



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

*Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia*

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**Finnish Environment Institute**

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**Regarding the transboundary environmental impact assessment for the possibility of extending the service life of the Olkiluoto 1 and Olkiluoto 2 plant units and uprating their thermal power at the Olkiluoto nuclear power plant in Finland**

The Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau), acting as a Point of Contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter – the Espoo Convention) of Latvia and the competent authority on the environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – the EIA) in Latvia, would like to express gratitude to the Finnish Environment Institute for information sent concerning the environmental impact assessment for the possibility of extending the service life of the Olkiluoto 1 and Olkiluoto 2 plant units and uprating their thermal power at the Olkiluoto nuclear power plant in Finland (hereinafter – the Project) with reference to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention.

The Bureau hereby acknowledges receipt of the notification and prepared documentation. Considering the nature and scope of the Project and the possibility of transboundary impacts, we hereby confirm that Latvia intends to take part in the proceedings on the EIA and transboundary consultations as an affected party.

Please be informed that the Bureau published received information regarding the Project on the Bureau's webpage<sup>1</sup> on 24th of January 2024 and sent information directly to the involved authorities. The Bureau received opinions regarding participation in the transboundary consultations within the scope of competence from the Ministry of the Environment Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of the Climate and Energy of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of the Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia, the Nature Conservation Agency, the State Environmental Service, State Centre for Defence Military Objects and Procurement. The Bureau has not received comments from the public.

The authorities informed they had no comments or proposals for the EIA of the Project, except the

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/parrobezu-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti/somijas-atomelektrostacijas-olkiluoto-kodolreaktoru-olkiluoto-1-un-olkiluoto-2-ekspluatacijas-un-maksimalas-termiskas-jaudas-palielinasana>

Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia who provided comment regarding scope for the assessment of the transboundary environmental impacts of the Project. It states *“The EIA programme summary (page 24) includes preliminary analysis that only the impact of releases of radioactive substances from a severe reactor accident could extend beyond the borders of Finland and from that it can be understood that there will be no transboundary impacts beyond the borders of Finland in normal working conditions of the power plant. However, EIA programme summary in Latvian under point 5.3. Table 2 indicates only the possible transboundary effects on the marine environment, waste volumes, regional economy, energy markets, greenhouse gas emissions but not on human health and radiation doses. Therefore, we propose to add more detailed information in the Latvian language programme and EIA summary of transboundary effects on human health, by that making these conclusions clearer and more understandable to the public”*.

To promote effectiveness of participation of to the Latvian public and relevant authorities in the transboundary consultation process, we kindly ask to determine reasonable time for organizing participation process (till 60 days), that includes time to prepare and publish announcement in a corresponding newspaper, to determine term for the process of public consultation when elaborated EIA report is discussed (we would highly appreciate possibility to determine this term at least 30 days long), and to compile the proposals submitted by the public and stakeholders. Regarding documentation we kindly ask you to prepare the EIA report in English and the summary of the EIA report in Latvian.

Looking forward to constructive and effective bilateral cooperation in the transboundary context.

Yours sincerely,

Daiga Avdejanova (signature\*) Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

*\*Document is sign with secure electronical signature*

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