



Ms. Karin Anette Pedersen  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Ministry of the Environment and Food of  
Denmark  
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Your ref 20.06.2017 SVANA-137-00006

Our ref 31 August 2017 No 7-1/17/4343-3

Consultation in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of  
the Convention on Environmental Impact  
Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo  
Convention) for the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline  
project

Dear Ms. Pedersen

In April 2013 the Parties of Origin – Denmark, Finland, Germany, Sweden, Russian Federation – notified Estonia, in accordance with Article 3 of the Espoo Convention, of the project by Nord Stream AG (currently Nord Stream 2 AG), to construct and operate a natural gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea linking Russia and Germany (hereafter *the Nord Stream 2 project*). Estonia answered to the Parties of Origin by a letter dated June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure of the Nord Stream 2 project as an Affected Party under the Espoo Convention. Also comments regarding the Project Information Document were attached to the answer.

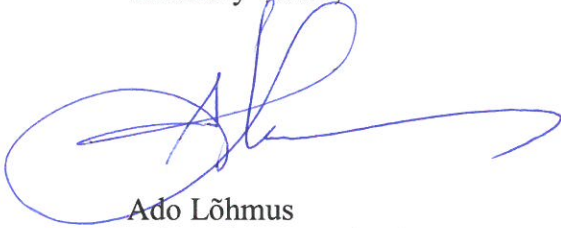
Denmark, acting as the Party of Origin, submitted to Estonia in June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the EIA documentation of the Nord Stream 2 project, i.e. „Espoo report“ and „Espoo atlas“, prepared by the developer. The forementioned EIA documentation is the same documentation which was submitted by the other Parties of Origin in April 2017.

The Ministry of the Environment of Estonia organized the public display of the EIA documentation: electronic documentation was made available on the respective webpage, also paper copies were provided. Notice of the public consultation procedure regarding the Nord Stream 2 project EIA documentation was given in the official publication *Ametlikud Teadaanded* and on the webpage of the Ministry of the Environment. The EIA documentation was distributed to numerous authorities and non-governmental environmental organizations.

The public display of the EIA documentation took place from July 6<sup>th</sup> to August 21<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Statements including proposals or comments were not received. Only the Environmental Board reiterated that similarly to the Espoo report the Natura 2000 screening report „Nord Stream 2. Struuga, Uhtju and Vaindloo Natura sites. Natura screening“ (which was additionally sent by the developer to the Ministry of the Environment on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017) should use the concept of Article 6 (3) of the Directive 92/43/EEC (i.e. „adverse impact“, not „significant impact“).

The Ministry of the Environment of Estonia requests Denmark to take into account the statements and comments described in the answer sent to the Parties of Origin in June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (letter No 7-1/17/2466-14). Although the forementioned answer has already been sent to Denmark for information, it is also attached to this letter. We kindly ask you to send us feedback how the comments provided by Estonia will be taken into account, foremost in the Espoo report. Based on this, the decision on the need for additional consultations under the Espoo Convention can be made.

Sincerely Yours,



Ado Lõhmus  
Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosure: answer of Estonia (30.06.2017)

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