

## NATIONS UNIES

## ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

## UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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16 January 2009

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Mr. Robert Latimer Shell Hill Bents Road Whitburn Tyne & Wear SR6 7NT United Kingdom

Dear Dr. Thornton, Mr. Brockington and Mr. Latimer,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with provisions of the Convention in connection with the scope of judicial review, costs, timing and other issues related to access to justice (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/33)

As noted in our letter dated 24 December 2008 concerning the above communication, the Committee at its twenty-second meeting preliminarily discussed whether and what issues might require further clarification from the parties concerned in order to facilitate further consideration of the communication.

Having concluded this discussion by electronic means, the Committee has requested the secretariat to invite you to submit further details related to some of the matters raised in the communication by addressing the following questions:

- 1. In the communication, reference is made to 'contact with the relevant bodies of the OSPAR Convention and the European Commission' (see paragraph 13). What were the results of those contacts?
- 2. Have any of the assertions made in the communication been tested in court with reference to the relevant provisions of the Aarhus Convention?
- 3. Were any of the substantive assertions made in the communication regarding the Port of Tyne situation brought to the attention of the relevant administrative authorities? If so, what was the result? If not, why not?

A number of additional questions have been raised in a letter to the Party concerned, a copy of which is attached for your information. Should you wish to address any of those questions, you are welcome to do so. As our letter to the Party concerned refers to the letter of 26 September 2008 concerning communication ACCC/C/2008/27, we also attach a copy of that letter for your information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Wates

Secretary

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Cc: Dr. Åsa Sjöström, EUIC, Defra

Encs. Copy of letter to Dr. Åsa Sjöström, EUIC, Defra
Copy of letter from the secretariat dated 26 September 2008 concerning
communication ACCC/C/2008/27