a serious risk posed by the water releases that would require a shutdown decision.	Administrative Court in Strasbourg	Tb. Adm. Strasbourg, n° 0805582	NLB 87
France	2013	Association trinationale de protection nucléaire (ATPN) v. Minister of Economy, Industry and Labour	LR	Conseil concluded that continued operation of the Fessenheim NPP does not pose any serious risk and dismissed a claim calling for the immediate suspension of operation of the Fessenheim NPP for insufficient consideration of seismic and flood risk, abnormal number of incident since 2004 and illegal water disposal standards.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request Nos. 351986, 358080, 358094, 358095)	NLB 92

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
France	2012	Atelier de technologie de Plutonium, Collectif antinucléaire 13 et Association les amis de la terre de France v. Prime Minister	LR	The Conseil refused to annul a decree authorising the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) to carry out the operations of final shutdown and dismantling of the Atelier de technologie de plutonium (facility for plutonium technology or ATPu) located at the Cadarache site. Conseil found that the insufficiencies of the hazards study as well as the risks entailed in final shutdown and dismantling does not require an annulment of the decree insofar as the operations are carried out in compliance with the ASN's (French Nuclear Safety Authority) requirements.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 346395)	NLB 90
France	2018	La commune de Fessenheim,et al., la Fédération CGE-CGC Energies, et la Fédération FO Energie et Mines v. Prime Minister	LR	The Conseil decided to repeal Decree No. 2017-508 of 8 April 2017, which revoked the operating licence held by Électricité de France (EDF) for the Fessenheim NPP (Bas-Rhin, France). A claim to repeal the decree was brought by the municipality of Fessenheim and various trade unions in the region, on the basis that a revocation of a licence could only be issued at the request of a licensee, pursuant to Article L. 311-5-5 of the Energy Code. The Conseil held that revocation of the licence to operate had not been issued at EDF's request and therefore the decree should be repealed.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision Nos. 410109, 410622, 410624	NLB 101
India	2013	G. Sundarrajan v. Union of India and Others	LR	Court rejected the arguments put forward in the public interest litigation (PIL) petition which sought to obtain the closure of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant (KKNPP), based particularly on the larger reasoning that it is not for courts to scrutinise a particular policy (such as the government's nuclear energy policy) or decisions taken in fulfilment of that policy, in this case the establishment of the KKNPP. Of note, the Court stated that "cannot sit in judgment on the views expressed by the technical and scientific bodies in setting up of KKNPP plant at Kudankulam and on its safety and security."	Supreme Court	Civil Appeal No. 4440 of 2013	NLB 91

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	1992	The Ikata Supreme Court decision	LR	The residents living in Ehime Prefecture, in which the Ikata Nuclear Power Plant is located, filed the administrative litigation against the nuclear power regulator in order to revoke the permission for the nuclear power plant in question. The Supreme Court upheld the High Court's judgment, which had determined that the permission was legal, and dismissed the residents' final appeal. The Supreme Court decision concerning this case, which is generally called "The Ikata Supreme Court decision," is recognised as the leading case in which it provides the judicial review standards for administrative cases over the permission for installing a nuclear power reactor. The judicial review standards address the following legal issues, for example, (a) whether a safety standard which has not been set in detailed and concrete terms is reasonable or legal, (b) to what extent a nuclear regulator has an administrative discretion, (c) to what extent judicial review can be made, and (d) whether the nuclear power regulator bears burden of proof of showing the reasonability of its decision to give a permission, etc.	Supreme Court	1985 (Showa 60) (行ツ: Gyo-Tsu) No. 133 (Judgment of the First Petty Bench of the Supreme Court of 29 Oct. 1992, Minshu Vol. 46, No. 7, p. 1174)	n/a
Japan	1992	Monju Fast Breeder Reactor Case	LR	In this case, the legal issue before the Supreme Court was whether the residents living about 29 to 58 kilometres away from the fast breeder reactor (FBR) with an electrical power of 280 MW, called "Monju", and was in the research and developing phase at the time of the judicial review by the Supreme Court, had standing to sue for seeking a declaration of nullity of the permission for the FBR in question under the Article 36 of the Administrative Case Litigation Act (Act No. 139 of 1962). The Supreme Court ruled in favour of the residents, stating that they had standing to sue under the Article 36 of the Administrative Case Litigation Act.	Supreme Court	1989 (Heisei 1) (行ツ: Gyo-Tsu) No. 130 (Judgment of the Third Petty Bench of the Supreme Court of 22 Sept. 1992, Minshu Vol. 46, No. 6, p. 571)	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	1992	Monju Fast Breeder Reactor Case	LR	In this case, the legal issue before the Supreme Court was whether the residents who had already filed another civil lawsuit seeking an injunction against the fast breeder reactor (FBR) called "Monju" had standing to sue under the Article 36 of the Administrative Case Litigation Act (Act No. 139 of 1962). The Supreme Court ruled in favour of the residents, stating that they had standing to sue under the Article 36 of the Administrative Case Litigation Act. This Supreme Court case is known as the leading case judging the relationship of a civil injunction lawsuit and an administrative lawsuit for nullity of an administrative disposition such as granting a permission.	Supreme Court	1989 (Heisei 1) (行ツ: Gyo-Tsu) No. 131 (Judgment of the Third Petty Bench of the Supreme Court of 22 Sept. 1992, Minshu Vol. 46, No. 6, p. 1090)	
Japan	2015	Petition filed by citizens from Kagoshima opposed to the restart of units 1 and 2 of the Sendai nuclear power plant v. Kyushu Electric Power Company	LR	Court rejected the claim against the restart of Sendai NPP finding that the safety goals established by the NRA took into account the latest expertise, including experience in the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident and that as long as these safety goals are assured, the risk of a severe accident with the release of radioactive materials causing health damage should be insignificant to the public, if not assuring absolute safety; therefore, the court did not consider that there was any actual risk against the rights of residents.	Kagoshima District Court	2014 (Heisei 26) (ヨ) No.36 (Judgment of the Kagoshima District Court of 22 Apr. 2015, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2290, p. 147)	NLB 96
Japan	2015	Masada Tadashi and others v. Kansai Electric Power Co. Ltd.	LR	Court granted a temporary injunction against the restart of Takahama NPP Units 3 and 4 finding that nuclear regulatory requirements must be strict enough to ensure that a severe disaster never occurs at a nuclear power plant operating in conformance with the regulatory requirements. In reviewing the NRA's new regulatory requirements, the district court found that they do not address post-Fukushima safety measures and thus are not justified. The court also reviewed the risk of the Takahama NPP units without reference to the NRA's new regulatory requirements, finding that the units have many weaknesses that need to be addressed, with the Court outlining the required measures.	Fukui District Court	2014 (Heisei 26) (ヨ) No. 31 (Judgment of the Fukui District Court of 24 Dec. 2015, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2290, p. 73)	NLB 96

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2017	Decision regarding operations at the Ikata NPP	LR	The plaintiff sought a preliminary injunction against operations at the Ikata NPP. The Hiroshima District Court (DC) ruled against the plaintiffs and denied their petitions. The DC determined that the Volcanic Effects Assessment Guide was based on the premise that the timing and extent of any eruption could be predicted with considerable accuracy and a considerable time in advance and concluded that this premise was not realistic. Thus, the Nuclear Regulation Authority's (NRA) decision is consistent with the purpose of the Act on the Regulation of Nuclear Source Material, Nuclear Fuel Material, and Reactors, even if the site is deemed appropriate. The DC held that the NRA's determination and the location of the Ikata NPP were appropriate.	Hiroshima District Court	2016 (Heisei 28) (ヨ) No.38, No.109 (Judgment of the Hiroshima District Court of 30 Mar. 2017, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2357/2358, p. 160)	NLB 102
Japan	2017	Decision regarding operations at the Ikata NPP	LR	The plaintiffs appealed the Hiroshima DC decision and the Hiroshima High Court (HC) issued a decision in favour of the plaintiffs approving the injunction suspending operation of the Ikata NPP. The HC decided there was insufficient evidence to support the judgment that the possibility of volcanic activity was sufficiently small during the period of operation and determined that the siting of the Ikata NPP was inappropriate because such an evaluation was impossible to carry out based on submitted arguments and premises. However, the HC did conclude that, apart from this issue, the Nuclear Regulation Authority's (NRA) Volcanic Effects Assessment Guide was consistent with international standards and affirmed that its content was appropriate.	Hiroshima High Court	2017 (Heisei 29) (ラ) No.63 (Decision of the Hiroshima High Court of 13 Dec. 2017, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2357/2358, p. 300)	NLB 102

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2018	Decision regarding operations at the Ikata NPP	LR	The defendant petitioned the Hiroshima HC (HC) with an objection to the injunction, resulting in an appeal where the decision was overturned, and the plaintiff's complaint was dismissed. Like in the District Court decision, the HC noted the Volcanic Effects Assessment Guide was based on an unrealistic premise. Therefore, assumption of risk should instead be based on social common sense, meaning when risk is of such sufficiently low frequency as to not be regarded as a problem by the general public. Applying the theory of social common sense to this case, the HC found that the Nuclear Regulation Authority's (NRA) determination was not contrary to the purpose of the Act on the Regulation of Nuclear Source Material, Nuclear Fuel Material, and Reactors and concluded on appeal that the NRA's determination and the location of the Ikata NPP were appropriate.	Hiroshima High Court	2017 (Heisei 29) (ウ) No.62 (Decision of the Hiroshima High Court of 25 Sept. 2018, on the Court website)	NLB 102
Japan	2020	Decision regarding operations at the Ikata NPP	LR	The Hiroshima High Court issued a second preliminary injunction suspending operation of the Ikata NPP. The plaintiffs brought this case before the HC on the grounds that it infringed their personal rights. The court held that the safety assessments conducted by the operator were insufficient in assessing potential earthquake and volcano impacts and therefore the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) erred in granting a licence. The HC held that the Ikata NPP could not pass the Site Assessment in accordance with the Volcanic Effects Assessment Guide (VEAG). However, since social common sense accepts, to a certain extent, the risk of catastrophic eruptions, it would violate that principle to conclude that the plant does not recognise the existence of specific hazards based on this reason alone. In response, the HC partially modified the VEAG in consideration of social common sense to assume an eruption of a level just below that of the particular volcano's (Mount Aso) fourth largest eruption.	Hiroshima High Court	2019 (Heisei 31) (ラ) No.48 (Judgment of the Hiroshima High Court of 17 Jan. 2020, on the Court website)	NLB 104

