



Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development the Republic of Latvia

ENVIRONMENTAL STATE BUREAU

Reg.Nr. 90000628077, 23 Rupniecibas street, Riga, LV - 1045 (phone: + 371 67321173; fax: +371 67321049)

Riga, 2013 – 10 – 31.

Nr. 3-01/1416

Mr. Ergo Pärn
Acting Deputy Secretary General
Ministry of Environment of the Estonia
Narva mnt. 7a, 15172 Tallinn, Eesti

Dear colleague,

Taking into account our good previous cooperation regarding transboundary environmental impact assessment, and in the spirit of good cooperation and neighbourship hereby with this I would like to inform you about a new proposed construction project of overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330 kV from Sindi (Kilingi – Nõmme) in Estonia till Salaspils in Latvia. A length of electrical power lines will be more than 200 km. The intention of this project is to renovate the existing lines with voltage of 110 kV and also build new lines with voltage of 330 kV. There is no evidence obtained as a result of the initial environmental assessment that could possibly lead to consequential concerns about significant transboundary impacts caused by potential project development.

Overhead electrical power lines are not listed in Annex of the Espoo Convention, nevertheless we concede that similar activity (construction of overhead electrical power lines) is planned, or has been planned in the territory of Estonia too. Information about the planned activities in the territory of Estonia would be essential to obtain an overall comprehension about the dimension and magnitude of the project and possible mutual impacts.

The decision about the necessity of EIA was taken by the Environment State Bureau on October 8, 2012, the EIA program was elaborated and issued by the Environment State Bureau on July 4, 2013, full EIA procedure has commenced. Please, indicate whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure. We would also appreciate any information about the development of possible similar activities in Estonia, which could contribute to a better evaluation of anticipated impacts.

Information about proposed construction of overhead electrical power lines is accessible in the homepage of Environment State Bureau:
<http://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/ivn/projekti/?status=2&id=1404>.

Sincerely yours,
director

Arnolds Lukševics

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Mr Arnolds Lukševics
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21.11.2013 No 11-3/13/ 9512-2

Construction project of overhead electrical power lines

Dear Mr Lukševics,

Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has informed Estonia about the new proposed construction project of overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330 kV from Sindi (Kilingi-Nõmme) in Estonia to Salaspils in Latvia. In Your letter You bring out that there will probably be no significant transboundary impacts caused by the project but nevertheless You ask if our country intends to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure. You also would like to have information about the development of possible similar activities in Estonia.

In Estonia the project to construct the power lines from Kilingi-Nõmme to Salaspils is at the moment in the phase that the composing of the spatial planning documents and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) will be initiated soon. As this project is cooperation between Latvia and Estonia and there will likely be no significant transboundary impacts caused by the project, we are on the position that Estonia do not need to participate in the Latvian EIA. But it is good to be connected and exchange information concerning this project.

You also asked information about the possible similar activities in Estonia. In 2011 Estonia had the EIA of the reconstruction of Tartu-Viljandi-Sindi electrical power lines with voltage 110 kV. The EIA-s that have been carried out in the past can be seen in the website <http://elering.ee/keskkonnamoju-hinnangud-2/>.

Yours sincerely,

Ado Lõhmus
Deputy Secretary General

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20. March 2014 No. 11-2/14/ 9512-3

Construction of overhead electrical power lines

Dear Mr Lukševics,

Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has informed Estonia about the new proposed construction project of overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330 kV from Sindi (Kilingi-Nõmme) in Estonia to Salaspils in Latvia (31. October 2013 letter no 3-01/1416).

Estonia answered on 21. November 2013 that the project to construct the power lines from Kilingi-Nõmme to Salaspils was at that moment in the phase that the composing of the spatial planning documents and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) were going to be initiated soon. Now the SEA of thematic spatial plans of Viljandi and Pärnu county have been initiated (on 03. and 04. December 2013). The purpose of those thematic plans is to determine the location of the Kilingi-Nõmme – Riia overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330 kV in Viljandi and Pärnu counties.

At the moment there is no fixed location of the purposed electrical power lines in Estonia but the Estonian-Latvian border will be crossed in Raamatu village, Abja municipality, Viljandi county. As this is a joint project between Latvia and Estonia, there will be exchanging of information and cooperation during the planning procedure.

There will probably be no significant transboundary impacts to Latvia caused by the proposed action. Nevertheless we would like to ask if Your country intends to participate in the SEA procedure.

Yours sincerely,

Ado Lõhmus
Deputy Secretary General

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Riga, 31 March 2014 No 7-01/540

On 20 March 2014 No 11-2/14/9512-3

Mr Ado Lõhmus
Deputy Secretary General
Point of Contact of the Espoo Convention in Estonia
Narva mnt 7a
15172 Tallinn
Estonia

Regarding the strategic environmental assessment of the thematic plans of the Viljandi and Pärnu Counties

The Environmental State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau) would like to thank the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia for informing us regarding the strategic environmental assessment of the thematic plans of the Viljandi and Pärnu Counties (hereinafter – the Plans) whose development purpose is to determine the location of the Kilingi – Nõmme – Riga overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330kV in the Viljandi and Pärnu Counties.

Answering your question about whether Latvia intends to participate in the procedure of the strategic environmental assessment of the Plans the Bureau takes into account the preceding correspondence between the Bureau and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia about the proposed construction project of the new overhead electrical power lines with voltage of 330kV as well as information mentioned in your letter that there will be no likely significant transboundary impacts on the territory of the Republic of Latvia caused by the proposed action. According to the above mentioned the Bureau states opinion that Latvia is not going to participate in the strategic environmental assessment of the Plans. However we kindly ask you to inform us in case there are any potential changes concerning the location/position of the overhead electrical power lines near the Estonian – Latvian border.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Arnolds Lukšēvics

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