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GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

Cabinet of the Minister

No.: __ 3811 /RP/_ 19.10.2012

Ref: the project "The development of the Arges and Dambovita Rivers for Navigation and Other Uses"

Dear Ms. Karadjova,

Further to your letter no. OBIC – 240/15th August 2012, by which Bulgaria declared its intention to participate in the EIA procedure for the above mentioned Romanian project, in accordance with the Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, please find as attachment, the scoping guidelines elaborated by us to define the content of the environmental impact assessment report. (4 pages)

We would like to ask you to review and complete the scoping guidelines with the necessary aspects that you consider to be treated in the EIA report and inform us as soon as possible about your proposal.

I am taking this opportunity to express our readiness to continue our fruitful cooperation and please accept, Ms. Minister, the assurance of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely,

Rovana PLUMB

Ms. Nona KARADJOVA Minister Ministry of Environment and Water Republic of Bulgaria

Project "The Development of Arges and Dambovita Rivers for Navigation and Other Uses"

A. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report will analyse in detail, for each project stage the following aspects:

1. The abidance with the landscaping plans:

- a) the abidance with the landscaping and urban/town planning, other special programs or other development schemes;
- b) the present and the planned land use, on the designated sites and the adjacent areas on which the harbours will be built, the hydro technical constructions, the railways, the access roads and the adjacent areas;
- c) identification of the potentially affected areas taking into consideration the current land use;
- d) description of the suitability/necessity of the proposed project;
- e) the relationship of the proposed project with other existing or planned projects in the area, and the cumulative effect analysis of this project with existing/proposed projects;
- f) cumulative effects of the project with the existing objectives in the area of the project;
- g) other activities or projects that may arise as a results of the proposed project's implementation, both during and after the project's execution;

2. Description of the alternatives for the project:

- a) Presentation of the possible variants studied, the analysis and estimation of their impact in comparison with the proposed project for each of the following stages of the project: execution of the waterway, harbours, driveways, railways, hydro- technical nodes, bridges, hydroelectric powers, ecologization works for the Dâmboviţa river bed and management of the excavated/dredged material;
- b) Description of "zero" alternative and the estimated impact of it;
- c) Any other details concerning the alternatives taken into consideration, details concerning the technical solution and the justification of the proposed alternative, for each of the following stages of the project: execution of the waterway, harbours, access roads, railways, hydro technical nodes;
- d) The justification of the proposed alternative in comparison with other alternatives studied from de environmental protection point of view, the final variant proposed being the one approved by the representatives of the local public administration, approved through the urbanistic plans.

3. Presentation of the project's impact on the environmental factors:

a) Description of all the works necessary for the execution of the whole project, and identification of the optimal method of execution in order to reduce the impact on the environmental factors for each of the following stages of the project and for their maintenance period: execution of the waterway, hydro- technical nodes, harbours, driveways, railways, bridges, ecologization works for the Dâmboviţa river bed and management of the excavated/dredged material;

Execution of waterway (Argeş and Dâmbovița)

- b) Regularisation of the rivers
- c) Adjusting the river bed
- d) Excavation, dredging
- e) Defence works, slopes and river bed protection, bottom sills
- f) Damming rivers
- g) Hydro- technical nodes: dams, locks, hydroelectric powers.

> Harbours execution

- h) Port waters with operational areas
- i) Mooring building
- j) Storage platforms
- k) Constructions for exploitation process

> Railways execution

- 1) Construction /rehabilitation of railway tracks;
- m) Construction/rehabilitation of railway bridges;

> Roads execution

- n) Construction /rehabilitation of access roads;
- o) Construction /rehabilitation of bridges;