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2020	Decision regarding the request for injunction against prior consent to restart Onagawa NPP	LR	Sendai District Court denied the petition for a preliminary injunction to block the prior consent of the local government for the restarting of the Onagawa nuclear power plant (NPP). The plaintiffs were residents close to the NPP who sought an injunction blocking the local government's prior consent claiming that the consent procedures are a crucial condition of restart and therefore present a significant threat or hazard to their personal rights. The Court held that there was no significant infringement on the personal rights of the plaintiffs as consent is not a necessary legal procedure for restart and there are other procedural regulations that must be carried out by the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NRA). Furthermore, the plaintiffs failed to present *prima facie* evidence that these other regulations are a mere formality as they claimed, so it cannot be said that the NPP will immediately restart based on this prior consent. Therefore, an injunction against the consent is not warranted. However, this does indicate that there are more ways for individuals and groups to request injunctions than have previously been seen.	Sendai District Court	2019 (Reiwa 1) (ヨ) No.99	NLB 105
Japan	2021	Injunction against nuclear power plant operation based on inadequate evacuation plans (Tokai-2)	LR	The Mito District Court issued an injunction against Japan Atomic Power Company (JAPC) to prohibit the operation of the Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant on the ground that the evacuation plans in the event of a nuclear accident were inadequate. JAPC filed an appeal to the Tokyo High Court on 19 March 2021. As of the date of publication, the case is still pending.	Mito District Court	2012 (Heisei 24) (行ウ) No. 15 (Judgment of the Mito District Court of 18 Mar. 2021, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2524/2525, p. 40)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2019	Prosecution on charges of professional negligence resulting in death and injury for the former TEPCO executives	LR	Three former executives of Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) were acquitted by the Tokyo District Court of charges of professional negligence resulting in the death and injury of people living in the Fukushima prefecture at the time of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. The Tokyo District Court determined that in order to avoid the consequences from the accident, the Defendants would have had to take certain actions before early March 2011. However, the Court stated that it is doubtful that TEPCO could have completed these measures before the accident and the only realistic way TEPCO could have avoided the consequences from the accident was to have suspended the operation of the nuclear power plant before early March in 2011. The Court concluded that the former TEPCO executives did not have an obligation to suspend operation of the nuclear power plant before early March 2011, because it was not possible to foresee, beyond a reasonable doubt, the occurrence of a tsunami of sufficient scale to cause the Fukushima Daiichi accident. On appeal, the Tokyo High Court upheld the Tokyo District Court judgment on 18 January 2023.	Tokyo District Court	2016 (Heisei 28) (刑わ) No. 374 (Judgment of the Tokyo District Court of 19 Sept. 2019, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2431/2432, p. 5)	NLB 107
Japan	2020	Judgment framework of the court on the provisional disposition against the operation of the Ikata Nuclear Power Plant	LR	People living about 60 kilometres (km), 100 km and 130 km away from the Ikata Nuclear Power Plant filed a petition for a provisional disposition order of an injunction against the operation of Unit 3 at the site operated by Shikoku Electric Power Company (SEPCO), based on the specific risk that such operation might infringe on their personal rights for life etc. because the plant lacks safety against earthquakes. The Court decided not to grant a provisional injunction and dismissed the petition. One of the remarkable aspects of the decision is that the Court did not adopt the Ikata decision framework established by the Supreme Court in 1992 because this framework should be applied to administrative litigation and not to civil provisional remedies.	Hiroshima District Court	2020 (Reiwa 2) (ヨ) No. 35 (Decision of the Hiroshima District Court of 4 Nov. 2021, on the Court website)	NLB 108/109

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2022	Court decision on a request to stop the Tomari Power Station, to remove spent nuclear fuel from the reactor buildings and to decommission the nuclear reactor (Tomari 1-3)	LR	People living in Japan, the United Kingdom and the United Sates filed a civil lawsuit against Hokkaido Electric Power Company (HEPCO), claiming it was highly probable that their personal rights to life and health would be infringed due to a lack of safety against tsunamis. Plaintiffs requested i) a halt to the operation of units 1, 2 and 3 of the Tomari Plant; ii) removal of the spent nuclear fuel from the reactor buildings; and iii) decommissioning of the reactors. The Sapporo District Court accepted the claims by Plaintiffs living within a radius of 30 kilometres from the Tomari Plant and dismissed the claims by the rest of the Plaintiffs. The Court issued a decision granting an injunction against the operation of the Tomari Plant on the basis that it does not satisfy the NRA's safety standards regarding tsunamis, but the Court did not accept the Plaintiffs' claims regarding the removal of spent nuclear fuel and decommissioning of the reactors because the Plaintiffs failed to specify an appropriate destination for existing spent fuel stored on the Tomari site. HEPCO appealed the decision granting an injunction to the Sapporo High Court, and the Sapporo High Court agreed to hear the appeal.	Sapporo District Court	2022 (Heisei23) (ワ) No. 3265 (Judgment of the Sapporo District Court of 31 May 2022, on the Court website)	NLB 110

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
The Netherlands	2013	Greenpeace Netherlands Foundation et al. v. Minister of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation	LR	The Appellants appealed the decision of the Minister of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation to issue a licence for fuel diversification at the Borssele Nuclear Power Plant. The Appellants claimed the licence should not have been issued because the Minister erred in not including relevant information on how the use of MOX (mixed oxide) fuel could impact a potential accident and that the probabilistic safety assessment (PSA) method misjudges the likelihood of a meltdown. The appeal of the Appellant who lives approximately 130 km from the Borssele plant was declared inadmissible. The Court dismissed the other aspects of the appeal as unfounded. It held that the Borssele plant meets all safety requirements and the Minister's decision did not need to take into account further study on the impact of MOX fuel on the course of an accident in their assessment. Further, the Court was not convinced that the PSA incorrectly misjudges the likelihood of a meltdown.	Raad van State [Council of State]	ECLI:NL:RVS: 2013:BZ1263	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
The Netherlands	2021	Joint Nuclear Power Plant Netherlands B.V. v. Ministers of Economic Affairs and of Finance	LR	The operator of the Dodewaard Nuclear Power Plant brought a claim against the State Secretary of Infrastructure and Water Management and the Minister of Finance for rejecting its application for decommissioning on the basis that it failed to meet the financial security requirements of dismantling and decommissioning. The operator claimed that their permanent incapability to meet the financial security requirements for decommissioning meant their application should be approved. The Court found that regardless of whether the operator is incapable of ever having sufficient financial resources, its financial status cannot lead to an annulment of the decision as the Nuclear Energy Act and the Nuclear Installations, Fissionable Materials and Ores Decree do not contain any provisions for the Ministers to approve the application if there is no financial security to cover the costs of decommissioning. Moreover, the Court did not establish at the hearing that the operator is unable to gather sufficient resources, and a procedure is still pending in civil court on this matter. The appeal was found to be without merit and dismissed.	Raad van State [Council of State]	ECLI:NL:RVS: 2021:2442	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
South Africa	2007	McDonald & others v. Minister of Minerals and Energy & others	LR	The Court held that Regulation 3 of the National Nuclear Regulator Act 47 of 1999 (NNRA) was invalid based of the maxim *delegates delegare non potest* and represented an unauthorised delegation of the Minister of Minerals and Energy's regulatory power to the National Nuclear Regulator (Regulator). The plaintiffs sought to challenge the restriction of development of property located within a 5 km radius of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station (KNPS) on the basis that Regulation 3 and any requirements created by the Regulator were invalid. The Court held that such delegation by the Minister under Regulation 3 was clearly unauthorised and amounts to an impermissible abdication by the Minister of the power to regulate. Further, the Court denied the Regulator's request to suspend operation of the judgment for a period of a year to avoid any gap created by the setting aside of the regulation and the requirements as development within the 5 km zone from KNPS is still governed by the terms of the Structure Plan (Guide Plan), which has statutory force and effect independently of the NNRA and one of the provisions of the Guide Plan is a restriction on further development within a 5 km radius of the KNPS unless such development forms an integral part of KNPS.	Cape High Court (Cape Provincial Division)	2007 (5) SA 642 (C)	NLB 80
Sweden	2006	Ringhals Aktiebolag	LR	Permit procedure for nuclear power plant according to the Environmental Code. The court found that an appropriate balance is established between, on the one hand, the governmental authorities for nuclear activities and, on the other hand, the environmental court if the authorities regulate the activity in more detail and the court makes a general assessment between the cost and the benefit that will be presented through the prescribed permit condition on further investigation measures.	Land and Environment Court of Appeal	MÖD 2006:70	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Sweden	2018	Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Company (SKB)	LR	The Court concluded that the activity (i.e. the final repository for spent nuclear fuel) is permissible if: • SKB produces evidence that the repository in the long term will meet the requirements of the Environmental Code, despite remaining uncertainties regarding how the protective capability of the canister may be affected by corrosion. • The long-term responsibility for the final repository according to the Environmental Code has been clearly assigned. Before permission is given, SKB must also provide a comprehensive report of the activity's surface operations and indicate the siting of two possible ventilation towers. The court gave this opinion to the Swedish Government. It is now up to the government to decide. (Unofficial English translation of the summary of the court's decision is available here.)	Land and Environmental Court	Case no. M 1333-11	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Switzerland	2012	Ursula Balmer-Schafroth and others v. DETEC	LR	The Mühleberg NPP was originally granted a 40-year licence, to expire in 2012. In 2009, the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) repealed the time limitation in light of the establishment of the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI). This decision was appealed to the Federal Administrative Court, which was approved in part. The Court confirmed the revocation of the original time limitation, but stated that a new time limitation was required for policy reasons and DETEC had until mid-2013 to establish the new time limitation. The court cited safety concerns as the reason and stated that if the licensee wishes to extend the licence beyond the time limitation, it must file an application for such extension with DETEC accompanied by a comprehensive maintenance plan for the plant.	Federal Administrative Court	A 667/2010	NLB 89
Switzerland	2012	Ursula Balmer-Schafroth and others v. DETEC	LR	Court provided that DETEC must examine the merits of a request to revoke the operating licence for the Mühleberg NPP due to serious safety concerns.	Federal Administrative Court	A 6030/2011	NLB 90
Switzerland	2013	DETEC and Forces motrices bernoises (FMB) Energie SA v. Ursula Balmer-Schafroth and others	LR	Court found in favour of DETEC and FMB, deciding that the Mühleberg NPP should be granted an unlimited-duration operating licence. FMB alleged primarily that the new time limit and the new deadline were illegal and arbitrary, while DETEC focused mainly on issues of institutional law, since it considered that the decision of the Federal Administrative Court went against the distribution of competencies purposely institutionalised by legislation between the administration (i.e. DETEC and the Swiss Federal Office of Energy – SFOE) and the safety authority (ENSI).	Federal Supreme Court	2C-347/2012	NLB 91

