



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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CLASS: 351-03/19-01/47
REG.NO.: 517-05-1-21-6

Zagreb, 30 December 2021

Implementation Committee
Convention on Environmental Impact
Assessment in a Transboundary Context
Protocol on Strategic Environmental
Assessment

Attn.: Mr. Joe Ducombe, Chair of the
Implementation Committee
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

SUBJECT: Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the Period up to 2025 with Projections up to 2030 and the Strategy's implementation Programme for the Period 2017-2023

Dear Mr. Ducombe,

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development has received your letter, Ref. SEA/IC/CI/1, containing the draft findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Protocol in respect of the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the Period up to 2025 with Projections up to 2030 (Energy Strategy) and the Programme for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Period 2017-2023 (Energy Strategy's Implementation Programme).

Firstly, we would like to mention once again that Serbia never notified Croatia in relation to the Energy Strategy. Regarding the Energy Strategy's Implementation Programme, Croatia responded Serbia to the notification declared intention to participate in the transboundary procedure (CLASS: 351-03/17-04/1427, REG.NO.: 517-06-2-1-2-17-2 of 24 August 2017). Croatia conducted national consultations parallel to the public hearing and has sent the opinion to Serbia, including comments from Croatian NGO Zelena akcija (CLASS: 351-03/17-04/1427,

REG.NO.: 517-06-2-1-2-17-14 of 29 November 2017). By letter of 29 November 2017 and letter of 23 December 2020 (CLASS: 351-03/19-01/47, REG.NO.: 517-03-1-20-4) Croatia asked Serbia to provide information about the final decision as set out in Article 11 of the Protocol of Strategic Environmental Assessment. Serbia never informed Croatia about the final decision.

From the submitted draft findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Protocol in respect of the Energy Strategy's Implementation Programme it is visible that, in the view of Serbia, a response from Croatia came "much after the deadline" and Serbia could no longer take it into account. In this regard, Croatia understand the decision, but at the same time emphasizes that Serbia, as a Party of the Protocol, is obliged to provide information according to Article 11 of the Protocol (Croatian letters of 29 November 2017 and 23 December 2020).

Finally, Croatia supports all findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Protocol in respect of the Energy Strategy and the Energy Strategy's Implementation Programme.

Yours sincerely,

Anamarija Matak

**Focal Point for Administrative
Matters regarding the Espoo Convention**

C.c.:

- Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, N.Š. Zrinskog 7-8, Zagreb
- Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Directorate for EU Programmes and Projects, European and International Affairs