

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

080C-3
06 March 2019

Subject: Notification under Art. 3 of the Convention on EIA in a transboundary context for Investment Proposal for Construction and Exploitation of Transmission Gas Pipeline (Interconnector) border of Bulgaria-border of Hungary-Section 1 (Vrška čuka-Žabari), on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria

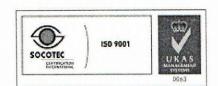
Dear Minister,

Hereby we acknowledge the receipt of your letter (Ref. No. 353-02-00200/2019-03 dated 04.02.2019) with notification of the above investment proposal, informing you of the following:

Having considered the information in the Notification, it was found that it is essentially an update of the environmental impact assessment of the investment proposal for the construction of the South Stream gas pipeline on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, which has already been approved by the competent authorities.

The route of the pipeline on Serbian territory falls into a mountainous area and passes behind the watershed, which coincides with the state border of the Republic of Bulgaria. It is foreseen that the pipeline, for the most part, will be built under the surface. Given the relief and slope of the terrain, no surface water pollution is expected on Bulgarian territory. The groundwater bodies close to the border with the Republic of Serbia are delineated into fissured aquifers, with negligible resources and the risk of groundwater contamination is minimal.

H. E. Mr Goran Trivan
Minister of Environmental Protection
Mihajla Pupina 2 Blvd.
11070 Belgrade
Republic of Serbia





The implementation activities of the investment proposal will be carried out only on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, which does not imply a negative impact on the biological diversity, as well as a significant negative impact on the subject and the purposes of protection of Natura 2000 protected areas on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

In view of the above and in accordance with Article 3, point 3 of the EIA Convention in a transboundary context, we do not find it necessary for the Republic of Bulgaria to participate in the EIA procedure for an investment proposal for Construction and Exploitation of Transmission Gas Pipeline (Interconnector) border of Bulgaria-border of Hungary-Section 1 (Vrška čuka-Žabari), on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express my highest consideration and willingness for fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Neno Dimov
Minister of Environment and Water