



5 February 2008
YM1/5521/2008

Espoo Convention's Points of Contacts for Notification in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, the Russian Federation and Austria

Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) for a project plan to construct a new nuclear power plant in Finland

As Party of Origin Finland is hereby sending notification, in accordance with Article 3 of the Espoo Convention, of the project plan by a Finnish energy company, Fennovoima Oy to construct a new nuclear power plant in Finland to one of the following municipalities: Simo, Pyhäjoki, Kristinestad or Ruotsinpyhtää.

The environmental impact assessment (EIA) will include a nuclear power plant with electric power of 1,500-2,500 MW. The plant is planned to consist of one or two light-water reactors (pressurised-water or boiling water reactors) and the disposal site for low- and medium-level waste. In addition, the zero alternative, i.e. that the project will not be implemented, will be studied.

The project can be found as item 2 (nuclear power stations) on the list of activities in Appendix I to the Espoo Convention that are likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact. The project can be found also on the list of activities in the Agreement between Finland and Estonia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context; thus, this agreement shall be applied to the project as well in relation to Estonia.

The Convention states that the concerned Parties shall ensure that the public in the areas likely to be affected are informed of the proposed activity and provided with possibilities for making comments on or objections to the proposed activity, and that these comments or objections are transmitted to the competent authority of the Party of Origin. The Finnish Ministry of the Environment is the Point of Contact of the Espoo Convention in Finland. The Ministry is prepared to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that your public is provided with similar opportunities as the Finnish public has to comment on the EIA programme and documentation. Please contact Ms Seija Rantakallio (Ministry of the Environment), if you require further information or assistance on this matter.

Two other energy companies, Teollisuuden Voima and Fortum, already initiated EIAs of similar projects, in a bid to build the sixth power plant unit in Finland. Finland notified its neighbouring countries and the other Baltic Sea countries about these EIA procedures in June 2007.

The decision-making process for the construction of a nuclear facility

The Nuclear Energy Act (990/1987) and the Nuclear Energy Decree (161/1988) define the licensing procedure and the conditions for the use of nuclear energy, including waste management and the responsibilities and powers of the authorities. The detailed Finnish licensing requirements for nuclear installations are outlined in the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) regulatory guides (www.stuk.fi).

The operator submits an application to the Government to obtain a decision-in-principle on a new nuclear facility. The Government requests a preliminary safety appraisal from the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) and a statement from the municipality intended as the site of the planned nuclear facility. The municipality has a right of decisive veto against a new facility. In addition, the Government requests statements from other authorities and related bodies, and organises a public hearing in the municipality where the facility is planned to be located for

the residents of the municipality and of neighbouring municipalities. The Ministry of Employment and the Economy (until 31.12.2007 Ministry of Trade and Industry) is responsible for preparing the decision.

The Government shall make a decision-in-principle on whether the construction of the facility is, or is not, in line with the overall good of society. A favourable decision-in-principle is forwarded to Parliament for ratification. Parliament may either ratify or reject the decision-in-principle as such.

If the decision-in-principle is favourable, and Parliament ratifies it, the operator applies in due time for a construction licence from the Government. The Government requests all relevant statements and decides whether to issue a licence for the construction of the nuclear facility.

Towards the end of the construction phase, the operator applies for an operating licence for the facility. After it has received the necessary official statements, the Government decides whether to issue an operating licence for the facility.

EIA procedure in Finland

The Finnish EIA procedure consists of two phases: the EIA programme (scoping document) phase and the EIA documentation phase. The assessment procedure began when the developer, Fennovoima Oy, submitted the EIA programme to the coordinating authority, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy (until 31.12.2007 Ministry of Trade and Industry). The EIA programme contains information on what are the potential environmental impacts of the project and on the alternatives to the project that are proposed to be studied and assessed. Authorities, the public and NGOs are entitled to comment on the EIA programme from 5 February until 7 April 2008. The coordination authority will take into account the comments received, domestically and from abroad, and will issue its own opinion on the EIA programme. In its statement, the coordination authority will indicate which investigations the developer must concentrate on and how the proposal for the EIA programme should be amended. In accordance with the Finnish EIA legislation, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy must give its own statement to the developer on the adequacy of the EIA programme by 7 May 2008 at the latest. This statement will be sent to the Point of Contact of your country.

It is the duty of the developer to assess the environmental impacts of the project and its alternatives. The developer draws up the assessment documentation report on the basis of the investigations carried out. Authorities, the public and NGOs are entitled to comment also on the EIA documentation. The coordination authority collects all the opinions and comments submitted on the EIA documentation and, after taking these into account, issues its own opinion on the EIA documentation. The EIA procedure is concluded when the coordination authority forwards its own statement to the developer on the adequacy of the EIA.

The EIA must be carried out before any decisions on licensing can be made. The developer attaches the EIA documentation to the decision-in-principle application.

Answer to the notification

The EIA programme is available in Finnish, Swedish and English. The document intended for notifying the public of the Parties of the Espoo Convention with information on the proposed activity, including available information on its possible transboundary impact, is available in Finnish, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, German, Polish, Lithuanian, Latvian, Estonian, Russian and English. All these documents can be obtained from the Internet pages of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy: www.tem.fi.

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Finland kindly asks your country to respond by **14 April 2008** at the latest, and to

- acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
- indicate whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure,
- provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country, and
- submit any comments you might receive from the public in your country.

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 Finland to the Affected Parties who have indicated their wish to participate in the environmental impact procedure. The Affected Parties will then have the opportunity for consultation of authorities and public participation.

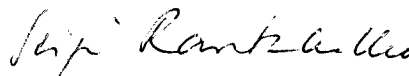
Kindly send the answer to this notification to:

Ministry of the Environment
Ms Seija Rantakallio
PO Box 35
FIN-00023 Government
Finland

Permanent Secretary


Sirikka Hautajärvi

Counsellor,
Environmental impact assessment
Point of Contact of the Espoo Convention


Seija Rantakallio

Enclosures (the documents have been prepared by the developer):

1. Environmental Impact Assessment Programme — In Swedish to Sweden. In English to other countries.
2. Environmental Impact Assessment Programme Summary. Document intended for notifying the public of the Parties to the Espoo Convention. Information on the proposed activity, including available information on its possible transboundary impacts. — In the country's own language.

For more information about the project and the EIA:

Developer
Fennovoima Oy
Telephone: +358 20 757 9200
Contact person: Ms Marjaana Vainio-Mattila
E-mail: marjaana.vainio-mattila@fennovoima.fi

EIA consultant
Pöyry Energy Oy
Telephone: +358 103 311
Contact persons: Mr Mika Pohjonen, Ms Sirpa Torkkeli
E-mail: firstname.lastname@poyry.com

EIA coordinating authority
Ministry of Employment and the Economy
Telephone: +358 10 606 000
Contact persons: Mr Jorma Aurela
E-mail: jorma.aurela@tem.fi

Espoo Convention's Point of Contact in Finland
Ministry of the Environment
Telephone: +358 20 490 100
Contact person: Ms Seija Rantakallio
E-mail: seija.rantakallio@ymparisto.fi