

To points of contact in

- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- Germany
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Sweden

as of enclosed list

Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) for the Nord Stream Extension

As Party of Origin Russia hereby notifies, 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 The Russian Federation and Germany and crossing the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

The Nord Stream AG is planning to construct and operate an offshore natural gas transmission system consisting of two separate pipelines with a diameter of each 1,2 m crossing the Baltic Sea between The Russian Federation and Germany.

The company has submitted a description of the project and the intended assessment of transboundary and environmental impacts (Nord Stream Extension, Project Information Document, March 2013).

The project can 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 a significant adverse transboundary impact. An environmental impact assessment procedure according to the Convention thus has to be performed for the Nord Stream Extension project in the above mentioned countries, which are Parties of the Convention, and The Russian Federation.

Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Finland regard themselves as Parties of Origin under the Espoo Convention. The Russian Federation is a signatory but not a Party to the Espoo Convention. However, The Russian Federation will 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 are regarded as Affected Parties under the Espoo Convention.

The four Parties of Origin and The Russian Federation have agreed to send out identical notification letters to each Affected Party. Nevertheless, since the nature of decision and of the EIA procedure is different for each country, the descriptions of these will differ. The additional information to this notification is enclosed on a memory stick (USB). For practical reasons a paper version of the documents will be sent out by Nord Stream AG on behalf on the Parties of Origin.

The Convention states that the concerned Parties shall ensure that the public in the areas likely to be affected is informed of and provided with possibilities for making comments or objections on the proposed activity. Furthermore the states shall ensure the transmittal of these comments to the competent authority of the Party of origin (Articles 2.6 and 3.8).

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Russia kindly asks the addressed Parties to respond until 3 June 2013 at the latest and

- 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 on your EEZ and territory.
- 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 Russia to the Affected Parties, who have indicated their wish to participate in the environmental impact procedures. Then the Affected Parties will have the opportunity for consultation of authorities and public participation (Art. 4.1 and 4.2).

Information on the national permitting procedure.

The project as described by the developer would require permits under the following Federal Laws: On Protection of the Environment, On Environmental Expertise, On Continental Shelf of Russian Federation, On Inner Sea Waters, Territorial Seas and Adjoining Zones of Russian Federation, on Exclusive Economic Zones of Russian Federation as well as permits under other legislation.

Application for permit should include positive conclusion of State Environmental Expertise (SEE).

Federal Supervision Natural Resources Management Service (Rosprirodnadzor), which is working under the authority of the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation and Federal Environmental, Industrial and Nuclear Supervision

Service of Russia (Rostekhnadzor) are responsible for carrying out SEE in Russian Federation.

Design documentation for the construction gas pipeline should undergo an examination in Federal Autonomous Institution "General Directorate of State Expertise" (FAO Glavgosexpertsiza).

The developer must prepare EIA-documentation including materials of public discussion of the project for presentation materials to SEE.

Kindly send the answer to this notification to:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
Att. Vladimir Ivlev
Deputy Director
Department of International Cooperation
(Espoo Convention National Focal Point)
4/6, B. Gruzinskaya str., D-242, GSP-5
123995 MOSCOW
Russian Federation

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

Nord Stream AG
Dirk von Ameln
Deputy Technical Director
Grafenauweg 2
6304 Zug
www.nord-stream.com

For more information about the procedure in Russia, please contact:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
Mr. Vladimir IVLEV
Tel: +7 499 254 8072
ivlev@mnr.gov.ru

Enclosures:

For additional information please refer to the documents on the enclosed memory stick (USB):

Attachment to this notification to the Affected Parties under Art. 3 of the Espoo Convention

Nord Stream Extension Project Information Document March 2013

The documents have been elaborated by the developer.

Nuritdin Inamov
Director
Department of International Cooperation

Send list:

Denmark

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Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature
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Division ZG III 4
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Latvia

Ms. Sandija BALKKA
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Lithuania

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