



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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Espoo focal point:

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*Regarding the notification of the proposed
installation for the intensive rearing of poultry*

Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau), acting as a competent authority on environmental impact assessment in Latvia, confirms receipt of the notification that was sent about the proposed installation for two intensive rearing of poultry near the border of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter – the Project).

Taking into account the scope and the size of the Project, as well as the nature of impacts and their expected transboundary distribution, the Bureau finds Environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – EIA) as resolutely necessary for both intended activities of The Project and the Republic of Latvia intends to participate in the transboundary EIA process. Both intended activities are only slightly below the threshold that is set in the Annex I of the Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, and the geographical characteristics foresee that all significant negative impacts will mostly manifest in the territory of Latvia.

The emission of pollutants and impact on air and water quality, odors, noise, expected residues and the production of waste, attraction of birds, - these are just some of the concerns that were expressed by the involved parties of public discussion, including from Nature Conservation Agency, Municipality of Tervetes district and State Environmental Service. Particular precaution is necessary with regards to hydrological hydrogeological characteristics of the affected territory and cumulative impacts, because both activities of the Project will have impact on territories that are in the same river basin (Lielupe catchment area that catches water flows also from Lithuania). The region of Tervete and Jelgava, bordered by the Republic of Lithuania in Latvia, is determined as a particularly sensitive area to nitrates with stringent requirements regarding pollution. Also, as prevailing winds at Latvia are from south, southwest and west, it is predictable that the main impact regarding odors will occur in the region of Tervete. Particular precaution is also necessary, because the closest specially protected territory of European importance (Natura 2000 site) is just 500m away from the intended activity in the Aleksandravas village, Zagare ward, Joniškis district. Nature

reserve “Ukru Garsa” has been established for the protection of habitat *Old mixed broadleaved forests* (9020 *), various rare and protected plants, invertebrates and bird species. Nature reserve “Ukru Garsa” is also one of the bird conservation sites of international importance and 11 micro reserves for the protection of various bird species are established in its territory.

Therefore the Republic of Latvia considers that the planned activity will have significant cross-border effects and intends to participate in the transboundary EIA process. In the subsequent consultation process we expect to share more detailed information regarding the scope of assessment and national requirements regarding air quality, water protection, noise and other aspects.

We kindly draw your attention to the national conditions for EIA procedure. The Law on Environmental impact assessment, designates at 30 days long term for the process of public consultation when elaborated EIA report is discussed. The time is being counted from the day a publication is published in a corresponding newspaper (national, regional, local) which will be ensured by the Republic of Latvia after receiving information from the Republic of Lithuania. A public hearing meeting or several meetings, depending on the scope and affected territory of the intended activity, are also mandatory. According to the national legislation, a public hearing meeting shall be held no sooner than 7 days after publication is published in a corresponding newspaper and no later than 10 days before the ending of public consultation process.

We are looking forward to our successful bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental assessment in the transboundary context.

Sincerely yours,

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Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia



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