



STATEMENT

Public Participation in the Baltic Sea Region on Nord Stream Pipeline Project Finalised

Zug, 8 June 2009. The nine-country public participation period on Nord Stream's transboundary environmental report for the planned gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea has now ended in line with the agreed schedule. The nine Baltic Sea countries will now inform each other about the statements received from the public and stakeholders.

In the five countries through whose waters the pipeline will pass – Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany – Nord Stream has submitted applications for the construction of the planned pipeline. The authorities of these countries have to consider potential transboundary environmental impacts of the pipeline before issuing permits to Nord Stream.

Nord Stream looks forward to cooperate further with the authorities to resolve outstanding issues over the summer, with a view to permits being granted before the end of the year. Construction of the 1,200 km pipeline is scheduled to start in early 2010.

Transboundary Environmental Report result of intensive dialogue with authorities throughout the Baltic region

“Since 2006, we have been in intensive dialogue with the authorities throughout the region in order to understand and take account of their concerns,” says Dirk von Ameln, Nord Stream's Permitting Director. “The Nord Stream consortium has spent more than 100 million Euros on environmental impact studies and environmental planning to ensure that the design and routing of the pipeline through the Baltic Sea will be environmentally sound and safe.”

In March, Nord Stream as the project developer had provided the Baltic Sea countries with the transboundary environmental report ('Espoo Report') in nine languages and English. According to the United Nations Espoo Convention, countries under whose jurisdiction a proposed activity is envisaged to take place must inform their neighbouring countries about potential transboundary environmental impacts. Nord Stream also participated in twelve public hearings in the Baltic Sea countries in March to May in which Nord Stream's environmental documentation were discussed.

Nord Stream will eventually be able to supply 55 billion cubic metres of natural gas a year, the equivalent of up to 25 per cent of the additional



Nord Stream

The new gas supply route for Europe

imported gas that Europe is expected to require due to the increased role of gas in the energy mix and depleting resources in the North Sea.

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For detailed information on the international consultation process (Espoo process) and the status of the national permit applications, please download: http://www.nord-stream.com/Update_Espoo_process

Notes to editors:

Nord Stream is a natural gas pipeline that will link Russia and the European Union via the Baltic Sea. The European Union's gas imports were 314 billion cubic metres (bcm) in 2005 and are projected to grow by almost 200 bcm to 509 bcm per year by 2025 (Source: European Commission/DG-TREN, 2007). Nord Stream will meet about 25 per cent of this additional requirement by connecting the European gas pipeline network to the world's largest gas reserves. The project will be an important contribution to long-term security of supply and a milestone of the energy partnership between the European Union and Russia.

Nord Stream AG plans to have the first of two parallel pipelines operational in 2011. Each line is approximately 1,220 kilometres long, providing a transport capacity of some 27.5 bcm per year. Full capacity of about 55 bcm per year will be reached in the second phase, when the second line goes on stream.

Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and subsequent operation of the new offshore gas pipeline across the Baltic Sea. OAO Gazprom holds a 51 per cent stake in the joint venture. BASF/Wintershall Holding AG and E.ON Ruhrgas AG hold 20 per cent each, and N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie has a 9 per cent stake.

The UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) sets out the obligations of parties to assess the environmental impact of certain activities at an early stage of planning. It also lays down the general obligation of states to notify and consult each other on all major projects under consideration that are likely to have a significant environmental impact across national borders. The Espoo Convention was opened for signature in Espoo (Finland) on 25 February 1991 and came into force on 10 September 1997. Nord Stream's process under the Espoo Convention has started in April 2006.