

# Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context



## Seminar

**Cooperation on the EIA Convention in the Baltic  
Sea subregion 20-21 October 2005**

**Gas pipeline between Sweden, Denmark  
and Germany**

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# The project

Submarine pipeline for natural gas between Germany, Denmark and Sweden

Located in territorial waters and economic zones of all three states

Five different alternative routes studied



# Espoo application

The three states both Parties of Origin and Affected Parties → *Joint responsibilities*

Meeting Focal points and developer in May 2000 in Copenhagen →

*All six other Baltic Sea states affected Parties*

*Joint Espoo procedure – all three states notify all Affected Parties, Sweden sends documents*

# Espoo procedure

## Notification September 2000:

*All answered that significant effect unlikely*

*Finland and Russia involved in process for interest of information*

*Latvia and Poland wanted to be informed*

## Consultations January 2002:

*Sweden sent EIA for comments and as information,  
Denmark sent letter*

*Few comments on offshore part*

# Decisions in Sweden

## Decisions 16 December 2004

- Natural Gas Code
- Act of the Continental Shelf
- Environmental Code and the Act on Swedish Economical zone

## Decision 9 December 2004

- Conditions for the project within the Swedish territory

# Observations

- *Different legal processes in the three countries*
- *EIA process separate or integrated in application process*
- *Different legal requirements for EIA & development consent on land, in territorial waters and in economical zone*
- *Long time between EIA and the final decision*

# Conclusions

- **Informal early contact is essential**
- **Knowledge on legal processes in other Party of Origin essential**
- **Inform clearly about the whole process and future steps when notifying**
- **Good start but joint process less focused when national process takes over**
- **Need for follow up meeting when the case ends**