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applications, such as chemical synthesis and desalination. Terrestrial Energy said that it is engaged internationally with regulators and industrial partners to complete IMSR engineering and to commission the first IMSR power plants in the late 2020s.

RUSSIA

Bilibino-1 granted license for no-generation mode

Russia's nuclear regulator, Rostechndzor, has granted nuclear operator Rosenergoatom a license to operate Unit 1 of the Bilibino nuclear power plant in a no-generation mode. According to a January 23 press release, this allows Rosenergoatom, which disconnected Bilibino-1 from the grid in March 2018 and moved its fuel into the station's spent fuel pool, to carry out the next stage of the plant closure and decommissioning process, between power operation and complete shutdown. The new license is valid for 15 years, expiring in 2034.

During this time, Rosenergoatom will place the plant in a nuclear-safe mode and will develop a set of documents that explain how the nuclear and radiological safety of the plant will be assured after its



Photo: Rosenergoatom

Bilibino: Unit 1 will be prepared for decommissioning.

permanent shutdown. These documents are required by Rostechndzor to move to the next step of the process, the decommissioning of Unit 1.

The Bilibino nuclear power plant, which began commercial operation in 1974, is located in Chukotka, in the Arctic region. The capacity of each of the station's four light-water cooled, graphite-moderated reactors is 11 MWe. The other three units will continue to supply power to the Chaun-Bilibino energy system, as well as

provide heat and hot water for consumers in the town of Bilibino. The plant is the town's only source of heat supply.

The three operating units are expected to shut down after the Akademik Lomonosov, Russia's first floating nuclear power plant, arrives at a mooring site at the seaport city of Pevek in Chukotka, scheduled to take place by the end of 2019. The floating plant will then be commissioned and connected to the region's energy system to provide the needed power and heat. **IN**

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