



Tomáš Chalupa
ministr životního prostředí

Courtesy translation

Prague, March 15, 2012
Reference No.: 17437ENV/12

Dear Minister,

in the letter dated December 6, 2011 the Prime Minister Petr Nečas offered to the Federal Chancellor Werner Faymann possibility to organize a public discussion on the project of the Temelín Nuclear Power Plant enlargement in Austria. Federal Chancellor Werner Faymann accepted this offer in the letter dated February 22, 2012.

Since the Federal Chancellor Werner Faymann entrusted the competency to your ministry in his letter, I would like to turn to you and your ministry so that we could immediately and without delay start preparing of this demanding event aimed at the increase of the transparency of the entire project of the Temelín Nuclear Power Plant enlargement in relation to the Austrian public.

First, regarding the content of the letter of the Federal Chancellor, let me reiterate and emphasize, that neither Czech act No. 100/2001 Coll., on environmental impact assessment, nor international conventions provide a sufficient legal basis for a public hearing to be organized as well as in the territory of the affected country. The offered public discussion on the project of the Temelín Nuclear Power Plant enlargement will be held outside the framework of Czech act No. 100/2001 Coll., so outside of the ongoing EIA procedure, but with the experts participating in preparation of the EIA procedure documents involved. On the Czech party the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic (MoE) was charged with the preparation of the necessary steps.

I would also like to reassure you, that the MoE is ready to provide the maximum cooperation with the preparation, organization and during this event in the terms of its competencies of the foreign party.

Regarding the course of the EIA procedure the MoE will be in a close cooperation with the fixing of the date of this public discussion which should be held in April or May. The choice of the venue is entirely up to you to be best for your vision, needs and requirements of the Austrian public.

The MoE will appreciate a lot the direct provision of all the organizational requirements related to the public discussion at the venue of the part of you:

selection of suitable spaces (hall) with sufficient capacity accordant with the interest of the Austrian public, spatial arrangement (stage, seating, emergency exits) regarding to safety and health components, road access including appropriate parking capacity, technical equipment, projection and sound system sufficient to the number of the participants, simultaneous translation German-Czech-German, security and health care for the entire duration of the event, etc.

The MoE will ensure coordination and participation of about 30-40 experts who will answer the questions raised. We expect that there will be 10 Czech experts in charge on the stage; others will be ready to provide professional cooperation with answering the questions under the stage. The MoE will ensure the transport of the experts to the venue as well.

In the matter of the financial provision of this event we expect close cooperation of our ministries again. We would appreciate if your ministry could participate on the financial provision in the venue. The MoE will ensure all the costs regarding with the participation of the Czech experts (transport, salary, accommodation) on the public discussion.

The contact persons for the preparation of the public discussion on the MoE's party are Ing. Jaroslava Honová, director of the Department of Environmental Impact Assessment and Integrated Prevention (jaroslava.honova@mzp.cz) and Mgr. Daniel Brix (daniel.brix@mzp.cz) and Mgr. Evžen Doležal (evzen.dolezal@mzp.cz) as the persons charged by the director. I would like to ask you for the contact persons from your ministry as soon as possible to keep the above mentioned date of the public discussion.

Dear Minister, I would like to mention in the conclusion that I care about good neighborly relations between the Czech Republic and Austria. Therefore it is our key interest to help ensure a sufficient transparency, particularly in a matter of such significance that the project of the Temelín Nuclear Power Plant enlargement without doubt is. I firmly believe, that the common organization and realization of this public discussion will lead to further deepening of our trust, cooperation and good neighborly relations.

Yours faithfully

H.E.
Nikolaus Berlakovich
Federal Minister
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
Vienna

For information: (sent under reference No.: 20056/ENV/12)

H.E.

Václav Bartuška

Commissioner for Enlargement of the Temelín Nuclear Power Plant

Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Prague

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Department of Central Europe

Prague