



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA
THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional
Development
Pieldu str. 25, Riga
LV-1494 Latvia

14 April 2015 No. (10-3)-D8 - 2769

NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE PLANNED PEAT EXTRACTION IN JUODYMAS PEAT DEPOSIT

According to Lithuanian legislation and directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council *On the Assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment* (hereinafter – Directive 2011/92/EU), peat extraction, where the surface of the site exceed 150 hectares is subject to the environmental impact assessment. The planned peat extraction in Juodymas peat deposit will cover the area of 258.71 hectares.

Juodymas peat deposit is located in territories of Lithuania and Latvia, but the bigger part is situated in Lithuania, the planned extraction area is in the north-east part of Lithuania, in Rokiškis district elderships of Rokiškis countryside and Pandėlys, the boundary of the planned extraction area is set 50 metres from the border of Latvia. As the planned economic activity is planned very close to the Latvian border, taking into account the requirements of the Article 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU and in the spirit of good neighbourhood, we would like to notify you about the initiation of environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – EIA) procedure for the planned peat extraction in Juodymas peat deposit.

EIA procedure is being initiated by Nereta Ltd, the consultant of the developer GJ Magma Ltd will prepare the EIA documentation (EIA program and EIA report).

Nereta Ltd plans to extract about 50 thousand m³ of peat per year. The peat extraction season usually starts in the middle of May and continues till the end of August according to Lithuanian climatic conditions (about 106 days).

Around all the planned extraction area the surrounding ditches will be excavated, which will always be filled with water. These ditches are foreseen as the main fire prevention measure, which will ensure that fire will not spread into Latvian territory. The excavation of melioration ditches may only affect the drainage of areas 20-30 m away, therefore 50 m distance from the border of Latvia should be completely enough in order to prevent any adverse transboundary impacts.

The national EIA procedure is performed in two subsequent stages. During the first stage, the EIA program (scoping document) is prepared and presented to the relevant parties of EIA (the state authorities responsible for healthcare, fire prevention, protection of cultural heritage, local authorities) and public for a review and consultation. The EIA program defines scope and content

of EIA report and shall be approved by the competent authority – Environmental Protection Agency.

During the second stage, the EIA report is prepared based on the approved EIA program and with due respect to the opinions and statements made by the public, the relevant parties of EIA and the affected Parties (when transboundary EIA is applicable). The EIA report will be reviewed by the relevant parties of EIA, the public and the affected Parties before the adoption of substantiated decision on the permissibility of the proposed economic activity in the selected location by the Environmental Protection Agency.

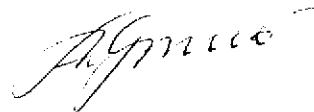
Please advise us about your willingness to participate in the EIA procedure by 11 of May 2015. In case of positive answer please provide comments on the submitted EIA program (the document is in Lithuanian language, the summary of which (including information about possible transboundary impacts) is in English) by the same date. Please address your response to this notification and comments to Mr. Vitalijus Auglys point of contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. The contact information is provided below:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Director of Pollution Prevention Department
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Telephone (+370 5) 2663651
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Please find enclosed EIA program (paper and electronic version)

Yours sincerely

Algirdas Genevičius
Vice-Minister



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