

**IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**  
**CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT**  
**PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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Ref. EIA/IC/INFO/14 Energy strategy and spatial plan

7 April 2016

Dear Mr. Tusovic,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003).

At its thirty-fifth session, held in Geneva from 15 to 17 March 2016, the Committee continued consideration of the information it had gathered concerning compliance by Serbia with the Protocol in relation to the Government's Energy Strategy and the Spatial Plan (EIA/IC/INFO/14) further to original information received from Bankwatch Romania Association on the planned construction of the Kostolac lignite power plant in north-east Serbia by the River Danube, close to the border with Romania.

The Committee reviewed your responses (of 3 November 2015) to the Committee's questions and agreed that further clarification would be needed.

I am now writing at the request of the Committee to invite you to address the following:

- (a) Regarding the Strategy for Energy Development:
- (i) Please clarify whether public consultations were undertaken under the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) procedure and in line with article 8 of the Protocol;
  - (ii) Please explain how the SEA procedure was conducted and whether the procedure was conducted according to article 9 of the Protocol. In your response, please provide specific references to the applicable national procedures and law;

.../...

Mr. Miroslav Tusovic  
Head of the Group for  
Strategic Environmental Impact Assessments Department  
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- (iii) Please provide a detailed list of the potential projects, which would be implemented in the energy sector in Serbia according to the Strategy;
  - (iv) Which countries did Serbia notify in the context of the transboundary SEA procedure? Please provide copies of the notifications sent;
- (b) Regarding the Spatial Plan:
- (i) Has a national SEA procedure been carried out in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Protocol? And how was it conducted? In your response, please provide specific references to the applicable national procedures and law;
  - (ii) Please explain why the Spatial Plan should not be subject to transboundary consultations according to article 10 of the Protocol;
  - (iii) Please provide information on the adoption of the Spatial Plan with specific references to the applicable national procedures and law for the decision-making procedure.

Please provide the information requested to the secretariat in English by no later than **29 July 2016**, for the Committee to consider at its next session.

Yours sincerely,



Felix Zaharia  
Chair, Implementation Committee,  
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context  
Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment