BSH · Postfach 30 12 20 · 20305 Hamburg

To points of contact in

- Estonia
- Finland
- Denmark
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Russian Federation
- 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 Germany 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



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Dienstsitz Hamburg

Datum 08.04.2013 Durchwahl + 49 (0) 40 3190 - 3530 Aktenzeichen (bitte bei Antwort angeben) 522/Nord Stream Erweiterung/13 M53

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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, Germany kindly asks the addressed Parties to respond until 18 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 Germany 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).

Nature of the possible decision and EIA procedure in Germany

The pipeline is planned to enter German waters south of Bornholm and cross the EEZ for 33 km until entering into German territorial waters for



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another 45 km. The pipeline is planned to transit the nature protection area "Greifswalder Bodden" until the landfall at Lubmin/Vierow. As different legislation applies in EEZ and territorial waters, three different permits are required for the construction of the pipeline:

- According to § 43 Energy Trade Law, a planning approval by the Federal Mining Agency Stralsund is needed for the section of the pipeline in German territorial waters.
- According to § 133 fig. 1 Federal Mining Law, an approval with regard to technical an safety aspects by the Federal Mining Agency Stralsund is required.
- 3. According to § 133 fig. 2 Federal Mining Law, an approval with regard to the use of the waters and environmental aspects by the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) is required.

An EIA is obligatory for decisions fig. 1) and 3).

Having received applications by NordStream for the decisions fig. 1), 2) and 3), the competent authorities Bergamt Stralsund and BSH will now initiate the EIA procedure in close cooperation.

At first, a scoping procedure will be carried out: On 12th April 2013, information about the project and the intended impact assessment will be published. The hearing time for German authorities will be from 9th April 2013 to 29th May 2013 and for the public from 16th April 2013 to 29th May 2013.

Furthermore, a formal scoping hearing will be held on 26th June 2013 in "InterCity Hotel Stralsund", Tribseer Damm 76 in 18437 Stralsund, in which comments of authorities and the public will be discussed. Representatives of the affected Parties may participate in the meeting. The meeting will be in German language, interpretation is not available.

Under consideration of the comments from the affected Parties as well as German authorities and the public, the permitting authorities will then formally determine the EIA programme and formally submit it to the developer.

Once the developer has submitted the EIA documentation to the permitting authorities, it will be sent to German authorities and put on display to the German public for comments. The comments will also be discussed in a formal hearing. The permitting authorities will then consider the results of the EIA and the comments of affected Parties, authorities and public in their decision.

Kindly send the answer to this notification to:

Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency Ms Verena Jeske Bernhard-Nocht-Straße 78 20359 Hamburg Germany verena.jeske@bsh.de



For more information about the project please contact the developer:

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

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

Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency Ms Verena Jeske Tel: +49 40 3190 35 38 verena.jeske@bsh.de

Enclosures:

For additional information please refer to the document attached in your national language:

"Nord Stream Extension Project Information Document", March 2013

The document has been elaborated by the developer.

Devel

Yours sincerely

Carolin Abromeit



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