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18 May 2009

Mr. James Thornton, CEO  
ClientEarth  
3 Chapel Place  
London EC2A 3DQ  
United Kingdom  
Fax: + 44 20 7729 45 68

Dear Mr. Thornton,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Germany with provisions of the Convention in connection with German legislation on access to justice in environmental matters (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/31)**

We are writing on behalf of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee to confirm that, in line with the suggestion from the Party concerned conveyed by letter of 26 March 2009 to defer the deadline for responding to the above communication and having regard to the support conveyed by your letter of 11 May 2009 for a deferral as proposed by the Committee, the deadline for the response of the Party concerned has been postponed so that it falls two months after the release of the opinion of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in the related case submitted to the ECJ by the Higher Administrative Court of North Rhine-Westphalia (Ref. 8 D 58/08.AK).

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Wates  
Secretary

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Cc: Mr. Philipp Behrens, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany