



Bundesrepublik Deutschland

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To points of contact in

- Denmark
- Poland
- Sweden

as of enclosed list

Ihr Zeichen, Ihre Nachricht vom
Votre référence, votre lettre du
Your reference, your letter of

Mein Zeichen, meine Nachricht vom
Ma référence, ma lettre du
My reference, my letter of

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14-5574

7.05.2018

Notification pursuant to Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the establishment of the Baltic Pipe Project

According to the Espoo Convention affected countries shall be notified and consulted on projects that are likely to cause transboundary environmental impacts. As a party of origin Germany hereby notifies Denmark, Poland and Sweden regarding the Baltic Pipe Project.

The pipeline project is covered by Annex I, no. 8 of the Espoo Convention "large diameter oil and gas pipelines".

Information on the project

The construction of a marine gas pipeline from Denmark to Poland is intended in the Baltic Sea. The offshore pipeline from Denmark has a total length of 250 - 280 km with landfall in Denmark in the Bay of Faxe and three options for landfall in Poland (Niechorze, Rogowo, Gaski).

The marine gas pipeline in the Baltic Sea is part of a project connection the Norwegian-German gas pipeline located in the North Sea to the Eastern Europe market, thereby improving the security of supply in Eastern Europe, primarily Poland and contributing to phasing out of coal power.

The pipeline will be laid directly on the seabed by the S-lay method where possible. Where the seabed is not suitable for supporting a pipeline and where large free spans are foreseen due to bathymetry the seabed may be enforced by rock material. In shallow waters or in areas sensitive to the physical structure, the pipeline will be buried. The burial method is most likely trenching. It is anticipated that 2-3 km of pipeline is laid per day.

During the construction phase the construction works on the seabed will cause some underwater noise and disturbance of the sediment and vessels will be visible and hearable at the sea

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surface. During the operation phase there will be a safety zone around the pipeline preventing fishery and anchoring.

In appendix to this notification, the project is described in further detail together with the potential transboundary environmental impacts.

Transboundary impacts

Transboundary impacts can potentially occur for all environmental receptors. The transboundary impacts caused by the *construction activities* will cause some under water noise and disturbance of the sediment. During the *operation phase* transboundary impacts are foreseen for commercial fishery that takes place around the pipeline.

Developer

The Baltic Pipe project is being developed by GAZ-System S.A. and Energinet as a joint venture. GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. is responsible for the Baltic Sea part of the project (this part), Energinet is responsible for the tie-in to the existing pipeline in the North Sea and crossing Danish land and straits.

The Baltic Sea part of the project is notified by:

Gaz-System

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02-337 Warsaw

Poland

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Espoo Contact in Germany:

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The EIA Process in Germany

The part of the gas pipeline located in the German EEZ will require two permits:

1. According to § 133 fig. 1 Federal Mining Law, an approval with regard to technical and safety aspects by the Federal Mining Agency Stralsund.
2. According to § 133 fig. 2 Federal Mining Law, an approval with regard to the use of the waters and environmental aspects by the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH).

An EIA is obligatory for decision fig. 2).

Having received applications by GAZ-SYSTEM S.E. for the decisions fig. 1) and 2), BSH will now initiate the EIA procedure. At first, a scoping procedure will be carried out. Information about the project and the intended impact assessment will be published. Furthermore, a formal scoping hearing will be held, in which comments of authorities and the public will be discussed. Representatives of the affected Parties may participate in the meeting.

Under consideration of the comments from the affected Parties as well as German authorities and the public, the permitting authorities will then formally determine the EIA programme and formally submit the developer.

Once the developer has submitted the EIA documentation to the permitting authorities, it will be sent to German authorities and put on display to German public for comments. The comments will also be discussed in a formal hearing. The permitting authorities will then consider the results of the EIA and the comments of affected Parties, authorities and public in their decision. You will be informed about the hearing time and the date for the formal scoping hearing if you agree to participate in the transboundary EIA-procedure.

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Germany kindly asks the addressed Parties to respond until 2nd of April 2018 at the latest and

1. confirm receipt of this letter,
2. inform if you wish to take part in this procedure as an Affected Party,
3. let us know if you have specific remarks for content in the assessment of transboundary environmental impacts.

Subsequent to the notification, the developer plans to prepare an EIA documentation, which will then – according to the provisions of the Espoo Convention - be sent by Germany to the Affected Parties, who have indicated their wish to participate in the environmental impact procedures. Then the Affected Parties will have the opportunity for consultation of authorities and public participation (Art. 4.1 and 4.2).

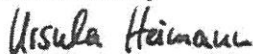
Due to the circumstance that the developer is planning for two alternatives, one alternative in the Swedish EEZ and one alternative in the German EEZ, it is uncertain if Germany will be a Party of Origin in the next phase.

Enclosures:

For additional information please refer to the document attached:

"Baltic Pipe – Espoo Scoping Report - Baltic Sea" December 2017 (The document has been elaborated by the developer.)

Yours sincerely



Dr. Ursula Heimann

Send list:

Denmark:

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