> Ecologization works for the Dâmbovița river bed

- Ecologization process
- Excavated material management

Decommission activities

Organization of work sites

- Possible location
- Production processes
- Storage
- Loaning pits
- Any other activities organized in the location of the work site
- b) for the period of decommission, construction, and operation it will be realized:
 - identification and characterization of pollutants sources for each environmental factor;
 - description of the potential impact on the environmental components;
 - description and assessment of the direct and indirect, cumulative, permanent, temporary, reversible, irreversible, positive or negative effects of the project, with an indication of the forecasting methods of impact and assessment,
 - establish measures of avoiding, reducing or ameliorating of the impact on the environmental components:
- c) description of the occupied areas and the category of land use for those areas (permanently and temporarily during the execution and functioning for all types of works, separately identified and presented in tabular form);
- d) estimation of the quantities of raw materials used, their type, provenience and the mode of ensuring the necessary quantities for the project execution;
- e) identification of constructions and activities present in the project's influence area;
- **f)** identification of under and over crossing zones for water, electricity, gas and oil network, etc. and presentation of measures foreseen for their protection;
- **g)** identification and assessment of project impact on the environmental components, caused by foreseeable changes of hydrological and hydrogeological conditions by changing the dynamics of mainstream during the construction and after the execution of the works on the water streams;
- **h)** specifying the generated wastes, their type, estimated quantity, their management/recovery/elimination from the site during construction and exploitation;
- i) archaeological sites identification and the estimation of the potential impact on them;
- j) description of the impact on population's health and safety and the measures regarding impact reduction:
- **k)** the risk that the project could be affected by natural disasters that can lead to environmental damage (earthquakes, floods, landslides, etc.);
- I) the risk of accidents.

The impact of the project on AIR:

- presentation of information regarding air pollution level from the area of the project and it will highlight the contribution of the future air pollution sources from the area of influence;
- the impact in construction and operation period;
- the impact due to any kind of traffic intensification during the execution or operation stages, including the emissions resulting from operating the construction machineries;
- the impact due to site organizations and production bases;
- identification and characterization of the sources of air pollutants related to the project, during the construction and exploitation, the conditions of transport and diffusion of pollutants depending on the weather conditions on the site.

The impact of the project on SOIL:

- existing pollution in the area of the site, types and estimated concentrations of pollutants;
- identification and characterization of the sources of soil pollutants during construction, by execution phases and during the period of exploitation;
- soil uncover impact prognosis for the period of construction;
- identification of areas requiring soil stabilization works, description of these works and their impact on environment;
- presentation of necessary ecological rehabilitation measures for the temporarily occupied areas, after construction works are finalised.
- description of the ecological rehabilitation measures of peripheral zones affected, taken at the finalisation of the works, including the management of loaning pits.

The impact of the project on WATER:

- The impact caused by changes of hydrological and hydrogeological conditions, by changing the dynamics of mainstream during the construction and after the execution of the works on the water streams;
- Identification of floodable areas along the project's line that can affect the project;
- Description of the wastewater sources;
- Description of collection system, pre-treatment installations and the purged/unpurged water evacuation place (at the work site);
- Factors that can contribute to accidental pollution of surface and underground water and the prevention measures taken;
- Identification of sanitary protection areas and hydrological protection perimeters around water sources, water collecting works, constructions and installations of potable water supply (project's impact on those will be estimated and described);

The NOISE due to the project:

- Impact due to noise emissions resulting from specific activities unreeled for project's execution and due to traffic intensification during the execution of the project;
- Evaluation of the effect of noise and vibration generated by the project's construction and the estimation of noise and vibration during exploitation;
- 4. EIA Report will respect the provisions of the content framework from *Chapter 4.5 Biodiversity* of the OM 863/2002 on the approval of methodological guidelines procedure.
 - 5. Identifying and forecasting the impact of:
 - a) in the study will be identified the following:
 - impact types:

- direct and indirect;
- short and long term;
- in the construction, operating and decommissioning stages;
- with isolated, interactive and cumulative effects;
- residual impacts (remaining after all reduction measures have been taken);
- the impact on the integrity of the protected natural area of Community interest, taking into account the structure, ecological functions and conservation objectives;
- the type of impact that could affect the structure or function of the protected natural area and their vulnerability to modification;
- ways of generating the cumulative impact:
- identification of the ways by which is cumulated the potential impact in time and space (for example: on the water, air, etc.).
- estimation regarding the size of identified cumulative effects and an assessment in relation to the possibility that the cumulative impact could be significant or not.

B. The Appropriate Assessment Report will respect the provisions of the content – framework of the Ministerial Order nr. 19/2010 for the approval of methodological Guidelines regarding appropriate assessment of potential effects of plans and projects on community interest protected natural areas.