

**Communication dated:  
January 10, 2007**

**from:**

**Regionaler Planungsverband Vorpommern  
("Vorpommern Regional Planning Board")**

**addressed to:**

**Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie  
(Federal Bureau for Shipping and Hydrography)  
Bernhard-Nocht-Strasse 78**

**20359 Hamburg**

**Approval procedure for construction and operation of the "Nord Stream"  
high-pressure natural gas pipeline through the Baltic**

Dear Sirs,

The *Regionaler Planungsverband Vorpommern* recognizes the extremely great economic significance of this project for Central and West European energy supplies and supports prompt implementation, orientated around approval of the project, of the necessary administrative procedures. The special ranking of the project for the Vorpommern planning region derives from the project's accordance with 3.4 (1) of the *Landesraumentwicklungsprogramm Mecklenburg-Vorpommern* (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern State Regional Development Program, German abbreviation: LEP MV): "Cross-border regional planning and economic cooperation in the Baltic region is to be further strengthened and expanded".

The planned utilization of the landing point at Lubmin as the terminal point of the marine pipeline route is an optimum choice from a regional-planning viewpoint, and takes account of important environmental aspects. The infrastructure in place at the *Lubminer Heide* ("Lubmin Heath") industrial zone, and the already existing and currently planned distribution and valorization facilities for natural gas, demonstrate that regional potentials have been correctly evaluated in selection of the route corridor.

It is the aim of the *Regionaler Planungsverband Vorpommern* to further strengthen the energy-industry orientation of the *Lubminer Heide* industrial zone. For this reason, the planning association has lobbied for anchoring of the *Lubminer Heide* location in the LEP MV (see above for translation) as a major commercial and industrial location with state-wide significance (4.3.1, Para. 1

and 2, LEP MV). The planned project of bringing the pipeline on to land at the *Lubminer Heide* industrial zone and the construction of a gas station are capable of making an outstanding contribution to the development of this location. The following commercial harbours may be considered on a regional-planning point of view, and following further assessment of their suitability, as supply stations for construction of the pipelines: Sassnitz-Mukran, Wolgast, Greifswald, Stralsund, Lubmin and Vierow.

The scope of documentation submitted for the Environmental Impact Study is considered here to be of adequate extent and quality. The planning association does not see any indications of circumstances or areas requiring further investigation.

Yours faithfully

(Signature)

Dr. Arthur König