

ANNOUNCEMENT

TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE DRAFT INTEGRATED ENERGY AND CLIMATE PLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA 2021-2030 – UPDATE 2024

DEAR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

On the basis of Art. 20, para. 2, item 5 and Art. 21, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Regulation on the conditions and procedure for carrying out environmental assessment of plans and programs, the Ministry of Environment and Water informs all interested institutions, organizations and citizens that it is organizing a public discussion on the Environmental Assessment Report of the Integrated Energy and Climate Plan of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030 - update 2024 (EPEC draft EIA - update 2024).

The public discussion of the Environmental Assessment Report of INPEC-Update 2024 will be held in the city of Sofia on 31.08.2026 (Monday) at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences from 11:00 a.m. in the "Prof. Marin Drinov" hall in the BAS-Administration building at 1 "15 November" Street.

The draft Integrated Energy and Climate Plan of the Republic of Bulgaria 2021-2030 – update 2024 has been developed on the basis of Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action. The draft of the current IPEC update reflects the higher goals set by the European Green Deal and the European Climate Law, the Ready for 55 Package, the REPowerEU Plan, the latest report on Bulgaria within the framework of the European Semester, including the recommendations of the European Commission (EC), while complying with the requirements for the protection of the environment, human health and biodiversity.

The environmental assessment of the draft Plan was carried out under a joint procedure under the Regulation on the conditions and procedure for carrying out environmental assessment of plans and programs and the Regulation on the conditions and procedure for carrying out assessment of the compatibility of plans, programs, projects and investment proposals with the subject and objectives of protection of protected areas.

The public is provided with access to the following documents:

- EIA of the IPEC draft – update 2024 (after consultations with the competent authority, the public, interested bodies and third parties);
- Non-technical summary of the Environmental Assessment Report;
- Annexes to the EIA (including Annex No. 8 – Report on the assessment of compatibility with the subject matter and objectives for the conservation of protected areas of the Natura 2000 ecological network).

The documentation is available in the building of the Ministry of Environment and Water at the address: Sofia, 22 Knyaginya Maria Luiza Blvd.,

as well as on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Environment , at the following address:

<https://www.moew.government.bg/bg/vajno-obyava-za-provejdane-na-obstestveno-obsujdane-na-doklad-za-ekologichna-ocenka-na-proekta-na-integriran-plan-v-oblastta-na-energetikata-i-klimata-na-republika-bulgariya-2021-2030-g-aktualizaciya-2024-g/>

Public access to the documentation is provided by the contracting authority for a period of 30 calendar days - **from 30.07.2026 to 30.08.2026 inclusive.**

Written statements, opinions and proposals can be submitted within the specified period:

- electronically at the address: edno_gishe@moew.government.bg;
- through the registry of the Ministry of Environment and Water at the address: Sofia, 22 Knyaginya Maria Luiza Blvd.;
- by mail to the ministry's address.

The public discussion meeting is held after the completion of the consultations under Article 20, paragraph 1 of the Regulation on the conditions and procedure for carrying out environmental assessment of plans and programs.

The public discussion will be led by the contracting authority - Directorate "Climate Change Policy", Ministry of Environment and Water, with the participation of representatives of the contractor, the team leader and the independent experts who prepared the Environmental Assessment Report.

The Ministry of Environment and Water encourages all stakeholders who have taken part in the public consultation process to also participate in the public discussion of the documentation.