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**Implementation Committee** 

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

> Palais des Nations, CH-1211, Geneva 10 Switzerland

SUBJECT: Reply to questions posed by the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003) (letter of 17 April 2015)

Answers to the following questions:

a) What is the status of the Energy Strategy? Has the Strategy been finally adopted and if not, at which stage of the decision-making procedure is draft?

However, due to the establishment of the new government in April, the procedure on the adoption of the Energy Strategy was repeated; the proposal of the development strategy was determined at the Government session on 29. 05. 2015 and is in parliamentary procedure.

**Explanation:** 

Ministry of Mining and Energy has prepared a proposal of the new Strategy for Energy Development of the Republic of Serbia until 2025, with projections until 2030. This document was presented on public consultations from 16.08.2015 to 11.10. 2015. Within the public consultations, there have been public discussions in Belgrade (a total of three), in Nis, Novi Sad and Kragujevac. There was also a meeting with the Academy of Engineering Sciences. The last public discussion was devoted to the diplomatic chore, the representatives of the EU delegation in Belgrade, the representatives of Energy Community. In addition, a report was completed on the SEA on the Strategy of Energy Development of the Republic of Serbia until 2025, with the projections until 2030.

b) Has the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) procedure been carried out in relation to the draft Energy Strategy according to the Protocol on SEA? A SEA report was completed on the Strategy of Energy Development of the Republic of Serbia until 2025, with the projections until 2030.

- c) In the context of the SEA procedure for the Energy Strategy, has Serbia notified potentially affected Parties in line with article 10 of the Protocol on SEA? Yes, Serbia has notified potentially affected Parties in line with article 10 of the Protocol on SEA
- d) Does the Energy Strategy include a list of specific projects to be undertaken?

  The strategy draft contains the potential projects, which would be realized in the energy sectors of the Republic of Serbia.
- e) What is the status of the Spatial Plan? Has the Plan been adopted and if not, at which stage of the decision-making procedure is the draft?

  The Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia was adopted on 2010 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 88/2010).
- f) Has the SEA procedure been carried out in relation to the draft Spatial Plan according to the Protocol on SEA?

  No, we don't have experience for the implementation of SEA procedure in transboundary context for a Spatial Plan. Also, we would like to stress that we have never received notification for the implementation of SEA procedure in transboundary context for a Spatial Plan from any neighboring country.
- g) In the context of the SEA procedure for the Spatial Plan, has Serbia notified potentially affected Parties in line with article 10 of the Protocol on SEA?

  No, as mentioned above
- h) What is the relationship between the Energy Strategy and the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia?

The Strategy of Energy has been harmonized with the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia. We would like to stress that there is only a draft. The procedure on the adoption of the Energy Strategy was repeated; the proposal of the development strategy was determined at the Government session on 29. 05. 2015 and is in parliamentary procedure.

Yours sincerely,

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