



**Republic of Serbia  
MINISTRY OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Nº: 353-02-0798/2016-16

Date: 24.06.2020.

22-26 Nemanjina St  
Belgrade

**IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

**Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,  
Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment**

Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

**Subject:** Response to the questions asked 17 April 2020 by the Implementation Committee on the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, concerning compliance by Serbia with the Protocol in relation to the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Protections until 2030 and the Programme for the Implementation of the Energy Strategy for the period 2017 up to 2023.

**Information regarding the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Protections until 2030, which were undertaken by the Ministry of Mining and Energy Republic of Serbia.**

In accordance with the Energy Law (Official Journal of Republic of Serbia No 145/2014), article 3, the three main strategic documents are:

- the Energy Strategy,
- the Program for the implementation energy strategy, and
- the Energy Balance.

The Energy Sector Development Strategy for the Period up to 2025 with the Projections up to 2030 (in the further text Serbian Energy Strategy) was adopted by Serbian Parliament on December 4. 2015.

Serbian Energy Strategy is document which defines the main strategic framework and main priorities for the development of Serbian energy sector and gives the list of the potential projects and activities for each energy subsector (electricity, heat, coal, oil, gas, renewable energy sources, energy efficiency). In accordance with the Law on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 135/2004 and 88/10), the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared based on the decision of the Ministry of Mining and Energy (then Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection) No.: 312-01-00731/2013-04 of 11.06.2013 (published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Serbia No 56/13) on undertaking a Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Projections until 2030.

The Ministry of Mining and Energy organized in the period from August 16.2013 to October 11, 2013 public consultation for the prepared document Serbian Energy Strategy. All comments and suggestions was sent on the email [strategija@merz.gov.rs](mailto:strategija@merz.gov.rs). During the public consultations, the 6 public hearing were organized: three in Belgrade, one in Kragujevac, one in Nis and one in Novi Sad. The last public hearing (of those six) was organized on October 11, 2013 for the representatives of EU Delegation in Serbia, the representatives of Energy Community Secretariat and the representatives of international institutions and diplomatic corps. The representative of Embassy of Romania has participated on that public hearing. The Report on Public Consultations were prepared. The new Serbian Energy Strategy was adopted by Serbian Parliament in December 2015 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" No 101/15).

The Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Projections until 2030 was prepared in Serbian and English and the public consultations for the SEA were organized in the period from October 30, 2013 up to November 25, 2013. All comments and suggestions was sent on the email [strategija@merz.gov.rs](mailto:strategija@merz.gov.rs). During this period the public hearing was organized on November 22,2013 in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia. During the public consultations, the SEA together with the draft of the Serbian Energy Strategy was also sent for the consideration and comments to the next:

1. Ministry of Foreign Affair to proceed the Report on SEA to the other countries: Bosnia and Hercegovina, Bulgaria, Romania, Montenegro, Macedonia, Hungary and Croatia, in accordance with the Law on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", Nos. 135/2004 and 88/10).

The Ministry of Mining and Energy did not receive any comments on the SEA and the draft of the Serbian Energy Strategy from neighboring countries in the requested period.

In accordance with the Law on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment, the Ministry of Mining and Energy (then Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental protection) submitted for the approval the Report on SEA and the Report on Public Consultations for the Report on the SEA to the Department for Planning and Management in the Environment, Group for Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment. The approval was defined in the act No 350-02-145/13-05 from December 17, 2013.

## **Information regarding the Programme for the Implementation of the Energy Strategy for the period 2017 up to 2023**

In accordance with article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental assessment, Republic of Serbia has sent to Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria Republic of Croatia, Republic of Montenegro next documentation in English:

- Notification to an Affected Party of Proposed Activity under Article 3 of the Convention;
- Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment Implementation Program of the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Projections until 2030, for the period 2017-2023;
- Implementation Program of the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia by 2025 with Projections until 2030, for the period 2017-2023.

The documentation was sent 24.07.2017. and a deadline for response was 30 days from the day of receiving the notification letter.

From Romania a request was made to extend the deadline by September 15<sup>th</sup> and they had sent their comments by that day. Serbia had provided comments to the issues raised by Romania.

Hungary has sent a request to translate the documentation into Hungarian. In our opinion it is not in compliance with article 10 of Protocol.

Republic of Croatia has sent the comments by November 19<sup>th</sup>, which is much after the deadline.

Republic of Bulgaria and Republic of Montenegro did not have comments.

Yours sincerely

Miroslav Tošović  
Serbian point of contact of the Sea protocol to the Espoo convention