



Mr. Romas Svedas
Chair of the Implementation Committee
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context
Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment
Sent to: elena.santer@un.org; tea.aulavuo@un.org

Nature and Climate
Adaptation
Ref. TOVPL
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Danish response to letter from the Chair of the Espoo Implementation Committee regarding Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant (Ref. EIA/IC/CI/5 - Hinkley Point C NPP)

Dear Mr. Svedas,

Thank you for your e-mail dated 4 April 2018 regarding the Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant. Please accept our sincere apologies for this late response.

First of all I would like to inform you that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Danish Ministry of Environment and Food has undergone an organizational change in April 2018 and the role as Focal Point for Administrative Matters now lies with the Ministry of Environment and Food while the role as Point of Contact regarding Notification remains in the EPA.

In the enclosed letter dated 28 March 2018, the Chair of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment asks the Government of Denmark to inform the Committee on the following:

- a) The results of the consultations with the United Kingdom since March 2017 with regard to the activity;
- b) Whether the Government of Denmark considered that the activity at Hinkley Point C was likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact on the territory of Denmark;
- c) The position of the Government of Denmark regarding the application of the Convention, including on:
 - (i) Whether the discussion with the United Kingdom in reaching the agreement on whether there was likely to be a significant adverse transboundary impact will be continued in accordance with the article 3 para. 7, and whether in absence of such agreement the matter will be submitted to the inquiry commission in accordance to the provisions of appendix IV of the Convention, or;

(ii) Whether, after consultations with the United Kingdom, the application of the Convention was considered no longer necessary.

Denmark would like to provide the following responses to these questions:

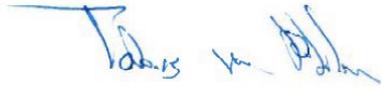
- a) The United Kingdom Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has contacted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Danish Ministry of Environment and Food and provided relevant material and documentation about Hinkley Point C NPP. In an e-mail dated 5 April 2017, the United Kingdom BEIS proposed a meeting with representative from the Danish EPA in order to provide information of the current planning practices and procedures relevant to Hinkley Point C, to update on the current stage of the development as well as to consider what further engagement should take place in order to address the recommendations proposed by the Espoo Implementation Committee. The Danish EPA appreciated the offer to arrange for a meeting between the relevant authorities in the two countries, but regarded that sharing of electronic copies of material and information regarding Hinkley Point C was sufficient. Further to this, the United Kingdom BEIS sent a letter to the Danish EPA dated 28 July 2017, which included the BEIS's proposed next steps regarding addressing the Espoo Implementation Committee's recommendations for Hinkley Point C.

In summary, the Danish EPA has been satisfied with the consultations with the United Kingdom BEIS including the material and documentation provided. The Danish EPA has no further remarks in this regard.

- b) The Government of Denmark is of the opinion that in case of a major accident at Hinkley Point C this could lead to significant environmental transboundary adverse impacts on Danish territory including the Danish fishery sector. As such, the Danish opinion regarding this question remains the same.
- c) As stated in our e-mail to the United Kingdom BEIS dated 27 October 2017, Denmark would like to continue the consultations and to receive advanced notice of invitations to meetings and other information in connection with Hinkley Point C, when sent to the other relevant parties. Denmark would also like to receive digital copies of agendas, minutes and presentations from meetings, and to be notified of information made available on homepages when such are published.

From our consultations with United Kingdom we understand that BIES will ensure that as part of the process of future decision-making regarding planned constructions of nuclear power plants, notifications will be sent in accordance with the Convention. Based on this and the constructive consultations with United Kingdom BIES so far, the Government of Denmark does not see the need for continuing the discussion with United Kingdom on whether there was likely to be a significant adverse transboundary impact in accordance with the article 3 para. 7.

Yours Sincerely,



Tobias von Platen-Hallermund
Espoo Focal Point of Administrative Matters