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Switzerland	2014	Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate v. A. and B.	LR	The Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI) appealed the decision of Federal Administrative Court requiring it to perform a substantive assessment of the safety assessment of the Mühleberg Nuclear Power Plant to the Federal Supreme Court. The Federal Supreme Court dismissed ENSI's appeal and upheld the decision of the Federal Administrative Court finding that the Claimants living within Emergency Protection Zone 1 (i.e. within a 3 to 5 kilometre radius of the plant) have a legitimate interest that entitles them to take legal action and request an order on administrative acts. The fact that an accident to be assessed occurs only rarely does not alter the legitimacy of the interest. A legitimate interest for residents in Emergency Protection Zone 2 (i.e. within a 20 kilometre radius of the plant) was not examined and remains unresolved.	Federal Supreme Court	BGE 140 II 315, 2C_255/2013	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Switzerland	2021	Several private individuals v. Axpo Power AG and Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate	LR	The court rejected the main ground of an appeal concerning the seismic safety assessment for the Beznau nuclear power plant requested by the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI) after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident in 2011. ENSI had already requested seismic safety assessments from the Beznau nuclear power plant in 2016 and in 2017, it was determined that they fully complied with applicable legal requirements. ENSI was therefore not required to request new ones. However, the court did partially grant the appeal as, according to the applicable law in 2017 (at the time of the decision), ENSI should have requested an additional safety assessment. The court held that in such a case, ENSI must ask the Beznau nuclear power plant's operator for the relevant additional safety assessment, unless it had already requested new fault analyses in the meantime. As this was indeed the case and the review of the safety assessments provided was completed in February 2021, ENSI has no obligation to request new assessments.	Federal Supreme Court	2C_206/2019	NLB 106
United States	1998	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. (Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2)	LR	Petitioner challenged the licence renewal application submitted to the US NRC by Baltimore Gas and Electric Company. Petitioner submitted its petition to intervene/request for hearing in a timely manner, but it missed the deadline to file its contentions. The contentions were filed late and failed to address the standards governing the admissibility of late-filed contentions found in 10 CFR 2.714(a) leading to the denial of their petition. This decision was appealed to the Commission of the US NRC who affirmed the dismissal of Petitioner's contentions.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-98-25, 48 NRC 325 (1998)	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2008	Spano v US NRC	LR	The Federal Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit dismissed the petitioners' appeal of the denial by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of their petitions to revise the NRC's nuclear power plant licensing regulations so that a licence renewal would be subject to the same standards as an initial licence application. Petitioners challenged the denial on the grounds that the NRC did not provide petitioners with an opportunity to supplement their petitions, did not hold a hearing or conduct fact-finding, improperly relied on the existence of other administrative remedies and did not consider the "new information" and "new issues" raised in the petitions. The Court dismissed the claim that the NRC did not allow the petitioners to supplement their petitions, noting the distinction between an incomplete petition for rulemaking and one that is merely unpersuasive. Furthermore, the Court held that NRC's decisions to not hold a hearing or conduct fact-finding, rely on other administrative remedies and not consider "new information" and "new issues" raised in the petitions were reasonable.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	293 F. App'x 91 (2nd Cir. 2008).	NLB 82

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2009	Public Citizen, San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, and State of New York v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) determined that air-based attacks were beyond the scope of the design basis threat (DBT) rule because the federal government was responsible for defending against such threats. The petitioners alleged that in doing so, the NRC had acted arbitrarily, capriciously and in violation of law. The Court held that the NRC had acted lawfully in excluding air-based threats from the scope of the rule. In its decision, the Court recognised that the DBT rule considered the credibility of the threat, whether private forces could reasonably be expected to actively engage that threat and that there was also a low likelihood of damaging the reactor core and releasing radioactivity that could affect public health and safety. It also highlighted that relying on other governmental bodies to address the risk is not equivalent to ignoring the risk.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	573 F.3d 916 (9th Cir. 2009)	NLB 84

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2010	Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station)	LR	Petitioners were granted the right to intervene in the licensing procedure over whether the licensee had adequately demonstrated that certain reactor components would not fail due to metal fatigue during the period of extended operation. The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP) issued a partial initial decision concluding, inter alia, that the licensee's metal fatigue analyses did not comply with the time-limited aging analysis (TLAA) requirements and did not provide the reasonable assurance of safety required by 10 CFR 54.29. Accordingly, the ASLBP ruled that the licence renewal was not authorised and could not be granted until 45 days after the licensee satisfactorily completes TLAA metal fatigue calculations and serves them on the US NRC Staff and the other parties to the proceeding. The US NRC Staff appealed the ASLBP's partial initial decision to the Commission of the US NRC, which ruled that the applicant's metal fatigue calculations, as originally prepared, complied with the relevant regulation. The Commission of the US NRC determined that the licence renewal application was legally and technically sufficient.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-10-17, 72 NRC 1 (2010)	n/a
United States	2011	New Jersey Environmental Federation v. US NRC	LR	Court ruled that the NRC properly rejected the technical challenges related to concrete and the drywell shell because they were filed after the initial deadline for contentions and were not based on new, previously unavailable information. Regarding a technical contention on metal fatigue, the Court ruled that the NRC reasonably applied the elevated pleading standards in its regulation governing the reopening of a closed record. Finally, the Court deferred to the NRC's conclusion that its regulations require disputes to be raised with an applicant's submissions, not with the Staff's review.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	645 F.3d 220 (3d Cir. 2011)	NLB 88

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2012	Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Project, LLC	LR	The Board concluded that because Applicants in this case are owned by a US corporation that is 100% owned by a foreign corporation, Applicants are rendered per se ineligible, notwithstanding any other factors such as a negation action plan, to apply for or obtain a licence as long as the current ownership arrangement is in effect. The Atomic Energy Act states that a licence cannot be issued to any corporation if they are owned, controlled, or dominated by a foreign corporation or foreign government.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-12-19, 76 NRC 184	NLB 90

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2012	South Carolina Electric & Gas Company and South Carolina Public Service Authority (also referred to as Santee Cooper) (Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3)	LR	In response to the granting of a combined licence application to build and operate two additional units at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station, the Claimants requested a hearing before the US Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP). The ASLBP found that only the Sierra Club had demonstrated standing but that none of the proposed conditions by any Petitioner was admissible. The ASLBP therefore denied the hearing requests. All three parties appealed to the Commission of the US NRC, which affirmed the ASLBP's decision except with respect to one proposed contention, relating to the requirement to consider energy alternatives and remanded the issue to the ASLBP for further consideration. On remand, the ASLBP concluded that the contention was inadmissible, which the Commission of the US NRC affirmed on appeal. Friends of the Earth and the South Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club joined in a petition to suspend licensing decisions while the Commission of the US NRC considered the impacts of the earthquake and tsunami at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan. The Commission of the US NRC granted the petition in part and denied it in part. The Commission determined that the agency's safety and environmental review was consistent with the requirements of the US Atomic Energy Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. The Commission of the US NRC authorised the US NRC Staff to issue the licences. In addition, it directed the US NRC Staff to include in the licence certain conditions related to a surveillance programme for squib valves and the development of strategies to address beyond design basis external events.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-12-9, 75 NRC 421 (2012)	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2013	Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corp. v. NRC	LR	Court deferred to the NRC's conclusions that: (1) the agency lacks authority under the Atomic Energy Act to retain jurisdiction over a site at a licensee's request where the state is willing to assume regulatory authority over the site and meets other applicable criteria; and (2) the NRC's agreement-state assessment, which requires that discontinuance of the NRC's regulatory authority not result in interference or interruption of the licensing process, did not compel the NRC to retain jurisdiction over the Shieldalloy site. However, on a third issue, the Court found that the NRC failed to explain how the state's rules governing licence termination were compatible with the NRC's restricted release provision. The case was remanded to the NRC for further explanation of this issue.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	707 F.3d 371 (DC Cir. 2013)	NLB 91
United States	2013	Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corp. (Decommissioning of the Newfield, New Jersey Site)	LR	The NRC responded to the DC Circuit's remand, explaining that because the state has adopted the objective of seeking to limit the use of restricted release, and because the state has adopted more stringent criteria for licence termination under restricted release than for unrestricted release, as well as more conservative criteria than the NRC's, the NRC deemed the state's regulations to be compatible with its programme under its agreement-state policy. Therefore, the NRC reinstated its transfer of authority over the Shieldalloy site to the state.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-13-06, 78 NRC 155 (2013)	NLB 92
United States	2014	Shaw AREVA MOX Services, LLC (Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility Possession and Use License)	LR	Applicant submitted a Fundamental Nuclear Material Control Plan (FNMCP), which contained a proposed automated material control and accounting system to satisfy certain NRC requirements for the control and accounting of special nuclear material. After two evidentiary hearings, it was found that the applicant's FNMCP complies with NRC requirements. Decision was appealed to the Commission of the US NRC.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-14-01, 79 NRC 39	NLB 93

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2016	Nuclear Innovation North America LLC (South Texas Project Units 3 and 4)	LR	The applicant sufficiently demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that it is not subject to impermissible foreign ownership, control or domination, contrary to the Atomic Energy Act and NRC regulations. The applicant is pursuing two new reactor licences as part of a joint venture with Toshiba American Nuclear Energy Corporation (TANE), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Toshiba America, Inc., which in turn is a wholly owned subsidiary of Toshiba Corporation, a Japanese corporation. Decision was appealed to the Commission of the US NRC.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-14-03, 79 NRC 267	NLB 94
United States	2017	Virginia Uranium, Inc. v. Warren	LR	Court found that under the Atomic Energy Act conventional uranium mining on non-federal land is not regulated by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Therefore, a state moratorium on uranium mining is not pre-empted by federal law.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	848 F.3d 590 (4th Cir. 2017)	NLB 99
United States	2019	Virginia Uranium, Inc. v. Warren	LR	The Supreme Court upheld the decision of the 4th Circuit Court that the Virginia ban on uranium mining on private land is not pre-empted by federal law. However, while the Court felt it was inappropriate in this instance to ascertain the motivation of the state of Virginia in creating the ban, the decision did not rule out the possibility that a state's regulation, which was found to either intend to interfere, or have the effect of interfering, with matters close to the core of the NRC's authority could be pre-empted.	Supreme Court	139 S.Ct. 1894 (2019)	NLB 103

