

Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context



**Workshop on transboundary joint projects 27.4
2005**

Gas pipeline between Sweden, Denmark and Germany

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The project

Submarine pipeline for natural gas between Germany, Denmark and Sweden

Located in territorial waters and economic zones of all three states

Five different alternative routes studied



Espoo application

Pipeline Appendix I project ➡ *Espoo procedure*

The three states both Parties of Origin and Affected Parties ➡ *Joint responsibilities*

Notification, EIA procedure? ➡ *Preparatory meeting*

Preparatory meeting

May 2000 Copenhagen, Focal points and developer

Decisions:

Developer's documentation

All six other Baltic Sea states affected Parties

Joint Espoo procedure – all three states notify all Affected Parties, Sweden sends documents

Espoo procedure

Notification September 2000:

All answered significant effect unlikely

Finland & Russia part in process for interest of information

Latvia & Poland wanted to be informed

Consultations January 2002:

*Sweden sent EIA for comments and as information,
Denmark sent letter*

Few comments on offshore part

Observations

Different legal processes in states major problem

- EIA process separate or integrated with application process***
- Different legal requirements for EIA & application permit on land, in territorial waters and in economic zones***
- Long time between EIA and final decision – Not yet decision in Denmark or Germany.***

Conclusions

- **Informal early contact essential before process starts**
- **Inform clearly about the whole process and future steps when notifying**
- **Knowledge on legal processes in other PoO essential**
- **Good start but joint process less focused when national process takes over**
- **Need for additional meeting when case ends and also after some cases.**