

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development Peldu str. 25, Riga LV-1494 Latvia pasts@varam.gov.lv sandija.balka@varam.gov.lv 31 July , 2019 No.(10)-D8-2690

NOTIFICATION REGARDING CHANGES TO ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES LISTED IN APPENDIX I TO THE ESPOO CONVENTION (PREVIOUSLY PLANNED WIND FARMS)

As a country of origin under whose jurisdiction the proposed activities will take place, the Republic of Lithuania hereby notifies the Republic of Latvia about changes to proposed activities listed in Appendix I to the UN Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter referred to as Espoo Convention) – major installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (a wind farm).

Changes to the economic activities are proposed by a Lithuanian developer, "VVP investment" LLC and comprise a reduction in number and replacement of the equipment of previously planned installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind power plants). The changes will be implemented for the wind farms, planned in Mažeikiai district municipality, Židikai ward, Juodeikėliai, Griežė, Dautartai, Ritinė and Palūšė villages. The shortest distance from the wind power plants to the State border of the Republic of Latvia ranges from 0.24 to 2.6 km.

According to Lithuanian legislation and the Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (hereinafter referred to as the EIA Directive), installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms) are subject to screening for environmental impact assessment (hereinafter referred to as screening for EIA). The screening for EIA has the objective of determining whether a specific proposed economic activity will be subject to environmental impact assessment and according to Lithuanian legislation is performed by the competent authority. Outcome of the screening for EIA is a screening conclusion whether an environment impact assessment is obligatory. This conclusion will be adopted by the competent authority, after examining the screening information and taking into account size and nature of the proposed economic activity, characteristics and sensitivity of local environment, potential environmental impacts, proposals of the public concerned and the results of consultations with entities of environmental impact assessment (other state institutions and the executive institution of the relevant municipality).

Further information on the proposed activity, including available information on its possible transboundary impact is provided in the summary of the screening information attached to this notification (in English). Full text of the screening information (in Lithuanian) as well as the mentioned summary is available online, on the homepage of the Ministry of Environment: http://am.lrv.lt \rightarrow EN \rightarrow Activities \rightarrow Environmental Impact Assessment \rightarrow Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context \rightarrow Changes to previously planned installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms) in Mažeikiai district municipality, Juodeikėliai, Griežė, Dautartai, Ritinė and Palūšė villages (July 2019).

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention and other relevant provisions of international and national legislation we kindly ask you to respond by September 5, 2019 at the latest by acknowledging receipt of the notification and indicating whether you intend to participate in the environmental impact assessment procedures as a potentially affected country. In case of a positive answer please also provide comments on the above mentioned EIA screening document. We also respectfully request you to inform relevant competent authorities and the public of the Republic of Latvia about the proposed economic activity.

Please address your response to this notification to Mr. Vitalijus Auglys, Point of Contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania

Telephone: +370 706 63651 E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Yours sincerely,

Kęstutis Mažeika Acting Minister of Environment

