

**FINAL MEETING-CONFERENCE PROTOCOL OF 400 KV ELECTRICITY TRANSFER LINE  
“ALYTUS TRANSFORMER SUBSTATION – BORDER OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC”  
CONSTRUCTION SPECIAL PLAN No. 1**

May 9, 2011

Lazdijai

**Place of meeting:** Conference hall of Lazdijai district Public Library, Seinių St. 1, Lazdijai.

**Meeting start time:** 16:00.

**Meeting participants:**

**Planning organizer’s LITGRID AB representatives:**

Simonas Šileikis

Mindaugas Mikalčius

Juozas Abaravičius

Vilija Railaitė

**Representatives of the special planning document project organizer UAB “Sweco Lietuva”:**

Aidas Vaišnoras

Tomas Varneckas

Jurga Tamkienė

**Representatives of the project coordinator “LitPol Link Sp. z.o.o.”:**

Jaroslav Neverovič

Karolis Sankovski

Marek Juvrewicz

**Representatives of the Lithuanian Republic Ministry of Energy:**

Renatas Šumskis

**Representatives of the public** (list attached).

**Presiding** – Tomas Varneckas

**Secretary** – Jurga Tamkienė

**Agenda of the meeting:**

1. Presentation of the special plan solutions for the construction of 400 kV electricity transfer line „Alytus transformer substation – border of the Polish Republic“;
2. Discussion.

**Base for planning:**

Injunction by the Minister of Transport of the Lithuanian Republic No. 1-190, 10/12/2009 “For preparing the special plan for the construction of 400 kV Electricity Transfer Line “Alytus Transformer Substation – Border of the Polish Republic”.

The public meeting for the public hearing of the special planning document project was started by T. Varneckas, chief of special plan project. He noted that the final meetings-conferences on the special plan are held on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

Also noted, that during the final meeting-conference, as well as the whole period of territory planning document preparation it is possible to submit proposals in writing, according to the form, presented during the meeting. The proposals will be registered. Also noted, that these meetings conclude the procedure of public hearings with the representatives of the public, i. e. planning proposals by the representatives may be submitted until the end of these meetings. The participants were informed that the meeting is being recorded. The protocol will be prepared within 3 working days and made available to the public on the website of the planning organizer [www.litgrid.eu](http://www.litgrid.eu), in the section of “Construction projects”, website of the project coordinator [www.litpol-link](http://www.litpol-link), in the section of “Territory planning” and the plan organizer’s headquarters, V. Gerulaičio St. 1, 08200, Vilnius.

The project coordinator’s representative Jaroslav Neverovič briefly described the purpose of creating the company “LitPol Link Sp. z.o.o.”. Please note, that Lithuanian-Polish electric connection only makes sense if both parties are present. He mentioned that the chosen route in the territory of the Lithuanian Republic is presented in today’s meeting. This project is one of Lithuanian Republic’s energetics security projects. The aim of the project is to increase the security of electricity transfer on both sides of the link, to link the Baltic energetics system, which at the moment from the rest of EU, to increase the reliability of systems in both countries, to increase the regional energy market process. It was stressed, that the region in which the project is held will definitely have an economic gain.

Tomas Varneckas, chief of the project, briefly set forth the essence and planning processes of the special plan for the construction project of 400 kV electricity transfer line “Alytus transformer substation – border of the Polish Republic”, being discussed.

The chief of the project reminded, that special plans are organized when the general planning solutions are not prepared or not detailed yet.

It was mentioned, that the strategic environmental impact assessment (SEIA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedures are finished at this stage. The publishing procedures of the special plan have taken place for more than 2 months (from 03/01/2011), also the process of compensating private land owners/users was started. After that the contents and the essence of these procedures were explained.

The methods used and how the optimal line planned was searched for, as well as the factors and their influence of the line's configuration were presented. The general electrical line information was presented – length, width, the number of plots crossed and the number of plot owners.

After the project was presented, the second part of the agenda was started.

