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To points of contact in
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
Germany
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Russian Federation
as of enclosed list

Consultation in accordance with articles 4 and 5 of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) for the Nord Stream gas pipeline.

By letter of 14 November 2006 Sweden notified your country according to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention of the project by Nord Stream AG to construct and operate a natural gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea linking Russia and Germany and crossing the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

The letter stated, that the gas pipeline project could be found as item 8 (large-diameter oil and gas pipelines) on the list of activities in Appendix I to the Espoo Convention that are likely to cause significant adverse transboundary impact. An environmental impact assessment procedure had to be performed according to the Convention,

In this procedure Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Finland considered themselves as Parties of Origin under the Convention, Russia is a signatory but not a Party to the Espoo Convention. However, Russia has acted and will continue to act as a Party of Origin as far as it considers it possible according to its legislation. All nine Baltic Sea states, including Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland were regarded as Affected Parties under the Espoo Convention.

In the letter your country was kindly asked to indicate whether you intended to participate in the EIA procedure, provide comments concerning the scope for the

assessment of the environmental impacts of the project on your EEZ and territory, and submit any comments you might receive from the public in your country.

Sweden received your response where you indicated your wish to participate in the EIA procedure. Sweden has also received comments to the scope for the assessment of the environmental impact assessment and other comments concerning the impact of the project on the environment both by letter and during the since then ongoing EIA process, where authorities from all countries around the Baltic Sea have participated.

By letter of 7 November 2007 Sweden sent you additional information concerning Nord Stream AGs investigation of route alternatives. You were kindly asked to submit comments no later than 18 January 2008. By letter of 23 April 2008 Denmark informed you of plans to investigate yet another route east and south of Bornholm, the so-called S-route. Later by letters of 14 November 2008 Germany and Denmark informed you of the investigation of the S-route. In the letter you were kindly asked to submit comments no later than 23 January 2009.

The developer, Nord Stream AG, has now prepared an environmental impact assessment in four binders: "Nord Stream Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Documentation for Consultation under the Espoo Convention". As indicated in the letter of 14 November 2006, Sweden hereby - according to the provisions of the Espoo Convention - sends it to you in order to give you the opportunity for consultations with authorities and public participation (Articles 4 and 5).

Referring to Article 4.2. The Parties of Origin under the Espoo Convention (Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland) and Russia have decided on a common starting point for the public participation/consultation. The Parties of Origin would like to draw your attention to the obligation of the concerned parties to arrange for distribution of the documentation to the authorities and the public in the areas likely to be affected.

For your information, a public hearing with the participation of the developer and Swedish authorities will take place on the island of Gotland on 22th of April 2009. If you wish so, you are kindly invited to participate.

Sweden kindly asks you to submit your comments **no later than 8 June 2009**.

Please send the comments from your country to:

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Att: Egon Enocksson
SE-106 48 Stockholm
SWEDEN
egon.enocksson(a)naturvardsverket.se

Enclosed you will find a DVD in your national language and in English with the Espoo documentation.

You will also receive the EIA documentation directly from Nord Stream AG. The documents will be in English and your national language.

It can also be found on the website of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www.naturvardsverket.se/sv/>

On behalf of the Swedish EPA

Martin Pålman
Head of Unit

Egon Enocksson
Point of Contact for Espoo-convention

For more information about the project itself please contact the developer:

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Switzerland
Att.: Dirk von Ameln
Permitting Director
e-mail: espoo@nord-stream.com

For more information about the procedure in Sweden, please contact
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Sendlist

Points of contact from: http://www.unece.org/env/eia/points_of_contact.htm

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