



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

MINISTER

OBOC-249
18 October 2012

Subject: Investment proposal for construction of a natural gas pipeline interconnector Greece – Bulgaria

Your Excellency,

In response to the notification from the Hellenic Republic dated 13.02.2012 concerning the investment proposal for construction of a natural gas pipeline interconnector Greece – Bulgaria and taking into consideration the conclusion of lack of negative environmental impact deriving from its implementation, we would like to inform you that the Republic of Bulgaria does not intend to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure on Greek territory.

With the present letter we would like to inform you that at this moment the EIA procedure on Bulgarian territory is at a stage after the quality evaluation and in a procedure for organization of public hearings. The Bulgarian EIA report contains an analysis and conclusion regarding the transboundary impact of the implementation of the project on Bulgarian territory, which also confirms the conclusion made by the Greek Party that there are no expected negative impacts on the environmental factors in a transboundary context, including on the territory of Greece.

H.E. Mr. Evangelos Livieratos
Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
Hellenic Republic
17 Amaliados Str.
115 23 Athens, Greece

CC: H.E. Mr. Thrassyvoulos Stamatopoulos
Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to Bulgaria
33 San Stefano Str.
Sofia 1504



Given your intent to participate in the Bulgarian national EIA procedure and also taking into account the results of the EIA made both by the Bulgarian and Greek side, according to which the implementation of the project is supposed to cause no significant negative impact in a transboundary context, we would like to ask for your final confirmation on the intent of the Greek side to continue the participation in the transboundary EIA procedure. If you wish to participate, please duly inform us which part of the Bulgarian EIA documentation you would like to be sent to you in addition. Please note that besides the information about transboundary impacts provided with the present letter, a large EIA report and a non-technical summary are now available. The translation, however, will take some time. I would also like to ask you to inform us whether you wish to have some public hearings organized on Greek territory, the respective deadlines, and the expectations from the Bulgarian side concerning the participation in them.

We would like to assure you that if there is no confirmation by your side concerning the continuation of the Greek participation in the Bulgarian national EIA procedure, the results from the EIA, including those concerning the transboundary impact, will be reflected in the administrative act of the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Water. Upon your request, after completion of the EIA procedure on Bulgarian territory we can provide for your information the issued administrative act.

Having in mind the priority of the project for our countries and the expectations for accelerated completion of the required procedures, I am kindly asking you to send us the Greek response within two weeks from the receipt of this letter.

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

Enclosure: English translation of the "Transboundary impact" Chapter of the EIA report.

Sincerely Yours,

Nona Karadjova

15.10.2012z.

"За министър:	
Заместник-министър:	<i>М. Баева</i>
Заповед за заместване:	<i>Д. 768 / 10.10.12</i>