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2019	Holtec International (HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility)	LR	The NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) issued a decision denying challenges to the licence application by Holtec International to build and operate a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) for spent nuclear fuel and greater-than-Class C waste (SNF) in Lea County, New Mexico. Holtec is seeking a 40-year licence to store canisters of SNF. While the ASLB held that three petitioners demonstrated standing, it determined that none of their contentions were admissible. Appeals of the ASLB's ruling are pending before the NRC Commission and the NRC staff's review of the application is ongoing.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-19-4, 89 NRC 353	NLB 103
United States	2021	Holtec International (HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility)	LR	Fasken Land and Minerals, Ltd. and Permian Basin Land and Royalty Owners (together, Fasken) sought to reopen a proceeding regarding Holtec International's application for a licence to build and operate a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF). Fasken argued that the proposed CISF would interfere with mineral development in the area and that the NRC staff had insufficiently analysed this issue. The Commission denied Fasken's appeal and upheld the Board's previous determination. The Commission also rejected Fasken's motion to reopen the record to litigate issues concerning the NRC staff's analysis of land use, rights, and restrictions under and around the proposed facility, rejecting Fasken's argument that new and materially different information that had come to light in the form of public comments on the NRC's draft Environmental Impact Statement. The NRC's licensing decision is pending. A subsequent appeal brought before the DC Circuit is currently being held in abeyance pending said licensing decision.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-21-7, 93 NRC 215 (2021)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2023	Beyond Nuclear, Inc. v. NRC	LR	The NRC issued a second consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) licence to Holtec International at another site. As a result of the NRC's issuance of the licence, a consolidated proceeding that had been pending in the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia (DC) Circuit was no longer held in abeyance. The petitioners argued that the issuance of the CISF licence violates the Nuclear Waste Policy Act and raised multiple challenges concerning the sufficiency of the discussion of safety risks and environmental impacts within Holtec's application.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	5th Cir. No. 20-1187 (consolidated with Nos. 21-1225, 21-1104 and 21-1147)	NLB 111
United States	2023	Fasken Land and Minerals, Limited v. NRC	LR	Fasken filed a separate petition for review in the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, challenging the Holtec CISF licence. Unlike its petition for review in *Beyond Nuclear, Inc. v. NRC*, this challenge sought direct review of the NRC's issuance of the licence to Holtec. Shortly after Fasken's petition for review was filed, the NRC filed a motion to dismiss the petition for lack of jurisdiction, arguing that Fasken could not challenge the issuance of the licence and that its sole remedy was to challenge the NRC's denial of its request to intervene as a party. The Fifth Circuit denied the NRC's motion to transfer the petition for review to the DC Circuit and ordered that the motion to dismiss be "carried with the case" and will be considered in conjunction with a full briefing on the merits.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	5th Cir. No. 23-60377	NLB 111
United States	2024	Fasken Land and Minerals, Limited v. NRC	LR	A three-judge panel in the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit granted Fasken's petition for review and vacated the Holtec licence. The panel held that the *Texas v. NRC* decision was controlling and dictated the outcome of Fasken's petition for review. The NRC is evaluating its options with regards to next steps for the case.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	5th Cir. No. 23-60377	NLB 112

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2025	Holtec International v. NRC	LR	The Supreme Court issued a summary disposition order concerning the Fifth Circuit's decision to vacate the NRC's issuance of a licence to Holtec for a spent nuclear fuel storage facility in New Mexico. The Court vacated that decision and remanded the case back to the Fifth Circuit for further consideration in light of the decision in NRC v. Texas.	Supreme Court	2025 WL 1787686	NLB 114
United States	2019	Public Watchdogs v. Southern California Edison Co.	LR	In August 2019, the public interest group "Public Watchdogs" brought suit against the licensees for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), Holtec International (Holtec), the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and others allegedly involved in negligent decommissioning activities at SONGS. It challenged, amongst others, licence amendments that the NRC issued for SONGS in 2015. The District Court for the Southern District of California dismissed the complaint for lack of jurisdiction and held that under the Administrative Orders Review Act ("The Hobbs Act"), a court of appeals had exclusive jurisdiction to hear Public Watchdogs' claims.	Federal District Court	No. 19-CV-1635 JLS (MSB), 2019 WL 6497886 (S.D. Cal. 2019) (unpublished)	NLB 106
United States	2020	Public Watchdogs v. Southern California Edison Co.	LR	In December 2020, the Court of Appeal affirmed the lower court's decision to dismiss the complaint. Under the Hobbs Act, courts of appeals have exclusive jurisdiction to review "final orders" of the NRC, which should be read broadly to include all NRC decisions that are preliminary, ancillary or incidental to licensing proceedings. As all of Public Watchdogs' claims related to NRC decisions on licensing, the claims fell under the scope of the Hobbs Act and therefore, the lower court lacked jurisdiction to hear them.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	984 F.3d 744 (9th Cir. 2020)	NLB 106

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2021	Public Watchdogs v. US NRC	LR	In September 2019, Public Watchdog challenged the NRC's denial of its petition under 10 CFR § 2.206 for an order suspending decommissioning operations at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station ("SONGS"). A decision not to institute an enforcement proceeding is presumptively unreviewable unless the NRC "consciously and expressly adopted a general policy that is so extreme as to amount to an abdication of its statutory responsibilities" or there is law providing "meaningful standards for defining the limits of [the NRC's] discretion" in declining to take enforcement action. Public Watchdogs did not overcome the presumption that the NRC's denial of the § 2.206 petition is unreviewable and the court dismissed the petition for review	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	833 F. App'x 460 (9th Cir. 2021)	NLB 106
United States	2021	Virginia Electric and Power Company (North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2)	LR	The NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board recently issued a decision denying intervention in "subsequent licence renewal" (SLR) proceedings concerning an application submitted by Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO) for a second 20-year renewal of its operating licences for 2 nuclear power reactor units at the North Anna Power Station in Virginia. Various environmental organisations filed a hearing request, contesting portions of VEPCO's SLR application on the basis that it failed to discuss the environmental significance of the 2011 Mineral, Virginia earthquake. The Board denied the request for a hearing on the grounds that the safety impact of the 2011 Mineral earthquake had already been fully assessed by VEPCO and the NRC staff by a post-incident review and a seismic probabilistic risk assessment. An appeal of this decision is currently pending before the Commission.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-21-4, 93 NRC 179 (2021)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2021	NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2)	LR	The NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board recently issued a decision denying intervention in "subsequent licence renewal" (SLR) proceedings concerning an application submitted by NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (NextEra) for a second 20-year renewal of its operating licences for two nuclear power reactor units at its Point Beach Nuclear Plant in Wisconsin. Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin filed a hearing request, seeking to admit various contentions challenging the adequacy or accuracy of safety-related and environmental information provided by NextEra in its SLR application. The Board denied their hearing finding their environmental contentions inadmissible and their safety-related contentions impermissible. An appeal of the Board's denial is pending before the Commission.	NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board	LBP-21-5, 94 NRC 1 (2021)	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2022	Ohio Nuclear-Free Network v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	Multiple organisations challenged the issuance of a licence amendment by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to American Centrifuge Operating, LLC (ACO). The amendment permitted ACO to produce high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) at a facility owned by the US Department of Energy. While the NRC was considering the licence amendment application, the organisations submitted a letter requesting that the NRC prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS) addressing non-proliferation concerns and the potential impacts the HALEU demonstration project may have on domestic uranium mining. Prior to approving the licence amendment, the NRC published an environmental assessment concluding that ACO's HALEU project would not have a significant environmental impact. The organisations challenged the NRC's decision not to prepare an EIS in the US Court of Appeals. However, the Court dismissed the petition for review because the organisations had not properly raised their concerns before the NRC prior to seeking judicial review. The Court held that because the organisations challenging the decision never sought a hearing per the agency's established procedures, they were unable to seek judicial review, and their letter submitted to NRC staff was not an adequate substitute for a hearing request.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	53 F.4th 236 (DC Cir. 2022)	NLB 110

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2022	Texas v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The state of Texas filed a petition for review arguing that the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) lacks authority under the US Atomic Energy Act to license the private storage of spent fuel nuclear fuel. The NRC moved to dismiss the case, arguing that the state of Texas cannot seek judicial review of the NRC's licensing decision because it did not first raise its claims before the Agency by seeking a hearing. The NRC further asserted that the US Atomic Energy Act confers upon it the authority to issue licences for the possession of the constituent elements of spent nuclear fuel and therefore permits it to issue licences to private parties to operate spent fuel storage facilities. The petition is still pending before the Court.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	5th Cir. No. 21-60743	NLB 110
United States	2023	Texas v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The court vacated a licence authorising the construction and operation of a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) holding that the NRC lacked authority under the US Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to issue CISF licences and the NRC's assertion of authority to license the storage of spent nuclear fuel at a location away from the reactor where it was generated is not compatible with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. The court acknowledged that its ruling contrasted with prior decisions issued by two other courts of appeals; however, the court determined these prior decisions failed to provide a proper analysis of whether the Atomic Energy Act allows for interim spent nuclear fuel storage outside of the reactor facility. The court also declared that the Commission's interpretation of its own authority to issue the CISF licence was not entitled to deference and that a clear delegation of authority is absent from the Atomic Energy Act.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	78 F.4th 827 (5th Cir. 2023)	NLB 111

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2024	Texas v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit denied a petition for rehearing en banc of the court's previous decision to vacate a licence the NRC previously issued to ISP authorising the construction and operation of an interim storage facility. The decision focused solely on whether the court had jurisdiction to hear the matter and did not discuss the court's prior holding pertaining to the NRC's authority to issue licences for the storage of spent nuclear fuel.		No. 21-60743, 2024 WL 1108700 (5th Cir., 2024)	NLB 112
United States	2024	Texas v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The US NRC sought review of the Fifth Circuit's decision to deny the petition for a rehearing of the decision to vacate a licence the NRC previously issued to ISP authorising the construction and operation of an interim storage facility. The US Solicitor General filed a petition for a *writ of certiorari* with the US Supreme Court. This petition was granted by the Supreme Court in October 2024. The two questions presented were: whether the Fifth Circuit erred in exercising jurisdiction over the challenge to the issuance of the licence and whether the Fifth Circuit erred in concluding that the NRC lacks legal authority to issue licences to temporarily store spent nuclear fuel away from the reactor site where the fuel was generated.	Supreme Court	No. 23-1300 (S. Ct. Jun. 12, 2024)	NLB 113

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2025	NRC v. Texas	LR	The NRC issued a licence authorising the construction and operation of a consolidated interim storage facility (CISF) in Texas. The US Supreme Court reversed a prior decision of the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit that granted a petition for review filed by Texas and "Fasken" (two local organisations) challenging the issuance of an NRC licence issued to ISP. In the prior decision, the Fifth Circuit vacated the ISP licence on grounds that federal law did not authorise the NRC to issue a license to store spent fuel away from where it was generated. The Court held that neither Texas nor Fasken were entitled to obtain judicial review, as neither was a "party aggrieved" because they did not intervene as a "party" in the licensing proceeding. The Supreme Court decided the case solely on procedural grounds, it did not decide the underlying legal question of whether the Commission possesses the statutory authority to issue a licence for the storage of spent fuel at a private, off-site facility.	Supreme Court	605 U.S. __ (2025), slip op.	NLB 114
United States	2023	Don't Waste Michigan v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	Multiple organisations brought a case against the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) challenging the NRC's decision to deny their contentions seeking an administrative hearing and the NRC's decision to issue a licence to Interim Storage Partners, LLC (ISP) to construct and operate a consolidated interim spent fuel storage facility. With respect to the NRC's denial of the organisations' hearing requests, the Court determined that the NRC had acted reasonably in determining that the contentions proffered by the petitioners did not raise any genuine dispute of law or fact and that the NRC had taken an adequate "hard look" at the environmental impacts of the proposed action. The Court also determined that it did not have jurisdiction to consider the organisations' separate challenges to the NRC's decision to issue the licence because their hearing requests were denied.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	DC Cir. No. 21-1048	NLB 110

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2023	Balderas v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission	LR	The state of New Mexico submitted comments on the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), to which the NRC responded in its final EIS published prior to issuing a licence to Interim Storage Partners, LLC (ISP) to construct and operate a consolidated interim spent fuel storage facility. The Court dismissed New Mexico's case holding that the state was not eligible to seek judicial review. The Court held that the state could have raised its environmental objections by submitting contentions alleging deficiencies with ISP's application, or it similarly could have raised its arguments before the Agency that the Commission lacked the authority to license the ISP facility. The Court held that by choosing only to submit comments on the EIS the state bypassed its chance to participate as a "party" in the licensing proceeding and thus could not seek judicial review of the licence. The Court further dismissed the claim of jurisdiction under Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA) because the facility is neither a federal facility nor a permanent repository.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	59 F.4th 1112 (10th Cir. 2023)	NLB 110

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2023	In the Matter of U.S. Department of Energy (Export of 93.20% Enriched Uranium)	LR	The NRC denied a request for hearing and intervention concerning an export licence application for the export of 93.20% enriched uranium. The Commission found that an institutional interest in providing information to the public was not sufficient to show an affected interest and it had not been shown how the export licence would affect any institutional or personal interests. The Commission also held that the Petitioner failed to provide any evidence of a specific risk or credible threat that would arise from the export that would demonstrate an affected interest. Further, the Commission determined that the Petitioner failed to adequately specify what new information would be provided at a hearing and had failed to adequately explain how a hearing would add clarity to the assertions made in the petition. The Commission referred the petition to the NRC's Office of International Programs for the NRC staff to address as a public comment on the export licence application.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-23-02, 98 NRC (2023) (slip op. at 2)	NLB 111

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2024	San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace v. US NRC	LR	PG&E initially applied to renew the licences for two units for an additional 20 years of operation, but withdrew their application based on energy demand and planned to retire the reactors. The state of California reversed this decision through legislation and directed PG&E to extend operation beyond the expiration of the licences. PG&E submitted a request to the NRC to either resume review of the licence renewal application or grant an exemption from the NRC's "timely renewal" rule (application at least five years before expiration). The NRC granted this request and concluded that granting the exemption would not create any undue risk to public health and safety and that California's legislative reversal of the decision to retire Diablo Canyon due to climate change impacts and serious electricity reliability challenges constituted "special circumstances" justifying an exemption. Multiple organisations representing members living in the vicinity of Diablo Canyon filed a consolidated challenge to the NRC's exemption decision in the Ninth Circuit, arguing that the NRC's decision was inconsistent with the AEA and NEPA and that the decision to grant the exemption was not supported. The Ninth Circuit rejected these arguments and found that the NRC's granting of a timely renewal exemption was lawful and did not itself constitute a renewal of the licence. PG&E submitted its application to renew both licences in November 2023 and in April 2024, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a decision upholding the legality of the "timely renewal" exemption.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	100 F.4th 1039 (9th Cir. 2024)	NLB 113
RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (RWM)							

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Australia	2020	Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC v District Council of Kimba (No 2)	RWM	The Federal Court of Australia dismissed the appeal by Claimants regarding their eligibility to vote in a local ballot on land being considered as a potential national radioactive waste management facility site. The claim was based on the issue of native title, which recognises that Aboriginal people have rights and interests to particular land that come from their traditional laws and customs and can co-exist with non-Aboriginal proprietary rights. The Claimants hold native title to particular land in the local government but reside outside the boundaries of the local government; they argued they had the right to vote based on their native title. It is important to note that native title for the nominated land is not recognised.	Federal Court of Australia	[2020] FCAFC 39	NLB 104
France	2012	EDF v. Roozen France and Scté des Serres	RWM	A Saint Vulbas regulation on local development planning prohibits "land uses and occupations not connected with or necessary to the activity of the nuclear power station". The Prefect of Ain issued EDF a licence for the construction of a packaging and storage facility for radioactive waste (ICEDA – Installation de Conditionnement et d'Entreposage de Déchets Activés) on land in the Saint-Vulbas municipality, which is already home to the Bugey NPP. The court found that ICEDA could not be regarded as only necessary to the activity of the Bugey NPP as its purpose is the conditioning and storage of nuclear waste resulting from the decommissioning of the Bugey NPP reactor 1 as well as radioactive waste from other reactors at plants in the process of being dismantled.	Administrative Court of Appeal of Lyon	Judgments Nos. 12LY00233 and 12LY00290	NLB 90
France	2014	EDF v. Roozen France and Scté des Serres	RWM	The Conseil found that the ICEDA facility must be regarded as connected with and necessary to the activity of the Bugey NPP, although it will also be used, even if in a significant way, for the conditioning and storage of waste originating from other facilities. Therefore, the Conseil overturned the Court of Appeals ruling confirming the annulment of the construction licence for the ICEDA facility and referred the case back to the Court of Appeals.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 362001)	NLB 94

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
France	2014	EDF v. Republic and Canton of Geneva and City of Geneva	RWM	The French Environmental Code provides that decrees authorising the construction of the ICEDA (radioactive waste conditioning and storage facility) can be challenged by third parties in particular due to the dangers that the operation of the INB may cause to the environment and to human health but here, the Conseil declared that the petitioners have not demonstrated a direct and certain interest to seek an annulment of the decree authorising the construction of the ICEDA facility taking into account its activity, its characteristics and their distance from the site.	Conseil d'État (State Council)	Decision (Request No. 358882)	NLB 94
France	2018	Greenpeace France v. ORANO CYCLE	RWM	The Court dismissed Greenpeace's France's request for summary judgment to view the contracts between the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) and ORANO CYCLE regarding a trade agreement on the reprocessing of spent fuel from an ANSTO research reactor. The Court dismissed Greenpeace's claims, specifying that although Article L. 542-2 of the French Environmental Code prohibits the disposal of radioactive waste originating from a foreign country, it is possible to introduce and store waste and spent fuel originating from a foreign country for treatment or reprocessing if certain requirements are met.	Cherbourg High Court	No. 18-00061	NLB 102
Poland	2015	Local referendum in the Commune of Różan regarding a new radioactive waste repository	RWM	Masovian Voivod annulled a resolution adopted by the Municipal Council to hold a local referendum regarding siting a new radioactive waste repository for both procedural and substantive objections. The Voivod concluded that a local referendum is not a tool to prohibit the siting of a specific type of construction investment on the commune territory because the municipal council has exclusive competence on this field.	Masovian Voivod (Governor)	Judgment of 3 July 2015	NLB 96

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Poland	2015	Local referendum in the Commune of Różan regarding a new radioactive waste repository	RWM	Masovian Voivod annulled a second resolution by the Municipal Council to hold an identical referendum regarding the siting of a new radioactive waste repository in the commune of Różan. The Municipal Council appealed this decision to the relevant voivodship administrative court.	Masovian Voivod (Governor)	Judgment of 28 December 2015	NLB 97
United States	2008	Carolina Power & Light Co. v. US	RWM	The plaintiffs Carolina Power & Light Company and Florida Power Corporation (collectively "Progress Energy") claimed damages of approximately USD 91m from the US Department of Energy (DOE), under the terms of DOE's Standard Contract for Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and/or High Level Waste (Standard Contract). DOE's liability was previously established and the amount of damages was the sole issue in this case. The Court considered Progress Energy's claimed damages and the DOE's counterclaims, rendering a final judgment for Progress Energy in the amount of approximately USD 83m.	Court of Federal Claims	82 Fed. Cl. 23 (Ct. Cl. 2008)	NLB 82
United States	2009	EnergySolutions, LLC v. Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management, Michael Garner, the State of Utah, and the Rocky Mountain Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact	RWM	In 2007, a company operating a private LLW disposal facility in Utah ("EnergySolutions") applied to the NRC for a licence to import LLW from Italy. The Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management ("NW Compact", which includes Utah) passed a 2008 Resolution prohibiting EnergySolutions from importing foreign LLW for disposal at the Utah site. EnergySolutions then sued the NW Compact. The Court ruled that Congress did not grant the NW Compact any authority over non-Compact LLW disposed in private facilities. Interstate compacts cannot regulate or otherwise burden interstate commerce in the absence of unambiguous, explicit consent from Congress. The NW Compact and Utah appealed the decision.	Federal District Court	No. 2:08-CV-352 TS (D. Utah 2009)	NLB 84

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2010	EnergySolutions, LLC v. State of Utah	RWM	The issue in this case is whether the Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste allows its member states to exclude LLRW from disposal at a Utah site. EnergySolutions is the owner and operator of a facility for the disposal of LLRW located in Clive, Utah. Utah is a member state of the NorthwestCompact, and required EnergySolutions to obtain permission pursuant to the Compact for the importation and disposal of LLRW from a decommissioned reactor in Italy. The member states, including Utah, voted to deny this approval, based on exclusionary authority it claimed through the federal statute approving the terms of the Compact. EnergySolutions contends the Clive Facility should not be subject to the authority of the Northwest Compact. It claims the Compact has limited authority only over regional disposal facilities, which does not include the Clive Facility. The district court concluded the Northwest Compact does not regulate the disposal of waste at the Clive Facility. The 10th Cir. Disagreed, holding that the terms of the Compact control in this situation, and the member states were within the bounds of their authority when they denied permission regarding this waste. Case reversed and remanded.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	625 F.3d 1261 (10th Cir. 2010)	n/a
United States	2011	In re: Aiken County	RWM	Petitioners challenged the Department of Energy's (DOE) attempt to withdraw its application for a licence to construct a repository for high level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain. Petitioners also challenged the DOE's apparent decision to abandon development of the repository. Court determined that petitioners' claims were not ripe.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	645 F.3d 428 (DC Cir. 2011)	NLB 88

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2013	In re: Aiken County	RWM	Petitioners asked for a writ of mandamus in 2011 ordering the NRC to resume the licensing process for a nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. At the time the Court held the case in abeyance for Congress to clarify the issue. In 2013, with neither Congress nor the NRC having acted to change the status quo, the DC Circuit granted the petition, reasoning that NRC's inaction had gone on too long in spite of explicit direction from the court and, therefore, that the circumstances merited mandamus. The Court held that the NRC must continue the licensing process so long as funds remain and that the NRC may not rely on communication from the President or members of Congress to violate its statutory obligations.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	725 F.3d 255 (DC Cir. 2013)	NLB 92
United States	2013	US Department of Energy (High-Level Waste Repository)	RWM	Commission issued an order setting forth an incremental course of action for resumption of the Yucca Mountain licensing process consistent with the Circuit Court's decision and the resources available to the NRC. This order instructed the NRC staff to complete the remaining volumes of the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and requested that the Department of Energy complete the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) supplement for consideration and potential adoption by the NRC staff. The Commission declined to resume the contested adjudication.	Commission of the US NRC	CLI-13-08, 78 NRC 219 (2013)	NLB 93

