



**МІНІСТЭРСТВА
ПРЫРОДНЫХ РЭСУРСАЎ І АХОВЫ
НАВАКОЛЬНАГА АСЯРОДДЗЯ
РЭСПУБЛІКІ БЕЛАРУСЬ
МІНПРЫРОДЫ**

вул. Калектарная, 10, 220048, г. Мінск
тэл. (37517) 200-66-91; факс (37517) 200-55-83
E-mail: minproos@mail.belpak.by
р/р № 360490000111 ААБ «Беларусбанк»
г. Мінск, код 795, УНП 100519825; АКПА 00012782

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО
ПРИРОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ И ОХРАНЫ
ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЫ
РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ
МИНПРИРОДЫ**

ул. Коллекторная, 10, 220048, г. Минск
тел. (37517) 200-66-91; факс (37517) 200-55-83
E-mail: minproos@mail.belpak.by
р/с № 360490000111 АСБ «Беларусбанк»
г. Минск, код 795, УНП 100519825; ОКПО 00012782

25.07.2013 № 13-12/1040
На № _____ ад _____

**Implementation Committee
Convention on Environmental
Impact Assessment in a
Transboundary Context**

Referring to the findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee under the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2013/2, annex), the Belarusian Side has the honour to inform the Implementation Committee on the measures taken for implementation of these recommendations.

On April 30, 2013 (see Attachment 1) the Belarusian Side provided the Lithuanian Side with answers to the questions on the EIA report for the Belarusian NPP and requested the Lithuanian Side to disseminate the information on the final EIA report among the Lithuanian public and to give the latter an opportunity to make comments. The Belarusian Side also proposed to hold bilateral consultations on the final EIA report with Lithuanian experts and the public before May 20, 2013. The Lithuanian Side did not reply to these proposals.

On June 11, 2013 (see Attachment 2) the Belarusian Side sent to the Lithuanian Side the final EIA report translated into Lithuanian with a request to forward it to concerned Lithuanian authorities and the public. The Belarusian Side proposed to hold consultations with the concerned authorities and the public of Lithuania before August 15, 2013.

Contrary to the repeated requests of the Belarusian Side, the Lithuanian Side has not disseminated the final EIA report for the Belarusian NPP among the Lithuanian public. All the attempts of the Belarusian Side to discuss the procedure of implementation of the Committee's recommendations were practically blocked by the Lithuanian Side. Furthermore, in the letter of July 8, 2013 (see Attachment 3) the Lithuanian Side with the reference to the intensive schedule of Lithuania's EU Presidency has informed the Belarusian Side that the preliminary reaction to the EIA report would not be available earlier than the end of the summer.

This position can only be considered as an attempt to intentionally stall the process. Taking this into account and following the recommendations of the Implementation Committee, the Belarusian Side decided to hold the public hearings for the Lithuanian public in the town of Ostrovets (Belarus) on August 17, 2013. The information about the hearings was disseminated through the Lithuanian mass media, while the final EIA report for the Belarusian NPP in Lithuanian was posted in the Internet. In order to facilitate participation of the Lithuanian public in the hearings, the Belarusian Side will provide the hearings participants with free entry visas and transportation to and from Ostrovets.

On July 19, 2013, the Belarusian Side informed the Lithuanian Side about the above mentioned steps (see Attachment 4). The Lithuanian Side was also proposed once again to hold consultations in accordance with Article 5 of the Espoo Convention on August 20, 2013 in Minsk.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus avails itself of this opportunity to assure the Implementation Committee in its intention to implement the Committee's recommendations as fully as possible and to renew assurances of its highest consideration.

- Attachment: 1. letter of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus of April, 30, 2013;
2. letter of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus of June, 11, 2013;
3. letter of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania of July, 8, 2013;
4. letter of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus of July, 19, 2013.

First Deputy Minister of
Natural Resources and Environmental
Protection of the Republic of Belarus
Focal Point to the Espoo Convention



Vital Kulik