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Answer to the notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) for the construction and operation of the first nuclear power plant in Poland

Finland received notification on 7 December, 2015 from Poland concerning the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the construction and operation of the first nuclear power plant in Poland. The notification was made in accordance with Article 3 of the Espoo Convention. Included in the notification was a project description document. EIA scoping report was delivered later by mail.

Poland explained in the notification letter that its legislation does not cover public participation in the scoping phase. Therefore the information provided on the project and on scoping was provided only in English. Given also the short period for an answer, Finland was not able to arrange public commenting on the material, however the material was put publicly available on the internet. Comments were provided on request by Ministry of Employment and the Economy and Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority.

To be able to provide the Finnish public and authorities the possibility to comment on the environmental impact assessment documentation, Finland states that it will participate in the EIA of the nuclear power plant project.

The following comments should be taken into account in the EIA documentation,

- possible transboundary effects from severe accidents,
- impacts on the Baltic Sea, both from normal operation and from possible accidents (e.g. emissions, effects on populations), as our common marine environment,
- comprehensive summary on regulations in force in Poland, which restrict the likelihood of a severe accident and its consequences. Finland would appreciate, if these regulations were provided in English.

Finland would appreciate the EIA documentation material to be provided in Finnish. Please note that the authorities need to secure adequate translation to the other national language and enough time for the translation before the public hearing must be provided.

Permanent Secretary

Hannele Pokka

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