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Ref: ACCC/C/2017/148

19 September 2017

Evangelia Stamouli and Viveka Raftopoulou
Department of European and International Environmental Affairs
Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
Athens, Greece

Dear Ms. Stamouli, dear Ms. Raftopoulou,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Greece concerning access to justice for permits granted or extended by legislative acts (ACCC/C/2014/148)

On 3 August 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 Greece with the provisions of the Convention in connection with its alleged failure to provide for access to justice in relation to the granting or extension of certain permits for power plants by way of legislative acts. 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/2017/148, 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 2017**), 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,

Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland
Ms. Dominique Doyle, ClientEarth, United Kingdom (communicant)
Mr. George Chasiotis, The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Greece (communicant)

Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility