

"25 YAERS AFTER THE CHERNOBYL NPP ACCIDENT", – SURVEY

Ukrainians fear accidents at NPPs, – poll

A telephone poll was conducted by Gorshenin Institute on April 18 – 20, 2011, on the subject: "25 years after the Chernobyl NPP accident". Overall 1000 respondents 18 years old and older were interviewed, based on a random sample, in all regional capitals of Ukraine, in Kyiv and Sevastopol. Regions of residence, gender and age of the respondents were used as quotas. The representation error of the poll does not exceed +/-3.2%.

Based on the findings of the all-Ukrainian survey, the Gorshenin institute experts concluded the following:

Majority of Ukrainians (78.3%) consider the Chernobyl NPP as dangerous. Among them, 45.6% chose the answer "definitely dangerous", and 32.7% - "rather dangerous". At the same time, every sixth of those polled (15.3%) think that the Chernobyl NPP does not bear danger today. Out of them, 9.1% gave the answer "rather safe" and 6.2% - "definitely safe". 6.4% respondents found it difficult to answer the question.

More than one-third of Ukrainian citizens (37.9%) think that the Chernobyl area should be the exclusion zone. At the same time, almost the same number of people questioned (36.3%) think that the Chernobyl zone should be used in future as an area for experimental research. Every sixth respondent (15.4%) think that this area should be a preserved area, and 6.1% - a tourist zone. Those who said the Chernobyl zone should become a place for disposal of radioactive waste were 4.8% polled. 2.2% Ukrainians answered "other", and 4.6% found it difficult to answer the question.

Most Ukrainian citizens (66.3%) think that new NPPs or new units at the NPPs operating in our country should not be built. At the same time, every fifth interviewed (20.3%) hold the opposite opinion, and 13.4% found it difficult to answer the question.

Vast majority of the Ukrainians (87.3%) fear that the consequences of the Chernobyl accident may negatively impact their health or health of their relatives. Among them, 50.2% answered "definitely yes", and 37.1% of the polled said "rather yes". At the same time, every tenth Ukrainian (9.5%) do not have such fears. Out of these, 5.3% chose the answer "definitely no", and 4.2% - "rather no". 3.2% respondents found it difficult to answer.

Most citizens of Ukraine (70.0%) fear that a serious accident might occur at Ukrainian NPPs in the future. Among them, 41.5% answered "definitely yes" to this question, and 28.5% said "rather yes". Every fifth of the respondents (21.4%) do not feel such fears. Among them, 13.5% gave the answer "rather no", and 7.9% - "definitely no". 8.6% of those polled found it difficult to answer the question.

Appendix

How do you think safe is the Chernobyl NPP today?

1. Definitely dangerous – 45.6%
2. Rather dangerous – 32.7%
3. Rather safe – 9.1%
4. Definitely safe – 6.2%
5. Difficult to answer – 6.4%

What do you think, how should the Chernobyl zone used in the future?

(multiple answers are possible)

1. As an exclusion zone – 37.9%
2. As a centre for scientific research – 36.3%
3. As a preserved zone – 15.4%
4. As a tourist site – 6.1%
5. Place of radioactive waste disposal – 4.8%
6. Other – 2.2%
7. Difficult to answer – 4.6%

Do you think new NPPs or new units at the NPPs operating in Ukraine should be built?

1. Yes – 20.3%
2. No – 66.3%
3. Difficult to answer – 13.4%

Are you afraid that the consequences of the Chernobyl accident might negatively impact your health and health of your relatives?

1. Definitely yes – 50.2%
2. Rather yes – 37.1%
3. Rather no – 4.2%
4. Definitely no – 5.3%
5. Difficult to answer – 3.2%

Are you afraid that a serious accident might occur at Ukrainian NPPs?

- Definitely yes – 41.5%
- Rather yes – 28.5%
- Rather no – 13.5%
- Definitely no – 7.9%
- Difficult to answer – 8.6%