Environmental Permitting Procedures for projects and activities in Greece

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| Law 998/79 | For forests and forest lands, extractive activities and other projects. |
| Presidental Decree 1180/81 | Environmental Impact Assessment for industrial installations and relative activities. |
| JMD 530992/87 | Inter alia, EIA for tourist installations according to the Law 1650/86. |
EIA in Greece - Review

- **DIR 84/360/EEC** Combating of air pollution from industrial plans.
- **DIR 85/337/EEC** Assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.
- **JMD 69269/5387/90** EIA for projects and activities according to the Law 1650/86 and the European Directives 84/360 and 85/337.
- **JMD 75308/5512/90**

- **DIR 97/11/EC** Amendment of the European Directive 85/337/EEC.
- **DIR 2003/35/EC**

**DIR 2003/35/EC**
Current Environmental Permitting Procedures


- JMD15393/2332/02: Joint Ministerial Decisions according to the Law 3010/2002.
- JMD11014/703/F104/03
- JMD 37111/2021/03

- JMD 104248/2006
- Law 3851/2010
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SOURCE: SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE
E. TOLERIS, A. PSAILA, T. STATHAS
Diagram 1: Classification of Projects and Activities for Each Group into Categories and Subcategories

Category A of Law 1650/1986

1st Subcategory
- Competent Authorities: Central
- Documentation: 
  - a) PreEIS I
  - b) EIS I

2nd Subcategory
- Competent Authorities: Regional
- Documentation: 
  - a) PreEIS II
  - b) EIS II

Category B of Law 1650/1986

3rd Subcategory
- Competent Authorities and Documentation:
  - a) PreEIS II /Regional
  - b) Case-by-case: EIS II /Regional or ENV. REP. /Prefectural

4th Subcategory
- Competent Authorities: Prefectural
- Documentation: 
  - Environmental Report

PreEIS: Preliminary Environmental Impact Study
EIS: Environmental Impact Study

Source: Special Environmental Service
E. Toleris, A. Psaila, T. Statha
Examples

- All the express and national roads belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory. All the provincial roads belong to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} subcategory, apart from those which pass through NATURA sites (belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory). Rural roads belong to the 3\textsuperscript{rd} subcategory.

- Waste water treatment plants for equivalent population more than 100,000 p. belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory. Waste water treatment plants for equivalent population less than 100,000 p. belong to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} subcategory, apart from those which the whole or part of them is placed in NATURA sites (belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory).

- Hotels outside town plans with more than 1000 beds belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory. Hotels outside town plans with number of beds between 1000 and 50 belong to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} subcategory, apart from those which the whole or part of them is placed in NATURA sites (belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory). Hotels outside town plans with less than 50 beds belong to the 3\textsuperscript{rd} subcategory.
A. New projects and activities

B. Existing projects and activities
Extension-Change-Modernization of existing projects or Renewal of operation license

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (PreEIS)
- Submit application to competent Central Environmental Authority of YPEKA
- The application comprises PreEIS type I, as well as the necessary supportive documents

NO

Realization of project or activity

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (EIS)
- Submit application to the same as for the PreEIS competent Central Environmental Authority of YPEKA
- The application comprises EIS Type I, as well as the necessary supportive documents

Opinions

Forward PreEIS for consultation
- to Central Authorities of other co-competent Ministries
- to the Physical Planning Directorate of YPEKA
- case-by-case:
  - to the Organizations of Athens and of Thessalonica
  - to the Environmental Planning Directorate (Management of Natural Resources Dprt) for Natura 2000 sites

Opinion-Consultatory Response of the Administration on the PreEIS with document by the Director General of the Environment

Forward EIS for consultation
- to Central Authorities of other co-competent Ministries
- case-by-case:
  - to the Physical Planning Directorate of YPEKA
  - to the Organizations of Athens and of Thessalonica
  - to the Environmental Planning Directorate (Management of Natural Resources Dprt) for NATURA 2000 sites

Opinions

Substantial changes occurring in respect to impacts on the environment or New environmental permit required?

YES

Public Informed

Opinion-Consultatory Response of the Administration on the PreEIS with document by the Director General of the Environment

Joint Ministerial Decision for the Approval of Environmental Terms by YPEKA and co-competent Ministries

Publication of Joint Ministerial Decision for the Approval of Environmental Terms through the relative Prefectural Council

Publication of Opinion-Consultatory Response of the Administration on the PreEIS through the relative Prefectural Council

Forward EIS for public participation through the relative Prefectural Council, according to Joint Ministerial Decision for Public Participation
A. New projects and activities

B. Existing projects and activities

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (PreEIS)
- Submit application to Environmental and Physical Planning Division of relative Region
- The application comprises PreEIS type II, as well as the necessary supportive documents

Forward PreEIS for consultation
- to other relative Regional Divisions or Prefectural Authorities
- case-by-case: to the Organizations of Athens and of Thessalonica

Opinion-Consultatory Response of the Administration on the PreEIS with document by the Director General of the Region

Publication of Opinion-Consultatory Response of the Administration on the PreEIS through the relative Prefectural Council
Public Informed

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (EIS)
- Submit application to Environmental and Physical Planning Division of relative Region
- The application comprises EIS type II, as well as the necessary supportive documents

Forward EIS for consultation
- to other relative Regional Divisions or Prefectural Authorities
- case-by-case: to the Organizations of Athens and of Thessalonica

Opinions

Decision for the Approval of Environmental Terms by the Secretary General of the Region
Public Informed

YES

NO

Substantial changes occurring in respect to impacts on the environment or New environmental permit required?

NO

YES

YES

NO

Project or activity examined according to new Subcategory under which it is placed

YES

NO

Realization of project or activity

Forward EIS for public participation through the relative Prefectural Council, according to Joint Ministerial Decision for Public Participation

Project or activity remaining in the same Subcategory?

NO

YES

YES

NO

SOURCE: SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE E. TOLERIS, A. PSAILA, T. STATHA
DIAGRAM 4: ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING PROCESS FOR PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF CATEGORY B OF LAW 1650/1986
3rd SUBCATEGORY

A. New projects and activities

B. Existing projects and activities

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY (PreEIS)
- Submit application to Environmental and Physical Planning Division of relative Region
- The application comprises PreEIS type II, as well as the necessary supportive documents

Consultatory Response or Decision on the PreEIS with document by the Director General of the Region

IF

Environmental permitting is required as a project or activity of the 2nd Subcategory

Concurrent evaluation of PreEIS, as a project or activity of the 2nd Subcategory, by the Env. and Physical Planning Division of the relative Region

B.1. Extension - Change - Modernization

- Submit application to Environmental and Physical Planning Division of relative Region
- The application comprises a technical report (including env. data) and supportive documents

Project or activity remaining in the same Subcategory?

NO

Substantial changes occurring in respect to impacts on the environment?

YES

Environmental permitting is required as a project or activity of the 4th Subcategory

Evaluation of EIS follows, as a project or activity of the 2nd Subcategory, by the Env. and Physical Planning Division of the relative Region

IF

Evaluation of Environmental Report follows, as a project or activity of the 4th Subcategory, by the Prefectural Authority

B.2. Renewal of operation license

- Submit request to the competent, according to locality and by substance, Environmental Authority of the Region or the Prefecture that supplied the previous environmental permit
- The application comprises a technical report and supportive documents

Project or activity examined according to new Subcategory under which it is placed

NO

Realization of project or activity

NO

The previous permit is valid and extended

Granting of new environmental permit required?

YES

Case-by-case
A. New projects and activities

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
- Submit application to competent Prefectural Environmental Authority
- The application comprises an Environmental Report

B. Existing projects and activities

B.1. Extension – Change - Modernization
- Submit application to competent Prefectural Environmental Authority
- The application comprises a technical report

B.2. Renewal of operation license
- Submit request to competent Prefectural Environmental Authority
- The application is accompanied by the previous Decision for Approval of Environmental Terms

Project or activity remaining in 4th Subcategory?

NO

Project or activity examined according to new Subcategory under which it is placed

YES

Substantial changes occurring in respect to impacts on the environment?

YES

Imposition of environmental terms by Decision of the Prefect

NO

Forward Environmental Report for consultation to the co-competent Prefectural Authorities

Opinions

Granting of new environmental permit required?

YES

The previous permit is valid and extended

NO

SOURCE: SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE
E. TOLERIS, A.PSAILA, T. STATHA
Special Remarks

- The requirements of the article 6 of the Eur. Directive 92/43 (Natura Directive) concerning projects and activities are satisfied through the legal system for the environmental permitting of projects and activities.

- The requirements of the Eur. Directive 96/61 (IPPC Directive) are satisfied through the legal system for the environmental permitting of projects and activities.
Potential Changes

Restructuring under study due to:

1. Maximalistic system
   For total population of 11 millions people,
   800 EIAs per year for the 1\textsuperscript{st} subcategory
   more than 2500 EIAs per year for the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} subcategories
   more than 5.000 EIAs per year for all the 4 subcategories.

2. Major reform in the regional and prefectural administrative structure.
   From 01.01.2011:

   Prefectures (53) are abolished and the majority of their responsibilities are transferred to the 13 new regional administrations.

   The competences of the old 13 regions are transferred to the 7 new decentralised administrations.