

Bulgaria nuclear plant shut for repairs

by UPI

SOFIA, Bulgaria -- Bulgaria's only nuclear power plant has been closed for repairs but it poses no radioactive danger, plant officials said. The No. 6 reactor at the Kozloduy plant on the Danube River was shut down immediately after officials spotted damage on a pipeline Saturday, the Sofia News Agency reported Monday. The damage did not cause any radioactive leakage, officials said. Reactors 5 and 6 are the only two units still operating in the Soviet-made plant. Bulgaria had to close down outdated reactors 1 and 2 in 2003 and late last year it closed reactors 3 and 4 because of safety concerns before the country joined the European Union in January. The 5 and 6 reactors are of a more modern design. Last month, the European Commission approved Bulgaria's plan to build a second nuclear power plant at Belene on the Danube, east of Kozloduy. The Belene plant will use two 1,000-megawatt, light-water reactors to be built by Russia's Atomstroyexport company.

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