



Espoo Convention's Points of Contacts for
Notification in
Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Germany, Poland,
Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, the Russian Federation,
and by request to Austria

Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) for a project plan to assess an additional reactor alternative in the context of constructing a new nuclear power plant in Finland by developer Fennovoima Oy

As Party of Origin Finland is hereby sending notification, in accordance with Article 3 of the Espoo Convention, of the project plan by a Finnish energy company, Fennovoima Oy to assess an additional reactor alternative in the context of constructing a new nuclear power plant in Finland. The location is the municipality of Pyhäjoki.

The new alternative is of capacity of approximately 1200 megawatt electric power supplied by a company belonging to Rosatom group of companies. The plant reactor is a pressurized water reactor AES-2006, which is the latest model in the VVER reactor series. VVER-reactors are water-cooled and water-moderated light water reactors. The AES-2006 reactor will be designed to comply with the Finnish, European and IAEA safety requirements.

In 2008 Fennovoima implemented the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure during which the environmental impacts of a nuclear power plant with electric power capacity of 1500-2500 megawatt in three different locations were assessed. The assessed nuclear power plant alternatives were one nuclear power plant unit and reactor with the electric power capacity of 1500 -1800 megawatt and two nuclear power plant units and reactors with, aggregate electric power capacity of 1000-1250 megawatt.

The project can be found as item 2 (nuclear power stations) on the list of activities in Appendix I to the Espoo Convention that are likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact. The project can be found also on the list of activities in the Agreement between Finland and Estonia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context; thus, this agreement shall be applied to the project as well in relation to Estonia.

The Convention states that the concerned Parties shall ensure that the public in the areas likely to be affected are informed of the proposed activity and provided with possibilities for making comments on or objections to the proposed activity, and that these comments or objections are transmitted to the competent authority of the Party of Origin. The Finnish Ministry of the Environment is the Point of Contact of the Espoo Convention in Finland. The Ministry is prepared to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that your public is provided with similar opportunities as the Finnish public to comment on the EIA programme and documentation. Please contact Ms Seija Rantakallio (Ministry of the Environment), if you require further information or assistance on this matter.

The decision-making process for the construction of a nuclear facility

The Nuclear Energy Act (990/1987) and the Nuclear Energy Decree (161/1988) define the licensing procedure and the conditions for the use of nuclear energy, including waste management and the responsibilities and powers of the authorities. The detailed Finnish licensing requirements for nuclear installations are outlined in the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) regulatory guides (www.stuk.fi). For Fennovoima and its new reactor alternative, the new EIA on this alternative, new safety studies and Pyhäjoki municipality opinion on the project will be executed and after these there will be a decision by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy how to continue the licensing process.

In general, the operator submits an application to the Government to obtain a decision-in-principle on a new nuclear facility. The Government requests a preliminary safety appraisal from the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) and a statement from the municipality intended as the site of the planned nuclear facility. The municipality has a right of decisive veto against a new facility. In addition, the Government requests statements from other authorities and related bodies, and organises a public hearing in the municipality where the facility is planned to be located for the residents of the municipality and of neighbouring municipalities. The Ministry of Employment and the Economy is responsible for preparing the decision.

The Government shall make a decision-in-principle on whether the construction of the facility is, or is not, in line with the overall good of society. A favourable decision-in-principle is forwarded to Parliament for ratification. Parliament may either ratify or reject the decision-in-principle as such.

If the decision-in-principle is favourable, and Parliament ratifies it, the operator applies in due time for a construction licence from the Government. The Government requests all relevant statements and decides whether to issue a licence for the construction of the nuclear facility.

Towards the end of the construction phase, the operator applies for an operating licence for the facility. After it has received the necessary official statements, the Government decides whether to issue an operating licence for the facility.

EIA procedure in Finland

The Finnish EIA procedure consists of two phases: the EIA programme (scoping document) phase and the EIA documentation phase. The assessment procedure began when the developer, Fennovoima Oy, submitted the EIA programme to the competent authority on EIA, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy. The EIA programme contains information on what are the potential environmental impacts of the project and on the alternatives to the project that are proposed to be studied and assessed. Authorities, the public and NGOs are entitled to comment on the EIA programme. The competent authority will take into account the comments received, domestically and from abroad, and will issue its own opinion on the EIA programme. In its statement, the competent authority will indicate which investigations the developer must concentrate on and how the proposal for the EIA programme should be amended.

It is the duty of the developer to assess the environmental impacts of the project and its alternatives. The developer draws up the assessment documentation report on the basis of the investigations carried out. Authorities, the public and NGOs are entitled to comment also on the EIA documentation. The competent authority collects all the opinions and comments submitted on the EIA documentation and, after taking these into account, issues its own opinion on the EIA documentation. The EIA procedure is concluded when the competent authority forwards its own statement to the developer on the adequacy of the EIA.

The EIA must be carried out before any decisions on licensing can be made. The developer attaches the EIA documentation to the decision application.

Answer to the notification

The EIA programme is available in Finnish, Swedish and English. The document intended for notifying the public of the Parties of the Espoo Convention with information on the proposed activity, including available information on its possible transboundary impact, is available in Finnish, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, German, Polish, Lithuanian, Latvian, Estonian, Russian and English. All these documents can be obtained from the Internet pages of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy: www.tem.fi (>energy>nuclearenergy>EIA>EIA procedures for new nuclear power projects>EIAs by Fennovoima>Fennovoima 2013...).

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Finland kindly asks your country to respond by **30 November 2013** at the latest, and to

- acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
- indicate whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure,
- provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country, and
- submit any comments you might receive from the public in your country.

Subsequent to the notification, the developer plans to prepare an EIA documentation, which will then — according to the provisions of the Espoo Convention — be sent by Finland to the Affected Parties who have indicated their wish to participate in the environmental impact procedure. The Affected Parties will then have the opportunity for consultation of authorities and public participation.

Kindly send the answer to this notification to: Ministry of the Environment, Seija Rantakallio, PO Box 35, FIN-00023 Government, Finland or by email to [ym.kirjaamo \(at\) ymparisto.fi](mailto:ym.kirjaamo@ymparisto.fi).

Permanent Secretary


Hannele Pokka

Ministerial Adviser,
Point of Contact of the Espoo Convention


Seija Rantakallio

Enclosures in a memory stick (the documents have been prepared by the developer):

1. Environmental Impact Assessment Programme — In Swedish to Sweden. In English to other countries.
2. Environmental Impact Assessment Programme Summary. Document intended for notifying the public of the Parties to the Espoo Convention. Information on the proposed activity, including available information on its possible transboundary impacts. — In the country's own language.

The documents can be downloaded also from the following internet page:

http://www.tem.fi/en/energy/nuclear_energy/eia_procedures_for_new_nuclear_power_projects/eias_by_fennovoima/fennovoima_2013_eia_programme_and_the_statement_by_the_contact_authority.

As Finland is bilingual a Swedish internet page is also available:

http://www.tem.fi/sv/energi/karnenergi/mkb_for_nya_karnkraftsprojekt/fennovoimas_mkb/fennovoimas_mkb-program_2013_och_kontaktmyndighetens_utlatande.

For more information about the project and the EIA:

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EIA competent authority

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