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Ref: ACCC/C/2017/146

19 September 2017

Jaroslav Mielnik  
Chief specialist  
Department of Environmental Information  
Ministry of Environment  
Warsaw, Poland

Dear Mr. Mielnik,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Poland with regard to public participation and access to justice in relation to certain water permits (ACCC/C/2017/146)**

On 7 June 2017, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by Poland with the provisions of the Convention in connection with its alleged failure to provide for public participation and access to justice in connection with certain water permits not covered by environmental impact assessment requirements. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2017/146, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. All documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its fifty-eighth meeting (Budva, 10 – 13 September 2017), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by **19 February 2018**), any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the meantime.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
Ms. Agata Szafraniuk, ClientEarth Poland (communicant)

Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility