

# **GREENPEACE**

# **ГРИНПИС**

Отделение международной неправительственной некоммерческой организации "Совет Гринпис" –  
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**To the President of the Republic of Lithuania Dalia Grybauskaitė**

**To the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania**

№ 12 / 368

Dear President Dalia Grybauskaitė,  
Dear Members of the Parliament,

On behalf of the non-governmental international organisation "Greenpeace", defending the right of people to healthy environment, we ask you to recognize the results of the referendum which was held in Lithuania on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. It has been announced that 62, 6% of the citizens of your country with the overall turnout of 52, 5% were against the construction of Visaginas NPP. As shown by the vote, the Lithuanian people do not believe that nuclear technology is a safe and cheap way to solve energy problems. Given the unfavorable economic and unstable political situation in Lithuania, the risks of building a new nuclear power plant will double. Such a dangerous and expensive project would increase the country's external debt and deteriorate the environmental situation significantly. In the nearest future ordinary taxpayers will experience this heavy burden, and all subsequent generations of Lithuanians will receive a legacy of radioactive waste and unresolved problems of its management.

The Fukushima nuclear disaster have shown that there are no safe nuclear power plants, and even in the highly developed country the government can not protect its citizens from the dangers we are exposed to by the use of "peaceful atom."

The tragic consequences of the disaster finally convinced the world's leading countries, among which Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and Japan changed its energy strategy and decided to stop their nuclear power plants. After this referendum Lithuania has a unique opportunity to join these countries and to demonstrate how truly democratic decisions are to be taken.

The decision of the citizens of Lithuania regarding construction of a new nuclear power plant was made in the referendum. The next step is to adopt special

laws, what, according to the Law on Referendum of the Republic of Lithuania, must be done within a month after the publication of the results of the referendum. Despite the fact that the referendum was called deliberative, the Lithuanian government should not ignore the results and downplay its legal significance. We urge you to respect the will of your people, and not to undermine confidence by reckless and ill-considered decisions.

As an international environmental organisation that accepts donations only from individuals, we do not represent any political parties or certain countries. We fight against dangerous, dirty and expensive nuclear power, which threatens the existence of mankind on this earth.

Our goal is to show that the nuclear industry has no future, and the producers of nuclear power, carrying out international expansion, do care only about their personal short-term rewards.

What else if not the pursuit of filthy lucre and the desire to get money forces Hitachi-GE to look for new contracts all over the world after Fukushima crashed the nuclear Japan market and ruined their reputation as a producer of reliable technology?

What other motive than avarice can inspire Rosatom to participate in scandalous projects abroad? In this appeal we want to warn you not to repeat sad Russian experience, which has proved that the construction of nuclear power plants can not be justified by economic reasons, and losses after nuclear accidents can not be compared with the income of corporations belonging to this industry branch, and have no moral justification. Most of Russian people express disagreement with the plans of our government insisting on the construction of new nuclear power plants, but their protests are totally ignored. Would you like to resemble Russian politicians when disregarding the outcome of the referendum?

We urge you to implement what the people decided and make it evident to the world that Lithuania is a democratic state, where the political elite respects the constitutional rights of the citizens to make decisions which will determine the future of the country and all subsequent generations.

Moscow, 9 November 2012

Executive Director



Sergey A. Tsyplov