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LAW OF GEORGIA ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Part 3. Strategic Environmental Assessment

Article 16 – General Provisions

Article 17 – Objectives and tasks of SEA

Article 18 – Stages of SEA

Article 19 – Strategic Documents Subject to SEA

Article 20 – Exemptions

Article 21 – Screening

Article 22 – Scoping Application

Article 23 – Review of scoping report

Article 24 – SEA report

Article 25 – Adoption/approval of SEA document

Article 26 – Post-project monitoring

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Main stages of SEA

1. The planning authority applies to the Environment Ministry and Health Ministry
2. Screening
3. Scoping
4. Preparation and review of SEA report
5. Public participation and consultations
6. Transboundary procedure
7. Issuance of recommendations by the Environment Ministry and Health Ministry

2)

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Strategic documents subject to SEA

- a) Agriculture and land use
- b) Forestry
- c) Fishery
- d) Industry Sector
- e) Energy Sector
- f) Transport sector
- g) Waste Management
- h) Water Management
- i) Telecommunication
- j) Tourism
- k) Urbanization and planning
- l) Framework documents of the projects referred in Annexes of the Law

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Exemptions

- s) a) the strategic documents the sole purpose of which is to serve national defense or/and respond to civil emergencies from the obligation to carry out necessary activities, or financial/accounting documents.
- b) the strategic documents prior to which respective strategic documents with higher legal force have been subject of SEA.

In case of minor modifications to already existing strategic documents, the planning authority has a right to decide not to conduct strategic environmental assessment in the case if the planning authority submitted the respective application with the request of SEA to the Environment Ministry and Health Ministry and they have examined it within 7 (seven) working days determining that the modification is indeed minor and not likely to cause significant environmental impact.

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Review of stages

1. Screening

- 1.1. The application on the screening procedure by the planning authority
- 1.2. Screening procedure by the Environment Ministry and the Health Ministry

2. Scoping

- 2.1. Application together with the scoping report to the ministry
- 2.2. Creation of expert commission
- 2.3. Public Hearing
- 2.4. Ecological expertise conclusion
- 2.5. Decision of scoping report by the Environment Ministry and Health Ministry

3. SEA

- 3.1. Application together with a draft SEA report
- 3.2. Creation of expert commission
- 3.3. Public Hearing
- 3.4. Ecological Conclusion

4. Issuance of Decision

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Terms

Stage	Working day
Screening	17
Public hearing on scoping	29
scoping	24
Public hearing on SEA report	39
Remained time for review (receive of notes/expertise)	15
Issuance of recommendations	10
Total time for without screening	117
Total time with screening	134

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Term of ecological expertise

Subject to ecological expertise	Annex I (working day)
Scoping report	35
SEA report	45

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Important provisions

- ▶ Screening procedure is voluntary!
- ▶ Approved scoping report is valid for 5 years!
- ▶ Recommendation is valid for 10 years!
- ▶ Public participation is ensured at all stages!

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Questions and answers

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