

Dear Mr. Zakharia,

In response to the letter dated 19 September, 2014, regarding the Follow-up on the decision of the Meeting of the Parties (EIA/IC/CI/1 Law on Environmental assessment and the EIA/IC/s/3, I would like to inform you on the following:

- As it was notified earlier, the “National Law on the Impact Assessment and Expertise of the environment” has been approved by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on June 21, 2014. After the approval the Government of Armenia received comments on the Article 14, which envisages the number of activities in categories A), B) and C).
- Taking into consideration the importance of the World Bank`s comments, an accelerated procedure has been applied by the Government in September and the Law has been amended accordingly. Additional comments and recommendations made by other international experts and NGOs will further be taken into consideration according to the procedural requirements.

Regarding the requested clarifications on the legal status of the decision authorizing the activity on Metsamor NP new unit construction, it has to be mentioned that:

- a) The earlier decision on the construction of the new block of the nuclear power station is null and void. Due to the lack of financial resources no works have been initiated and carried out since the notification, and consequently the project has been completely abandoned;
- b) The new Government Program that envisages the start of the construction of a new nuclear power unit will require the issuance of a new authorization.

I would highly appreciate your assistance in circulating this letter among the members of the Implementation Committee.

Allow me, also, to express my hopes, that these additional clarifications will dissipate any and all concerns regarding this issue.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Elyanora Grigoryan