

*On-going and up-coming Transboundary EIA Procedures for Large Energy
Projects in the Black Sea Subregion - BG*

Seminar on EIA of Large Energy Projects in the Black Sea
Subregion

REC, Szentendre, 1 December 2010

EIA/EA Department
Preventive Activities Directorate
Ministry of Environment and Water
Bulgaria

On-going and up-coming Transboundary EIA Procedures for Large Energy Projects in the Black Sea Subregion - BG

some of on-going EIA procedures for:

- Burgas – Alexandroupolis oil pipeline;
- Nabucco gas pipeline;

up-coming EIA procedures - South Stream gas pipeline

Burgas – Alexandroupolis oil pipeline

- Agreement between Russia, Bulgaria and Greece.
- Transportation of the Russian and Caspian origin crude oil by tankers from Russian Black sea ports to the port of Burgas (Bulgaria), and then via the pipeline to the port of Alexandroupolis (Greece) with further loading on to tankers and delivery to the European and world markets.
- Loading and unloading operations at the marine terminals are planned to be conducted using modern single-point mooring installations (SPM)
- The approximate total length of the Burgas-Alexandroupolis pipeline route is about 300 km.

Burgas – Alexandroupolis oil pipeline

EIA approach

- ✓ *Subject of the EIA is an oil pipeline*
- ✓ *BG and GR - member states and party to Espoo, both country of origin and affected countries*
- ✓ *National EIA procedures + transboundary EIA procedure*
- ✓ *National EIS + Holistic EIA*
- ✓ *Consultations between national competent environmental authorities*
- ✓ *Appropriate Assessment for Natura 2000 sites as a part of EIS*

Burgas – Alexandroupolis oil pipeline

Status of EIA procedure in BG:

- ↖ *evaluation of the quality of the EIS;*
- ↖ *BG puts a lot of attention of the loading and up-loding safety in the Burgas Bay;*
- ↖ *assessment of another alternative of the loading and up-loading – on port, is required by the BG competent environmental authorities;*
- ↖ *only after positive assessment of the quality of the EIS – public hearings on the BG territory could be organised*

Burgas – Alexandroupolis oil pipeline

Challenges :

- ↖ *Coordination of the both procedures in BG and GR;*
- ↖ *Transboundary located – transboundary procedure;*
- ↖ *Sensibility of the local people of the Burgas Bay, referendum against the SPM;*
- ↖ *Tourism and sensitive areas in the Burgas region;*
- ↖ *Political attention and interest*

Nabucco gas pipeline

- ↖ the pipeline is crossing 5 countries – *total length around 3300 km, 400 km of them on the BG territory*
- ↖ Intergovernmental agreements;
- ✓ National EIA procedures + transboundary EIA procedure
- ✓ National EIS + Holistic EIA; appropriate Assessment for Natura 2000 sites as a part of EIS
- ✓ Coordination between national competent environmental authorities

Nabucco gas pipeline

Challenges for the BG EIA procedure:

- ↖ the biggest scope of the national BG assessment – around 400 km pipeline with some alternative roads; 29 municipalities concerned; about 18 Natura 2000 sites could be affected;
- ↖ transboundary procedures;
- ↖ coordination with other countries.

South Stream gas pipeline

The EIA procedure in BG is not started yet.

Challenges for the EIA procedure:

- ↖ pipeline is planned to be on the bottom of the sea and on the land;
- ↖ transboundary EIA procedures;
- ↖ coordination with all countries.