Dear Mr Mormul,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991).

At its twenty-seventh session, held in Geneva from 12 to 14 March 2013, the Committee reviewed information received on 26 October 2012 from a non-governmental organization of Belarus regarding the planned construction of power units at the Khmelnitsky nuclear power plant in Ukraine.

The Committee also noted letters that had been brought to its attention from the Governments of Austria, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia to the Government of Ukraine regarding the proposed activity.

The Committee asked that I write to the Government of Ukraine to inform it of the Committee’s conclusion that the extension of the life-time of a nuclear power plant, even in absence of any works, was to be considered as a major change to an activity and consequently subject to the provisions of the Convention.

…/…

Mr. Mormul
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The Committee decided to seek further information and clarifications on:

(a) The planned activity;
(b) Whether the potentially affected countries have been notified in accordance with article 3 of the Convention;
(c) The transboundary environmental impact assessment process for the planned activity,
(d) Whether the Government of Ukraine has taken the necessary legal, administrative and other measures to implement the provisions of the Convention.

You are requested to provide written information on the above issues to the Convention’s secretariat, in English, no later than 31 May 2013, for the Committee to consider at its session in September 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Vesna Kolar Planinič
Chair, Implementation Committee,
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context