- Question: First of all a resident of Lazdijai made a complaint that land will be taken from the residents for this project.
- Answer: T. Varneckas, chief of the project, assured that land will not be taken, but servitude will be set in the land areas owned by the residents for the construction and servicing the line. Land ownership form will not change.
- Question: R. Cimakauskienė, Rudamina community president observed, that the process of the electricity transfer line project is appealed to court (in particular the Alytus RAAD decision for EIA report). Reminded, that the session will take place on May 31<sup>st</sup>, stressed, that the community's reaction to the project will be influenced by the proceedings. The president of Rudamina community expressed an observation about the lack of project information. The question why the project has not been published back in 2008 has been raised. Today is the end of the project, there are 7 hearers, but the beginning of the project is not known to the residents.
- Question: J. Želionienė, a resident of Lazdijai, also stated, that there was a lack of information about the project. She expressed regret for buying a plot of land without knowing that a high voltage line is planned on it.
- Answer: T. Varnesckas has agreed that there was a lack of information on the project. He noted that a discussion about a Lithuanian-Polish link project has been raised 10 years ago. He also reminded that the planned line is marked in the general plans of Lazdijai and Alytus district municipality territories. The special plan being discussed has been started in 2009. Mentioned, that territory planning is made in certain stages, maintaining planning, environmental impact assessment procedures and it is natural, that exact route of the line was not known in earlier stages, therefore it could not have been possible to clearly distinguish, what land plots are safe to buy without being concerned about the electric transfer line.
- Answer: The project coordinator's "LitPol Link Sp. z.o.o." Chairman of the Board J. Neverovič has agreed with the chief of the project, that it was not clearly known, where this line will be built during the conference in Alytus back in 2008. The land plots that the line will be crossed by the line route planned in the special plan are known for about half a year.
- Question: J. Želionienė, a resident of Lazdijai, expressed regret about the value of the plot. She stated that the plot she has bought and for which geodetic measurements were carried out, will become worthless after the line is built. Also she expressed doubts about the amount compensated not matching the land plot's value, will someone rent her plot after the after the line is built?
- Answer: A. Vaišnoras, UAB "Sweco Lietuva" Head of environmental protection stated, that the interests of the country and the people intersect. He assured, that the electricity transfer lines are planned in plots of agricultural and forestry purpose, so that the potential damage would be minimal. The land will not be taken from the residents; farming activity will not be regulated; only servitude will occur, so compensations are offered.
- Answer: T. Varneckas, chief of the project, explained, that the data on the value of the lots is taken from the Records center, where values are indexed, i .e. correspond to the real value.
- Question: A question about an underground cable alternative was raised.
- Answer: J. Neverovič reminded, that the air electricity transfer line does not limit the use of land

and mentioned the negatives aspects of an underground cable alternative:

- The construction of this sort is not reasonable economically, because it is much more expensive,
- The disruption of power supply would take up to one month in case of failure – an electric supply line of such importance cannot be stopped for such a long time,
- The limitations for agricultural activity would be greater in the area where the underground cable was laid,
- The impact on the environment would be greater if the cable would be laid underground.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras explained the technical solutions of underground cables and agreed that the underground cable line would make more damage to the environment than an air-line.

Question: The president of Rudomina community reminded, that the Alytus RAAD decision has been appealed to the Court.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras responded that before the decision was made, many inquiries were made to the organizer of the environmental impact assessment organizer, which have been answered. Emphasized, that the organizers are acquainted with the arguments of Rudomina community.

Question: Rudomina community president replied that the country's interests are set above the people's interests.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras inquired why is the community not participating in the final meeting – conference, if the interests of the public are so important.

Question: Rudomina community president stressed that the organizers of the special plan have not arranged a meeting with the community on their own initiative.

Answer: T. Varneckas reminded that the organizers of the special plan personally meet every resident, whose plot is crossed by the planned line route.

Question: Rudomina community president responded that the residents do not know who comes to meet them and what they sign for.

Answer: T. Verneckas explained, that the representatives of the special plan organizer have been in meetings with the residents, they asked for the resident's preliminary opinions on the agreement for setting servitude. Also he pointed out, that a general consensus has arisen about the project not being published enough, but for making any additional moves, e.g. by informing the residents by registered mail or meeting them personally, they are being intimidated; i.e. double standards are applied.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras stressed that this project is being published much more than others are.

Answer: T. Varneckas pointed out that focus is set on the owners of plots that will be crossed by the line, and whose interests are affected the most, not communities, where most of the residents do not have plots in the affected area.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras invited Rudomina community members to participate in upcoming meeting in Alytus, on 05/10/2011. Also suggested the residents to submit proposals for the line planned.

Question: Rudomina community president reminded that a proposal was made for a line alternative in Kalvarija district territory instead of Lazdijai and Alytus districts.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras stressed, that this alternative contradicts with the effective general plans.

Question: Rudomina community president asked if there would be a possibility to lay an underground cable line section in Lazdijai district, in the vicinity of Rudomina.

Answer: A. Vaišnoras stressed once more, that alternative of air-line line construction with underground sections is not negotiable due to financial reasons. Also encouraged other participants of the meeting to ask questions, concerning other Lazdijai district residents, not only Rudomina.

