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Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Environment and Water
Management
Austria

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010007-000823

Sent by email

Date: 1 February 2017

Dear Sirs

Notification in relation to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (the "Espoo Convention")

Development is proposed for a new nuclear power station at Wylfa, Anglesey, North Wales. The proposed development is currently at a pre-application stage in the UK's development consent process under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). It is anticipated that a formal application for development consent under the PA 2008 will be submitted in 2017.

This letter notifies your State of the proposed development and explains how your State can become involved in the decision process, including the environmental impact assessment ("EIA") procedure, if your State deems this appropriate.

Information on the nature of the possible decision, and the PA 2008 process, is provided in the Planning Inspectorate Advice note 8 series available at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

The proposed development

The project is a proposed new nuclear electricity generating station located in the 'Wylfa Newydd Development Area' on the north coast of Anglesey. This covers approximately 380 hectares of land and extends into the Irish Sea at Porth-y-pistyll.

The generating station would have an electrical output of approximately 2,700 megawatts (MW). It would include two Advanced Boiling Water Reactors, associated plant and ancillary structures and Off-Site Power Station Facilities. The Off-Site Power Station Facilities, which are an integral part of the generation station, comprise the Alternative Emergency Control Centre, the Environmental Survey Laboratory and the Mobile Emergency Equipment Garage. These would be located outside of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area, but still within Anglesey.

'Enabling works' (to be consented separately under an alternative consenting regime) are anticipated to take place from mid-2016 until late-2018 and the main construction stage would take place from mid-2018 until mid-2026. The start of commissioning and operation would be mid 2023, with commercial operation of the proposed development commencing in 2026.

General notification for proposed new nuclear electricity generating station developments

Your State has previously requested to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to be notified regarding all new nuclear projects in the UK, including the Wylfa Newydd Generating Station project. We consider this request to be confirmation to the Secretary of State that you wish to participate in the EIA procedure under paragraphs 5 to 8 of Article 3 and Articles 4 to 7 of the Espoo Convention in relation to this application.

Should the application be accepted for examination, we will contact you to advise you where the application documents can be viewed and how to comment on the proposed development.

We have set out below a brief outline of the consultation process following acceptance for your information:

- Your State will be given the opportunity to provide the opinions of its public and its relevant authorities about the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment of your State before development consent for the development is granted; and
- You will have a six week consultation period to provide comments on the application.

Under statute, the PA 2008, there is a maximum of six months to carry out the examination. Following the examination a recommendation will be made to the relevant Secretary of State who will then have three months in which to make a decision on whether to grant or refuse development consent.

Screening and specific environmental impacts

Notwithstanding the general position put forward above, the proposed development has been identified as a project within the scope of paragraph 2 of Appendix 1 to the Convention and EU Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment ("the EIA Directive"), as implemented by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) ("the EIA Regulations").

Consequently, the Secretary of State has screened the proposal for likely significant adverse transboundary impacts in your state, as provided for in Article 3(1) of the Espoo Convention, and Article 7 of the EIA Directive, and is of the view that the proposed development is **not likely** to have such impacts. This assessment includes the taking of a precautionary approach to the information currently provided by the applicant. The screening assessment and related material is available at:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010007-000817>

Registering as an 'interested party'

As stated above, you may also register as an 'interested party' during the 'pre-examination stage', which begins once a formal application for development consent under the PA 2008 is accepted by the Secretary of State for examination and the applicant has publicised the Secretary of State's decision to that effect. The process for doing this is explained in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.3:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

Registering as an interested party will mean that your State will be automatically kept informed about the progress of the application and the decision and you will be invited to take part in the examination.

Dissemination of information

You may additionally wish to consider the dissemination of information on the proposed development for the public concerned in your State, under Article 3(8) of the Espoo Convention, and Article 7(3) of the EIA Directive as implemented by the EIA Regulations. The accessibility of information is detailed below.

Responding to this letter

The Planning Inspectorate (the independent body responsible for certain planning matters) would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this letter. Ideally your reply should be sent electronically to Wylfa@pins.gsi.gov.uk.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Environmental Services using the contact details provided.

Yours faithfully

Simone Wilding

Simone Wilding
Head of Major Casework Management
on behalf of the Secretary of State

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.