Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Plant: Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation

Dear Mr Svedas,

I refer to your letter of 22 December 2017 requesting an update for the Espoo Implementation Committee on the undertaking of a transboundary environmental public consultation in Ireland relating to the Hinkley Point C (HPC) Nuclear Power Plant in the United Kingdom (UK).

In this regard, it is intended that Ireland will commence a Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation on the HPC Nuclear Power Plant next week with the publication in the national newspapers of a notice of the consultation. Members of the public will be able to view, in the head office of their local planning authority (31 in Ireland), printed copies of the documents identified by the UK authorities as being relevant for the public consultation. A full set of the documents referenced by the UK authorities in relation to the project will be viewable at, or accessible from, a dedicated webpage hosted by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

Members of the public will be afforded the opportunity to make written submissions or observations to their local planning authority in relation to the project within 30 days from the publication of the notice.
days of the publication of the notice commencing the public consultation. Within a fortnight of the expiry of the consultation period, each planning authority will - following consultation with the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government - forward the submissions and observations received by the authority under the public consultation to the relevant UK authorities together with any submissions or observations that the planning authority itself may wish to make. Statutory consultees, including prescribed environmental NGOs, will be invited to make their submissions or observations to Dublin City Council who will forward any submissions or observations received from such organisations to the UK authorities. This is in accordance with the detailed provisions prescribed in our national legislation with regard to the undertaking of transboundary environmental public consultations.

I would like to place on record our appreciation for the assistance received from the UK authorities in making the necessary arrangements for the public consultation in Ireland, including the provision of the necessary detailed supporting documentation to facilitate the undertaking of the consultation.

I trust that this letter will assist the Espoo Implementation Committee in its deliberations at its next meeting on 13-16 March 2018.

Yours sincerely,

Terry Sheridan,
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Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
Custom House,
Dublin 1,
Ireland