

22 March 2018

Ismael Antonio López Pérez  
Asociación Autónoma e Ambiental Petón do Lobo  
Silleda, Pontevedra  
Spain

Ana Martina Varela Velo  
Asociación Amigos y Amigas de los Bosques “O Ouriel do Anllóns”  
Silleda, Pontevedra  
Spain

Dear Mr. López Pérez, dear Ms. Varela Velo,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Spain with the provisions of the Convention in relation to access to information and public participation on mining concessions (ACCC/C/2017/153)**

On 24 July 2017, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received from you the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by Spain with the provisions of the Convention in connection with its alleged failure to provide access to information and public participation in relation to mining concessions in Galicia. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2017/153 which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The main documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee’s web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/cc/com.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its sixtieth meeting (Geneva, 12-15 March 2018), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
Ms. Mar Fernandez Merlo, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment, Spain – National Focal Point
- Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility