



**МИНИСТЕРСТВО  
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9. March 2009

To points of contact in:

Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
Germany  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Poland  
Sweden

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 12 November 2006 Russian Federation 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 Russian Federation 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, Russian Federation 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
- submit any comments you might receive from the public in your country

Russian Federation received your response where you indicated your wish to participate in the EIA procedure. Russian Federation 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.

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 12 November 2006, Russian Federation 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 (Articles 4 and 5).

Referring to Article 4.2. The Parties of origin under the Espoo Convention (Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland) and Russian Federation have decided on a common starting point for the public participation and consultation with authorities. 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.

**Enclosed you will find a DVD in your national language and in English with the Espoo documentation provided by Developer. You will receive them by post.**

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

Please send them to

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Yours sincerely,

Vladimir Ivlev  
EIA Convention Focal Point



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

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