## LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS of 18 July 2016 No. 399-3

## ON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW, STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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## Article 15. Conclusion of state environmental review

- 1. On the basis of the outcome of a state environmental review [expertiza], the conclusion [full report] of the state environmental review shall be drawn up in accordance with requirements laid down by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus.
- 2. The conclusion of the state environmental review [*expertiza*] may be positive or negative. A positive state environmental review conclusion may contain particular conditions for the implementation of design decisions.
- 3. Implementation of design decisions without a positive state environmental review [*expertiza*] conclusion is prohibited, unless otherwise laid down by the President of the Republic of Belarus.
- 4. The conclusion of a state environmental review [expertiza] is deemed, for the purposes of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991, to be a final decision on proposed economic and other activities with regard to the acceptable environmental impact of such activities and to the use of natural resources for their implementation.

[...]

## Article 21. The obligations of project owners with regard to the conduct of state environmental review, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment

- 1. With regard to the conduct of state environmental review [expertiza], strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment, project owners shall be obliged:
- 1.1. only where there is a positive state environmental review [expertiza] conclusion, to approve the documentation listed in Article 5 of this Law or, in cases provided for by legislation, to submit the documentation for approval independently or through a public authority authorized for this purpose;
- 1.2. only where there is a positive state environmental review [expertiza] conclusion, to implement design decisions on projects subject to state environmental review;
- 1.3. to conduct public discussions of environmental impact assessment reports, environmental reports on strategic environmental assessment, in

conjunction with local councils, local executive and administrative agencies, with the involvement of design organizations;

- 1.4. in conjunction with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus, to organize consultations with affected parties concerning environmental impact assessment reports on projects which may have a transboundary impact;
- 1.5. to provide citizens and legal entities with the opportunity to consult the state environmental review [*expertiza*] documentation (apart from information to which access is limited by legislation).
- 2. Project owners shall have other obligations with regard to the conduct of state environmental review, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment, as provided for by this Law and by other legislation.