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Mr. Michał Kiełsznia General Director for Environmental Protection Ul. Wawelska 52/54 00-922 Warsaw Poland

Ms. Hanna Trojanowska
Government's Plenipotentiary for Polish Nuclear Power Engineering Issues
Undersecretary of State
Ministry of Economy
Plac Trzech Krzyży 3/5
00-507 Warsaw
Poland

Finland's participation in the planning procedure for the Polish Nuclear Power Programme and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment

Finland received notification from the Polish Government concerning the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Polish Nuclear Power Programme on 8 August 2011. Finland replied on 16 August that it does wish to participate in the planning procedure for the Polish Nuclear Power Programme and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment, in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the UN/ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Finland gave its comments on the Polish Nuclear Power Programme and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment on 21 December 2011.

The Ministry of the Environment has received Poland's response to the comments submitted by Finland on 21 December 2011. The Ministry of the Environment would like to thank Poland for the opportunity for Finland to participate in the planning procedure for the Polish Nuclear Power Programme and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment. The Ministry would also like to express its thanks for the Polish responses to remarks given in our letter on 21 December 2011. The information we have received clarifies most of those questions and issues raised by the Finnish authorities and the public. However, we would still like to kindly request a more precise response to the comments made by Greenpeace Nordic, Helsinki office.

In Poland's response to the remarks submitted by the Finnish party, Poland asked the Finnish party to provide Poland with the correct data regarding the average annual dose in Finland. The average annual dose in Finland is 3.7 mSv/year. Approximately half of this dose is caused by indoor radon, approximately 30% of the dose is natural background radiation, and approximately 15% comes from the use of radiation in health care.

The Ministry of the Environment would also like to inform Poland that Finland does not wish to enter into a transboundary consultation in the form of a meeting regarding the planning procedure for the Polish Nuclear Power Programme and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The Ministry of the Environment is pleased that when the programme is adopted, Finland, in accordance with Article 11 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, will be notified and

that the programme will be made available, together with a statement summarising how the environmental considerations have been integrated into it, how the comments received have been taken into account, and how the reasons for adopting it in light of the reasonable alternatives have been considered.

Permanent Secretary

Haung Police Hannele Pokka

Ministerial Adviser

Lasse Tallskog

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For information

Ministry of Employment and the Economy of Finland Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland Ministry of Social Affairs and Health of Finland Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) Greenpeace Nordic, Helsinki office