



MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE

Department of Environmental Conservation

Ref. No. Kmf/ 200 -A/2015.

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Budapest, "02" April, 2015

Ms. Dorina MOCANU

National contact point to the Espoo Convention of Romania

Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

General Directorate for Impact Assessment and Pollution Control

12, Blvd. Libertatii, Sector 5
RO – 040129 BUCHAREST
ROMANIA

Subject: Official notification according to the Espoo Convention on starting the EIA procedure of the project "*construction of new nuclear power plant blocks Paks NPP II*"

Dear Ms Mocanu,

In the framework of the provisions of the *Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a transboundary context done at Espoo (Finland), on 25 February 1991* (hereinafter referred to as Espoo Convention) as well as that of the *Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment* (hereinafter referred to as EIA Directive) Romania is officially notified hereby that implementation of the project "construction of new nuclear power plant blocks" at Paks site (hereinafter referred to as Paks NPP II Project) continues with the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure in Hungary.

To initiate the procedure, the proponent, *MVM Magyar Villamos Művek Paks II Atomerőmű Fejlesztő Zrt.* (translated as Hungarian Electricity Works Paks II Nuclear Power Plant Development Co. Ltd.), has submitted its application for the development consent together with the environmental impact assessment documentation of the project to the competent Hungarian authority, South Transdanubian Regional Inspectorate for Environment and Nature.

Since the proposed activity is listed in Appendix I point 3. b of the Espoo Convention and in Annex I point 3. b (i) of the EIA Directive, the EIA procedure for Paks NPP II Project is mandatory.

The reason you receive this official notification is that your country has indicated earlier its intention to participate in the transboundary EIA procedures of the Paks NPP II Project.

Based on provisions of the Article 3 Paragraph 1 of the Espoo Convention, as well as stipulations of Article 7 paragraphs 1. a-b) of the EIA Directive, please kindly find attached the electronic documentation of the proposed project burned on DVD as well as a catalogue of the available documentation.

Please, note that the entire Environmental Impact Assessment Report (hereinafter referred to as EIA Report) is available both in English and in Hungarian. Furthermore, as part of the EIA Report, chapter dealing with transboundary environmental impacts, as well as the non-technical summary are available in English and German languages, too. The whole documentation can be found on the official website of the Hungarian Government on the following link:

<http://www.kormany.hu/hu/foldmuvelesugyi-miniszterium/hirek/nemzetkozi-kornyezetvedelmi-hatasvizsgalati-eljarasok>

In order to ensure compliance with the provision of Article 3 (8) of the Espoo Convention, and that of Article 7 of the EIA Directive, please make available the entire documentation uploaded to the referred web site above as well as burned on DVD attached for the concerned public in your country. According to the Hungarian national legislation, *Governmental Decree No. 314/2005. (XII. 25.) on environmental impact assessment and on integrated environmental usage permitting process*, the attached documentation is announced to the competent regional environmental authority's website for 30 days in order to make it available to the public and environmental NGOs for providing comments. Please, provide the same time period for commenting for your public and co-authorities in your country, too.

In the "scoping" phase of the EIA procedure, 10 of the notified Parties of the Convention (Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Croatia, Germany, Malta, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine) have indicated its intention to participate in the transboundary EIA procedure of the Paks NPP II Project. Both the Espoo Convention and the EIA Directive provide several opportunities for Affected Parties for effective information exchange and public participation, as well as for sharing their views on the proposed project with the Party of Origin, such as public hearing(s) and expert consultation(s) organised in the framework of the procedure of the Party of Origin. In order to have a smooth conduct of the licensing procedure and to fulfil the requirements of Article 5 of the Espoo Convention and Article 7 paragraph 4 of the EIA Directive, hereby I kindly inform you that **we would like to organise all public hearings and expert consultations with the affected Parties between 1-30 June, 2015 and 1-30 September, 2015.**

Our aim is to have an efficient and well-organised administration and co-ordination of the steps required by the EIA procedure with all the 10 Affected Parties in terms of transboundary consultations, therefore you are kindly requested **to send your feedback by 4 May, 2015 at the latest on**

- **whether your country plans to organise any expert consultation(s) involving the Hungarian licensing authorities and the proponent; furthermore,**

- **whether your country plans to organise any public hearing(s) regarding Paks NPP II project for the public and NGOs of Romania on your own territory.** In case of this demand, obviously, Hungarian authorities, along with the proponent and our Ministry are also going to participate on these events.

Definitely, we would like to provide all possibilities of exchanging information with representatives of the proponent and the licensing authorities, therefore a preliminary **timetable based upon the Affected Parties' early responses** is going to set up with regard to transboundary consultations. To ensure the effective co-ordination, **public hearing(s) and expert consultation(s) are recommended to be organised on the same calendar day or at least on two consecutive working days in a country of a given Affected Party**, if possible.

Please, **send your suggested dates on expert consultation(s) and/or public hearing(s) concerning your country by 4 May, 2015, at the latest.** Please, propose more dates, if you can, as all responses given by the Affected Parties need to be taken into account in due attention. In finalising the time schedule, the "first come-first served" principle is going to be applied.

Furthermore, **official standpoint and evaluation on the content of the EIA Report of Romania is expected to be submitted by 5 June, 2015, at the latest.** Please, note the **consequence of receiving no reply from your side by the set deadline is that your requests cannot be taken into consideration.**

Deadlines for response:

We are expecting at least two letters from your side.

1. Your early response is needed by 4 May, 2015

- **on necessity to be organised a public hearing and/or expert consultation; as well as**
- **on suggested dates for organising these events in your country.**

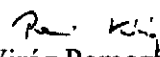
2. Furthermore, your comments and your country's standpoint on the content of the EIA Report is expected by 5 June, 2015.

All correspondence should be arranged via

- **the Hungarian contact point of the Espoo Convention (Virág Pomozi, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Environmental Preservation; H-1055 Budapest, Kossuth tér 11; e-mail address: virag.pomozi@fm.gov.hu), and**
- **a carbon-copy (cc.) of your response and at the same time to the Governmental e-mail address created for, and dedicated to the smooth and effective communication of this project's EIA procedure (paks2@fm.gov.hu).**

Your kind co-operation is highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


Virág Pomozi
the Hungarian contact point
to the Espoo Convention

Annex:

- *Catalogue of the documentation*
- *Electronic version of the documentation burned on DVD*