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2018	Texas v. United States	RWM	The petitioner sought relief under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act claiming the DOE's intention of consent-based siting was a violation of the Act and holding the NRC proceedings on Yucca Mountain in abeyance was also a violation of the Act and the Court's decision in In re Aiken County. As a majority of the petitioner's claims fell outside the 180-day limitation period prescribed in 42 USC Sec. 10139(a)(1) the Court addressed this issue and held that the limitation period was not jurisdictional. The Court also held that the petitioner lacked any basis to challenge the discrete actions that were not time-barred as they were of "no legal consequence" and did not constitute a final decision or action subject to challenge under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. The Court dismissed all of the petitioner's claims, concluding that they did not meet the statutory requirements of timeliness or finality.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	891 F.3d 553 (5th Cir. 2018)	NLB 101

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION (RP)							
France	2011	Association française des maladies de la thyroïde and CRIIRAD v. Pierre X.	RP	Following the Chernobyl accident, a complaint for "involuntary grievous bodily harm" was filed alleging that authorities had minimised the significance of radioactive pollution in France and that they were therefore responsible for an increase of thyroid-related illnesses since 1986. The trial judge found that the elements of "involuntary grievous bodily harm" were not satisfied but she charged the former Director of the Central Department for Protection against Ionising Radiation (SCPRI) with "aggravated deceit". The Court of Appeals dismissed the case against the SCPRI Director as it was not demonstrated that he had in bad faith given wrong, inexact or substantially inaccurate information, failed to provide appropriate controls of foodstuffs tainted by radioactivity or failed to take precautions after the Chernobyl accident, and that, as a result, the elements of deceit or other crimes are not satisfied.	Court of Appeal of Paris	Investigation Chamber, CA Paris 4° section, 7.09.11 (rejet)	NLB 88
France	2012	Association française des maladies de la thyroïde and CRIIRAD v. Pierre X.	RP	Court confirmed the Court of Appeal's judgment dismissing the charge of "aggravated deceit" against the former Director of the Central Department for Protection against Ionising Radiation because the causal link was not proven with certainty and bad faith was not demonstrated.	Court of Cassation, Criminal Chamber	Decision No. 11-87531	NLB 91
France	2012	Radioactive effluent of Golfesh, Fédération Réseau Sortir du Nucléaire and others v. EDF	RP	In 2010, a significant amount of radioactive effluents from an NPP operated by EDF was accidentally released into the environment following a series of technical faults. Dismisses charges against EDF relating to the absence of environmental protection training for staff, insufficient volume of fluid retention in case of accident and insufficient volume of the sump pit. Finds EDF guilty for the absence of an alarm system appropriate to the risk and for non-compliant storage and disposal of liquids.	Court of Appeal of Toulouse	Judgment No. 1200867	NLB 91

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Greenland	2011	Heinz Helmuth Eriksen, Bent Hansen and Brigit Lind v. European Commission	RP	Court dismissed three appeals from Danish workers involved in clean-up activities of nuclear pollution after a US military plane carrying nuclear materials crashed in Greenland in 1968 and caused widespread pollution. The Plaintiffs argued that their subsequent illnesses (or death) were a result of their involvement in this incident, which entitled them to damages. The Plaintiffs sued the European Commission for the Commission's failure to adopt measures against Denmark. The Court found that there was no unlawful conduct by the Commission for not adopting measures against Denmark to comply with the 1996 Basic Safety Standards and that the Commission's only possibility to act was to bring an infringement procedure against a member state, but this is a discretionary power.	Court of Justice of the European Union (5th Chamber)	ECLI:EU:C:2011:10	NLB 88
Poland	2013	Petition submitted by the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights on the constitutionality of provision of the Regulation of the Minister of Health of 18 Feb. 2011	RP	Tribunal stated that by issuing a regulation implementing a EURATOM Directive that determines the conditions for safe use of ionising radiation for all types of medical exposure and the qualifications required from medical physicians to control radiological equipment, the Minister of Health exceeded its competences provided by the Polish Constitution. Moreover, requirement for medical physician to obtain a relevant certificate is not a limitation of the freedom of occupation as it is beneficial to them.	Constitutional Tribunal	Judgment of 30 July 2013 (Ref. No. U 5/12)	NLB 96

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United Kingdom	2007	Decision of the Wick Sheriff Court Fining UKAEA for Plutonium Exposure	RP	The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) pled guilty to breaching various sections of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 after two workers at the Dounreay nuclear plant were exposed to radioactive plutonium whilst carrying out work related to the storage of lead bricks and their disposal as intermediate level waste. A GBP 15 000 fine was issued and the UKAEA has since implemented improvements required by the nuclear installations inspectorate.	Wick Sheriff Court	[Unknown]	NLB 80
United Kingdom	2007	Commission of the European Communities v. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	RP	The European Court of Justice (ECJ) held that the United Kingdom failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 53 of Council Directive 96/29/Euratom. Article 53 of the Directive obliges Member States to bring into force laws, regulations and administrative decisions to ensure that "where Member States have identified a situation leading to lasting exposure resulting from the after-effects of a radiological emergency or a post practice", specific measures are to be taken. However, the UK has only imposed an obligation to intervene if a situation of radioactive contamination results from a present or past activity for which a licence was granted. The UK Government admitted the validity of the Commission's claims and stated that transposition of the article into national legislation is in process.	Court of Justice of the European Union (3rd Chamber)	Case C-127/05; ECLI:EU:C:2007:338	NLB 81
LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION (LC)							

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
India	2015	Yash Thomas Mannully and another v. Union of India and others	LC	The constitutional validity of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 (CNLD Act, 2010) was upheld. It does not interfere with the Indian Constitution's guarantee of the right to life of the citizens under Article 21. Further, the court held that there is no reason to doubt the independence of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB); since the AERB operates according to internationally accepted standards and codes, the Board can prescribe its own methodology for deciding the existence of nuclear damage; the CLND Act provides sufficient flexibility to raise claims and that there is no error in the provision since the "law of limitation" is well-accepted; and constituting a Special Tribunal is not arbitrary.	High Court of Kerala	W.P.(C). No. 27960 of 2011, 422 KLW 240 (21 August 2015)	NLB 96
Japan	2017	Petition filed by citizens from Fukushima v. Government of Japan and TEPCO	LC	The Court acknowledged that both the government and the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) were liable for the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident. The Court determined that the government not only failed to account for a tsunami but also failed to exercise its regulatory authority over TEPCO, considering this to be irrational and illegal. The government and TEPCO were ordered to pay equal compensation for damages.	Maebashi District Court	2013 (Heisei 25) (ワ) No.478 2014 (Heisei 26) (ワ) No.111, No.466 (Judgment of the Maebashi District Court of 17 Mar. 2017 Shoumu Geppou Vol. 64, No. 4, p. 481)	NLB 100
Japan	2017	Petition filed by citizens from Fukushima v. Government of Japan and TEPCO	LC	The Court rejected the claim that the government should be held liable for failure to exercise regulatory authority over the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), but found liability on the part of TEPCO for the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident. While recognising that the government did not take preventative measures against tsunamis, the Court found that the government was not irrational in prioritising preventative measures against earthquakes.	Chiba District Court	2013 (Heisei 25) (ワ) No.515, No.1476, No.1477 (Judgment of the Chiba District Court of 22 Sept. 2017 Shouhishahou News Vol. 114, p. 224)	NLB 100

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2017	Petition filed by citizens from Fukushima v. Government of Japan and TEPCO	LC	The Court recognised that both the government and the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) were liable for the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident. The Court determined that the government could foresee the tsunami and failed to exercise effective regulatory authority over TEPCO. The failure to take preventive measures was found to be irrational and illegal. The government and TEPCO were ordered to pay equal compensation for damages as both parties were found at fault.	Fukushima District Court	2013 (Heisei 25) (ワ) No. 38, No.94, No.175 2014 (Heisei 26) (ワ) No. 14, No.165, No.166 (Judgment of the Fukushima District Court of 10 Oct. 2017, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2256, p. 3)	NLB 100
Japan	2019	Petition filed by citizens from Fukushima v. Government of Japan and TEPCO	LC	Plaintiffs filed a lawsuit seeking a total of JPY 1.44 billion in damages against the government of Japan and TEPCO. The Court allowed the claim against TEPCO but denied Government responsibility, which both parties appealed. The decision was rendered on the following points: whether the Government had regulatory authority; whether the tsunami was foreseeable; and whether the accident could have been prevented had regulatory authority been exercised. The Court found that the Government did have the regulatory authority to order TEPCO to enact protective measures. However, the level of foreseeability of the tsunami was low and, even if regulatory authority had been exercised, the protective measures advocated by the Plaintiffs likely would have been incomplete at the time of the Fukushima accident. The Court found that the government did not act unreasonably by failing to order the adoption of protective measures and therefore liability cannot be established under the State Redress Act.	Nagoya District Court	2013 (Heisei 25) (ワ) No.2710, No.5612 2014 (Heisei 26) (ワ) No.884 2016 (Heisei 28) (ワ) No.612, No.5238 (Judgment of the Nagoya District Court of 2 Aug. 2019, Shoumu Geppou Vol. 67, No. 1, p. 1)	NLB 103

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Japan	2020	Petition filed by citizens from Fukushima and nearby prefectures v. Government of Japan and TEPCO	LC	The Court reviewed a class action lawsuit in which the plaintiffs sought compensation for damages from both the State and TEPCO after being forced to evacuate their homes due to the Fukushima nuclear accident. Basing its judgment on Supreme Court precedents, the Court acknowledged the State's responsibility by following the conventional framework that dictates whether a claim for compensation is justified or not based on the State's non-intervention. The Court found both the State and TEPCO equally liable and ordered compensation of approximately JPY 1.01 billion. This marks the first time the appellate court explicitly ruled the illegality of the State in a compensation lawsuit over the Fukushima accident. In response to this judgment, TEPCO and the State appealed to the Supreme Court.	Sendai High Court	2017 (Heisei 29) (ネ) No.373 2020 (Reiwa 2) (ネ) No. 56, No.62 (Judgment of the Sendai High Court of 30 Sept. 2020, Hanrei Jihou Vol. 2484, p. 185)	NLB 106

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2007	Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Massachusetts General Hospital v. US	LC	The US Court of Federal Claims vacated a 2002 decision in which it held that under the Price-Anderson Act (PAA), plaintiffs were entitled to recovery of legal fees and costs incurred in defending a private tort suit concerning the medical misuse of nuclear technology. The original private tort case, *Heinrich v. Sweet*, dealt with alleged medical misuse of an NRC-licensed research reactor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). In a following suit, *Sweet, Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Massachusetts General Hospital v. United States,* the plaintiffs sought reimbursement for legal fees and costs they incurred in defending the *Heinrich* lawsuit, invoking a 1959 PAA indemnity agreement between MIT and the Atomic Energy Commission. The Federal Claims Court rejected the government's threshold argument that the PAA does not cover medical malpractice claims and held that the plaintiffs were entitled to indemnification of litigation costs. Subsequently, on a motion by the government, the Federal Claims Court vacated its original liability ruling as moot, noting that "a determination regarding the proper scope of the indemnity provisions of the Price-Anderson Act should await another case in which the litigation triggering the act's indemnity provisions squarely address the parties' liability under that act."	Court of Federal Claims	75 Fed. Cl. 129 (2007)	NLB 80

