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ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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Ref. EIA/IC/INFO/9

17 December 2013

Dear Mr Auglys,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991).

At its twenty-ninth session, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2013, the Committee continued to consider the information it had gathered on the planned construction of the Visaginas nuclear power plant in Lithuania, close to the border with Belarus, further to the information provided by a Belarusian non-governmental organization (NGO). The Committee considered replies from the Governments of Lithuania and Belarus in response to the Committee's questions by letters of 12 September 2013.

The Committee agreed that it would continue its consideration of the matter at its next meeting. At the request of the Committee, I am now writing to invite you to provide clarification on the following:

- (a) What is the current situation of the proposed activity in the light of the applicable procedures in Lithuania?
- (b) How has the Lithuanian public been informed about the public hearing?
- (c) How has Lithuania taken into account the comments by Belarus within the transboundary procedure?

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Head of EIA Division
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CC: Ecological Initiative, ecoin@tut.by

You are kindly requested to provide the information to the secretariat by no later than 31 January 2014, for the Committee to consider at its next session.

In addition, I would like to request Lithuania's consent by no later than 10 January 2014 that Lithuania's responses of 20 November 2013 be shared with the NGO in Belarus to further clarify the reasons why it had not been informed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Vesna Kolar Planinšič
Chair, Implementation Committee,
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context