- Question: Lazdijai residents expressed concerns that a part of their land will be taken or deforested. Noted that the line is planned over a pond in one of the land plots, will it be safe to fish there will the electromagnetism not harm the fish. A resident asked again if the purpose of the land will not change; how forest clearing maintenance will be done; at what height will the line cross; why is the line at the border of the Polish Republic being planned at certain angle, not straight across.
- Answer: A. Vaišnoras assured that the land will not be taken, the purpose of the land will not change, but use categories will be changed. Explained that the maintenance of the electric transfer lines will be carried by the electric transfer line operator. Also explained that according to EIT, the height at the maximum deflection spot has to be at least 8 meters, at the supports, the height is more. T. Varneckas responded that at present there are no objective reasons to say that the electric transfer line may cause the fish in the body of water to diminish, it is only an assumption. If the assumption is correct, the pond owner still has the possibility to request compensation in the future.
- Question: J. Želionienė, a resident of Lazdijai mentioned that people's interests are observed more abroad.
- Answer: J. Neverovič mentioned that electricity transfer operators in all countries face opposition from the residents for laying electric transfer lines.
- Answer: A. Vaišnoras repeated himself, Lithuania needs electricity and the electric transfer line has to be build. No matter that the country's and resident's interests do not match. At the moment the most appropriate line route solution is selected after evaluating technical, environmental, social aspects, but reminded that resident's interests may be evaluated after submitting a proposal.
- Question: J. Želionienė, a resident of Lazdijai, inquired if the voltage (400 kV) would not increase after 10 years from constructing the line.
- Answer: J. Neverovič responded that the line's voltage (measured in kilovolts) is not identical to power (measured in kilowatts). The voltage of the line will not change, whereas the planned maximum power – around 1 GW, but it will be reached in two stages, in the beginning (until 2020) the line will operate at half capacity. The supports and wires will not be changed due to higher power and the environmental impact assessment report was carried out by evaluating maximum (1 GW) power.
- Question: Rudamina community president opposed that the organizer of the special plan had received a fair amount of proposals, which have been declined. Inquired why is the longer line through Lazdijai being planned, whilst the line through Kalvarija municipality, the line would be considerably shorter. Also expressed her opinion, that there are many empty fields in Kalvarijos.
- answer: A. Vaišnoras once more reminded that the proposals did not meet the general plans. The corridor formed in the general plans of Kalvarijos municipality is provided for a different engineering purpose. It is technically possible to build the electric transfer line in Kalvarijos municipality, but is not possible legally. "Empty fields" is not a serious planning criterion – fields lying waste today might be cultivated tomorrow and vice versa.
- Question: Rudamina community president opposed that the damages of this project were not taken into account, as well as the number of tourism projects rejected because of it.
- Question: Lazdijai resident expressed regret that the residents gathered for nothing and offered the planning organizer to buy the land.
- Answer: A. Vaišnoras advised to keep cultivating the land, especially due to fact that the compensations offered in many cases are as much as the value of the plot, i.e. the owners will de facto get the value by compensation and they will be able to keep the land. Also presented examples that there are several similar voltage (330 kV) electric transfer lines and intensive agricultural activity is being performed under them.

Question: Lazdijai resident opposed that this line is different.  
Answer: T. Varneckas reminded that territory planning is conducted in stages. During the period when the general plans of Lazdijai and Kalvarijos were being approved, the participants of today's meeting did not participate and have not submitted proposals. It was asked once more to submit proposals for the solutions for this special plan.

The presiding reminded that the protocol of this meeting will be prepared within three (3) working days.

The protocol will be available on the website of the planning organizer [www.litgrid.eu](http://www.litgrid.eu), in the section of "Construction projects", website of the project coordinator [www.litpo-link](http://www.litpo-link), in the section of "Territory planning" and the plan organizer's headquarters, V. Gerulaičio St. 1, 08200, Vilnius.

Proposals and comments for the protocol may be submitted in writing within three (3) working days after it has been published.

During the meeting no proposals or suggestions in writing have for the special plan been submitted.

The presiding thanked the participants for participating in the meeting and their questions and announced the end of the final meeting-conference.

Presiding in the meeting  
Secretary of the meeting  
Planning organizer's representative

Tomas Varneckas  
Jurga Tamkienė  
Mindaugas Mikalčius

**Special Plan for the Construction of 400 kV Electric Transfer Line “Alytus Transformer Substation  
– Border of the Polish Republic”**

**Conference hall of Lazdijai district Public Library, Seinių St. 1, Lazdijai.**

**May 9, 2011, 16:00**

**PARTICIPANTS OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**

No.	Name, Surname	Address, phone no./institution represented, position, address, phone no.	Signature	Proposal registration no.
1.	<i>/tekstas neįskaitomas/</i>			
2.	<i>Leonas Lynykas</i>	-		
3.	<i>Algimantas Depkūnas</i>			
4.	<i>Antanas Varškauskas</i>			
5.	<i>Saulius Salenis</i>			
6.	<i>Jurga želionienė</i>			
7.	<i>Rūta Cimakauskienė</i>			
8.	<i>Mindaugas Mikalčius</i>			
9.	<i>Juozas Abaravičius</i>			
10.	<i>Vilija Railaitė</i>	<i>EM</i>		
11.	<i>Renatas Šumskis</i>			
12.	<i>Marek Juvrevicz</i>			
13.	<i>Karolis Sankovski</i>			
14.	<i>Aidas Vaišnoras</i>	<i>Sweco Lietuva</i>		
15.	<i>Jaroslav Neverovič</i>	<i>LitPol Link Sp. z.o.o.</i>		
16.	<i>Simonas Šileikis</i>	<i>LITGRID AB</i>		
17.	<i>Jurga Tamkienė</i>	<i>Sweco Lietuva</i>		
18.	<i>T. Varneckas</i>	<i>Sweco Lietuva</i>		

Planning organizer  
(or representative)

*LITGRID AB project manager*

Signature

Name, Surname

*Mindaugas Mikalčius*