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2012	Cook v. Rockwell International Corp.	LC	Plaintiffs alleged a public liability action under the Price-Anderson Act (PAA) for trespass and nuisance claims against the former operators of the Rocky Flats Plant. Plaintiffs' claimed they suffered property damage, in the form of diminished value, caused by the release of plutonium from the Plant resulting in contamination of their property. Federal District Court ruled in Plaintiffs' favour, granting compensatory and punitive damages in an amount totalling over USD 926 million. On appeal, the Court of Appeals held that the District Court erred in its application of the PAA and its interpretation of State law, and that to establish the occurrence of a nuclear incident, a plaintiff must show – and not merely assert – they have experienced one of the injuries enumerated in the definition of nuclear incident. The Supreme Court denied a petition for review.	Supreme Court	618 F.3d 1127 (10th Cir. 2010); cert denied, 2012 WL 2368857 (25 June 2012)	NLB 90
United States	2013	Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company	LC	Dismisses lawsuit brought by US military personnel against TEPCO because the complaint as originally filed was barred as non-justiciable under the political question doctrine. The Court allowed the plaintiffs to file an amended complaint.	Federal District Court	990 F. Supp. 2d 1035 (S.D. Cal. 2013)	NLB 93
United States	2017	Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company	LC	The Court held that the provision in Article XIII of the Convention of Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage for exclusive jurisdiction in the courts of the accident country did not strip US courts of jurisdiction over claims arising out of nuclear incidents that occurred prior to the CSC's entry into force. Also held that District Court did not abuse its discretion when it did not dismiss the lawsuit on grounds *of forum non conveniens* or international comity, even though it recognised that Japanese courts would provide an adequate alternative forum and that millions of Fukushima claims then had been resolved in Japan with payments more than USD 58 billion.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	860 F.3d 1193 (9th Cir. 2017)	NLB 99

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2019	Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company	LC	The District Court in San Diego dismissed the Cooper lawsuits on various grounds, notably that Japanese law should apply. Plaintiffs appealed the Court's order to the US Court of Appeals for Ninth Circuit.	Federal District Court	[Unknown]	NLB 102
United States	2020	Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company	LC	The US Court of Appeals for Ninth Circuit affirmed the decision of the US District Court dismissing the case on grounds of international comity and the applicability of Japanese law's channelling provision. The Court held that the District Court correctly found Japanese law applies to the case and did not abuse its discretion when it dismissed the claims against TEPCO on international comity grounds. The Court also held that Japan's interests would be more impaired than California's if its law were not applied and dismissed the claims against GE with prejudice. The Court did not address other grounds for appeal, including *forum non conveniens* or the applicability of the CSC. The appellants filed a Petition for Rehearing and Rehearing-En-Banc of the decision.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	960 F.3d 549 (9th Cir. 2020)	NLB 104
United States	2021	Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. and General Electric Company	LC	The plaintiffs filed a *certiorari* petition seeking to overturn the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision which upheld the dismissal of the lawsuit on grounds of choice of law for General Electric and international comity for TEPCO. The Supreme Court denied the petition without comment.	Supreme Court	No. 20-730, 2021 WL 1163742 (29 Mar. 2021)	NLB 106

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2019	Imamura v. General Electric Company	LC	The plaintiffs brought a claim before the US District Court against General Electric (GE) and others seeking monetary and punitive damages on counts of negligence, strict liability and violations of various articles of the Civil Code of Japan. GE moved to dismiss the Imamura lawsuit with prejudice, based on lack of subject matter jurisdiction, *forum non conveniens* and failure to state a claim. The defendants argued that the exclusive jurisdiction of Article XIII of the CSC should apply. Their argument also referenced court decisions in similar lawsuits, including the decision to dismiss the Cooper and Bartel II lawsuits and the Japanese Supreme Court's decision upholding the constitutionality of the channelling of liability to the operator. The District Court dismissed the Imamura lawsuit only on the grounds of *forum non conveniens*.	Federal District Court	371 F. Supp. 3d 1 (D. Mass. 2019)	NLB 102
United States	2020	Imamura v. General Electric Company	LC	The US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit affirmed the decision of dismissal by the US District Court on the grounds of *forum non conveniens*. The First Circuit's decision was limited to the issue of *forum non conveniens* and they held the District Court did not abuse its discretion in finding Japan an adequate alternative forum. However, the First Circuit noted that though the District Court assumed arguendo that it had jurisdiction to hear the case despite the exclusive jurisdiction provision of the CSC, they decided to leave the issue "for another day" because they agreed with the *forum non conveniens* ruling. The First Circuit further said it saw no abuse of discretion in this determination and concluded that even if plaintiffs are allowed to litigate in Massachusetts, Japanese law would likely apply through choice of law rules. The plaintiffs did not seek review by the US Supreme Court.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	957 F.3d 98 (1st Cir. 2020)	NLB 104 NLB 106

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2019	Bartel v. Tokyo Electric Power Company	LC	Counsel for the Cooper plaintiffs filed another lawsuit, Bartel v. TEPCO, that they sought to have consolidated with the existing action. The new action was dismissed on jurisdictional grounds, with the Court holding that there was no specific personal jurisdiction and no subject matter jurisdiction over TEPCO and General Electric, respectively. Rather than filing an amended complaint or appealing the dismissed action ("Bartel I"), counsel for the plaintiffs filed another action in San Diego ("Bartel II"). The District Court in San Diego dismissed the case on various grounds, notably that Japanese law should apply. This decision was appealed to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.	Federal District Court	371 F. Supp. 3d 769 (S.D. Cal. 2019)	NLB 102
United States	2018	Holland v. Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. and General Electric Company	LC	The Cooper plaintiffs filed a separate lawsuit in the US District Court for the District of Columbia. The Court issued an order continuing its stay of this lawsuit until resolution of appellate proceedings for Cooper and Bartel II, with a joint status report due 14 days after the appellate resolution.	Federal District Court	Case No. 18cv000573 (D.DC 2017)	NLB 102
United States	2021	Holland v. Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. and General Electric Company	LC	Following the March 2021 rejection by the US Supreme Court of the *certiorari* petition filed by the plaintiffs in the Cooper case, the Parties in the present case agreed to dismissals without prejudice.	Federal District Court	Case No. 18cv000573 (D.DC 2021)	NLB 106
United States	2018	Park v. Tokyo Electric Power Company and General Electric Company	LC	A lawsuit was filed in the Southern District of California on behalf of four US civilians working in Japan at the time of the Fukushima NPP accident. The Court issued an order staying the proceedings until the conclusion of the appellate proceedings in Cooper v. Tokyo Electric Power Company, Inc. and General Electric Company and Bartel v. Tokyo Electric Power Company.	Federal District Court	Case No. 18cv2121 (S.D. Cal. 2018)	NLB 102
United States	2021	Park v. Tokyo Electric Power Company and General Electric Company	LC	Following the March 2021 rejection by the US Supreme Court of the *certiorari* petition filed by the plaintiffs in the Cooper case, the Parties in the present case agreed to dismissals without prejudice.	Federal District Court	Case No. 18cv2121 (S.D. Cal. 2021)	NLB 106

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
NUCLEAR TRADE AND NON-PROLIFERATION (TR)							
Canada	2010	Her Majesty the Queen v. Yadegari	TR	Canadian citizen found guilty of attempted export of pressure transducers to Iran. The possession of pressure transducers in Canada does not in itself require a licence or permit, but because they could be used in enrichment processes they are considered nuclear-related dual-use items and thereby subject to regulatory control for the purposes of import and export. Their export requires a permit under Canada's Export Control List as well as a licence issued by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA) and regulations. In addition to being convicted of failing to comply with the regulatory requirements to obtain an export permit and to obtain an NSCA export licence, the defendant was convicted of seeking to sell products to someone in Iran, prohibited by Canadian law implementing UN Security Council Resolutions on Iran.	Ontario Court of Justice	R. v. Yadegari, 2011 ONCA 287	NLB 86
Canada	2011	Her Majesty the Queen v. Yadegari	TR	On appeal from the 2010 Ontario Court of Justice conviction, the Appeals Court was satisfied that the link to Iran had been well-established in the evidence before the trial judge, making the conviction under the UN Act reasonable. The Appeals Court slightly reduced the sentence for the UN offence, in recognition of an error by the trial judge in finding that the transducers were to be used for a nuclear-related purpose. Of note, the decision reflects the Appeal Court's interpretation of the Nuclear Suppliers' Group Guidelines, as they have been incorporated into Canadian law.	Ontario Court of Appeal	2011 ONCA 287	NLB 88

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2009	United States v. Eurodif S.A.	TR	The petitioner and its subsidiary sought to uphold a ruling by the US Department of Commerce that separative work unit (SWU) contracts for uranium enrichment are contracts for the sale of goods, not services, and therefore subject to anti-dumping tariffs assessed by the Commerce Dept. under Section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930. Applying the general rules of statutory construction, the Court upheld the Commerce Dept.'s interpretation and its assessment of an anti-dumping tariff. The Court held that form should be disregarded for substance and "economic reality", stating that the true nature of the transaction should govern rather than its contractual label.	Supreme Court	555 US 305 (2009)	NLB 83
GENERAL LITIGATION (GEN)							
Belgium	2010	Constitutionality of the 2008 Programme Act	GEN	Court found that the nuclear taxes imposed by Belgium on nuclear operators and shareholders of Belgian NPPs in 2008 are lawful. The Court found that there is no unreasonable difference in treatment between them and the producers of non-nuclear generated electricity and other players in the Belgian electricity market, such as electricity importers, transporters, distributors and suppliers.	Constitutional Court	Decision No. 32/2010	NLB 85

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	1987	Sevidal et al. v. Chopra et al. (H.C.J.)	GEN	Plaintiffs brought an action against the vendors, the real estate agent and the Atomic Energy and Control Board (AECB) over a breach of duty of care in purchasing a property. The Plaintiffs bought a piece of property from the vendors and the real estate agent who failed to disclose the presence of contaminated soil at the property. Further the AECB disclosed the presence of contaminated soil to the vendors, but not the Plaintiffs. The Court found that the AECB assumed responsibility for disseminating information about radioactivity and employed an officer to carry out part of that task. It failed to exercise the standard of care required in the circumstances, and the AECB staff member's information had constituted negligent misrepresentations. The Court found that the AECB, through its employees, owed a duty of care to the Plaintiffs and had been negligent in the performance of that duty. The Court held that all the defendants were liable. Further, the Court also denied the AECB's claim for indemnity.	Ontario (High Court of Justice)	[1987] O.J. No. 732	n/a
Canada	1994	Energy Probe v. Canada (Attorney General)	GEN	Plaintiff brought a claim against the government of Canada over the legality of the Canadian Nuclear Liability Act (NLA). They claimed that certain provisions of the NLA are beyond the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada and the NLA infringes the constitutional rights of Canadians by providing for a lower degree of nuclear safety. The Court held that the Canadian Parliament has legislative competence over the development, application and use of nuclear energy, using its federal power to legislate for the peace, order, and good government of Canada under section 91 of the Constitution Act. Further, the Court rejected the claim that a liability scheme made operators act less safely, as the Plaintiffs failed to show on a balance of probabilities that nuclear reactors are less safe because of the NLA. Their action was dismissed.	Ontario Court (General Division)	[1994] O.J. No. 553	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	2008	Brunswick News Inc. v. Her Majesty the Queen	GEN	The plaintiff applied to the New Brunswick Minister of Energy under the provincial Right to Information Act for copies of two feasibility studies concerning the construction of a second nuclear power reactor at Point Lepreau, New Brunswick. The Minister provided a copy of one study but refused access to the other study in its entirety based on certain provisions of the Act. In addition to the grounds provided by the Minister, Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL) claimed the study was legally protected by the Act's confidentiality provision, para. 6(a). The Court concluded that the study in its entirety was not subject to release on the basis of the confidentiality provision. To note, a new provision was added to the federal Access to Information Act (ATIA) to provide a general exclusion from the provisions of the legislation with respect to records containing information under the control of AECL, and the Canadian Parliament has expressed an intention to exclude records from the ATIA such as the ones considered in this case. However, it is too early to determine the extent to which such a provision may be interpreted by Canadian courts in the future.	New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench	2008 NBQB 299, [2008] N.B.J. No. 329	NLB 82
Canada	2009	Linda Keen v. Attorney General of Canada	GEN	Ms. Keen, the former President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), submitted an application for judicial review challenging the legality of the Order in Council that removed her as CNSC President. The Court dismissed the application, finding that the decision had been lawful as the minimum procedural fairness obligations that were required in order to remove an "at pleasure" appointee had been observed. The Court's decision also confirms that removal of a designation as President does not silence the decision-making voice of a Commission member.	Federal Court of Canada	2009 FC 353	NLB 83

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	2009	Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd (AECL) v. AREVA NP Canada Ltd	GEN	Court dismissed the major aspects of a claim that was brought by AECL against AREVA alleging violation of its intellectual property rights (trademark infringement, passing off and copyright infringement), considering that the sophistication of the industry and the lengthy and detailed procurement processes would make any chance of "subtle influence on consumer behaviour" effectively impossible.	Federal Court	2009 FC 980	NLB 85
Canada	2009	R v. Bruce Power Inc.	GEN	The Court found that when the Crown prosecutor comes into possession of a defendant's document that is protected by solicitor-client privilege and litigation privilege, it will be presumed that prejudice will be caused by use of the document. Although this is a rebuttable presumption, here, the presumption had not been rebutted. The Court held that the purpose of the internal investigation was to prepare a strategy for litigation in contemplation of charges and underlined that it is abusive to seek to use such information against a person, the sanctioning of which could be seen to erode the notion of solicitor-client privilege that is fundamental to the Canadian justice system. The court was satisfied that the appropriate remedy in this matter was a stay of the charges laid against Bruce Power.	Ontario Court of Appeal	2009 ONCA 573	NLB 84

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Canada	2021	Regan Dow v. Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission	GEN	The Federal Court of Appeal (FCA) of Canada upheld the ruling of the lower courts that the CNSC is not empowered to adjudicate disputes between private parties or grant remedies to those who submit external complaints. The complainant alleged their former employer had taken disciplinary action against them for giving information to the CNSC. The CNSC investigated the complaints and failed to find an evidentiary basis to substantiate the claims or to ground the prosecution of a regulatory offence under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (NSCA). The complainant applied to the Federal Court for judicial review. The Court dismissed the application for judicial review, finding that the complainant lacked standing because they were not directly affected by the decision. The Court also determined that the disposition of the complaint does not deprive the complainant of a legal remedy to which they might otherwise have had recourse. The complainant appealed the decision to the FCA. In upholding the lower court's decision, the FCA confirmed the CNSC's and the lower court's understanding of the NSCA and its offence provision in paragraph 48(g). The FCA ruled that while the offence provision is meant to prevent and punish a licensee for taking action against any would-be whistleblower and discourage retaliation, it is not a true whistleblower protection provision as the NSCA provides no remedial powers relevant to the whistleblower.	Federal Court of Appeal	2021 FCA 117	NLB 107

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
Spain	2020	Ascó Vandellós Nuclear Association (ANAV) et al. v. Single Investigating Court of Gandesa	GEN	The Appellants (Ascó Vandellós Nuclear Association [ANAV] and three former directors of the Ascó Nuclear Power Plant) appealed the order of the Single Investigating Court of Gandesa to initiate the abbreviated procedure (a special criminal procedure to expedite the investigation, prosecution and verdict of certain crimes to try offences that carry a punishment of up to nine years in prison or other noncustodial sentences). The Appellants challenged the absence of rational evidence of criminality justifying their indictment as perpetrators of a crime under the Criminal Code, since it has not been established that the exposure to ionising radiation resulting from an operational incident at the Ascó plant constituted a serious danger to human life or health or the environment. The Court found that a report by the Nuclear Safety Council failed to find sufficient evidence of danger to life, integrity or health to warrant the criminal charges brought against the Appellants and therefore does not sufficiently justify the prosecution for the criminal offences established in the order, nor does it adequately establish why it considers the facts as described to constitute criminal offences. The Court granted the appeal, revoked the order and archived the case.	Provincial Court of Tarragona	Resolution No. 226/2020; ECLI:ES:APT:2020:1411A	n/a

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United Kingdom	2018	Republic of Austria v. European Commission	GEN	Austria challenged a 2014 decision by the European Commission declaring state aid compatible with measures to support Hinkley Point C nuclear power station on the grounds that supporting nuclear energy was not an objective of common interest because of conflicts with environmental objectives or principles. Austria also challenged the necessity and proportionality of the decision. In 2018, the General Court dismissed Austria's claims on the basis that the measures to support Hinkley Point C were necessary to fulfil the objective of public interest of promotion of nuclear energy set out in the Euratom Treaty.	The General Court (Fifth Chamber)	Case T-356/15; ECLI:EU:T:2018:439	NLB 105
United Kingdom	2020	Republic of Austria v. European Commission	GEN	The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) rejected Austria's appeal of the decision of the General Court, affirming the judgment and the Commission decision. The CJEU stated that the Commission correctly identified the development of nuclear energy production as an economic activity and confirmed that the aid measures adopted by the United Kingdom were proportionate. In line with the reasoning of the Advocate General (ECLI:EU:C:2020:352), the CJEU established that the compatibility of state aid pursuant to the TFEU does not depend on the pursuit of an objective of common interest. The Court also held that state aid for an economic activity falling within the nuclear energy sector cannot be declared compatible with the internal market when it is shown to contravene EU environmental law. Finally, the Court acknowledged that a member state is free to determine the conditions for exploiting its energy resources, its choice between different energy sources and the general structure of its energy supply.	Court of Justice of the European Union (Grand Chamber)	Case C-594/18 P; ECLI:EU:C:2020:742	NLB 105

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2012	Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC v. Shumlin	GEN	Court granted a permanent injunction against the enforcement of two state laws based on its finding that these laws were primarily motivated by radiological safety concerns and therefore pre-empted by the Atomic Energy Act (AEA). As the US Supreme Court had previously ruled, the AEA vests exclusive jurisdiction over the radiological health and safety of an NPP in the NRC and States are pre-empted under the US Constitution from regulating such matters – States are only allowed to regulate economic and other non-safety aspects of nuclear power.	Federal District Court	838 F. Supp. 2d 183 (D. Vt. 2012)	NLB 89
United States	2013	Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC v. Shumlin	GEN	Court upheld the District Court conclusion that the State legislature was primarily motivated by radiological safety concerns and expressly sought to avoid expressing those concerns in order to evade federal pre-emption. Because the State was primarily motivated by concerns about radiological safety, and because the State's stated purposes for the laws were unpersuasive, the Court upheld the grant of permanent injunction based on its finding that the two laws are pre-empted by the AEA	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	733 F.3d 393 (2nd Cir. 2013)	NLB 92
United States	2017	United States v. Energy Solutions, Inc.; Rockwell Holdco, Inc.; Andrews County Holdings, Inc.; and Waste Control Specialists, LLC.	GEN	Court enjoined Energy's Solutions' acquisition of Waste Control Specialists, two competitors in the market of the disposal of low-level radioactive waste, as the acquisition would have anticompetitive effects. Because the case did not involve health and safety issues or protection of the public from radiological hazards, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission was not a party to the case and did not take a position with respect to the proposed acquisition.	Federal District Court	2017 WL 2991799 (D. Del. 2017)	NLB 99

COUNTRY	YEAR	CASE NAME	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	COURT	CITATION	NLB Issue
United States	2017	Virginia Uranium, Inc. v. Warren	GEN	Petitioners argued that under the Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution, a state conventional uranium mining ban was pre-empted by the Atomic Energy Act because it was motivated by radiological safety concerns associated with downstream activities that the NRC regulates: milling and tailings storage. Court affirmed a US District Court ruling that conventional uranium mining is not under the exclusive regulatory authority of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission under the AEA, and it can therefore be regulated by Virginia under state law.	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	848 F.3d 590 (4th Cir. 2017)	NLB 100
United States	2019	Virginia Uranium, Inc. v. Warren	GEN	The Supreme Court upheld the decision of the 4th Circuit Court that Virginia ban on uranium mining on private land is not pre-empted by federal law. However, while the Court felt it was inappropriate in this instance to ascertain the motivation of the state of Virginia in creating the ban, the decision did not rule out the possibility that a state's regulation, which was found to either intend to interfere or have the effect of interfering with matters close to the core of the NRC's authority could be pre-empted.	Supreme Court	139 S.Ct. 1894 (2019)	NLB 103
United States	2019	State of Nevada v. US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and David A. Wright	GEN	The state of Nevada brought a petition for review challenging the decision of Commissioner David Wright of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) not to recuse himself from the licensing proceeding for a proposed nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Referencing past decisions and statements regarding Yucca Mountain made by the Commissioner, Nevada felt he could not be an unbiased judge in the licensing process. The NRC moved to dismiss Nevada's petition. The Court issued an unpublished *per curiam* opinion granting the NRC's motion to dismiss on the ground that the case was not ripe for review because it "rests upon contingent future events that may not occur as anticipated, or indeed may not occur at all[,]".	Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	No. 18-1232 (unpublished) (DC Cir. 2019)	NLB 102