



**GENERALNY DYREKTOR  
OCHRONY ŚRODOWISKA**

*Andrzej Szweda-Lewandowski*

Warsaw, 06-10-2023

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**As per distribution list**

**Subject: planned project entitled Construction and operation of a small modular nuclear power plant with a total capacity of up to 1300 MWe using BWRX-300 technology in Ostrołęka, Ostrołęka Municipality**

*Dear Sirs,*

I would like to inform you that the Republic of Poland is conducting an environmental impact assessment for the planned project consisting of the **construction and operation of a small modular nuclear power plant with a total capacity of up to 1300 MWe using BWRX-300 technology in Ostrołęka, Ostrołęka Municipality.**

**Project information**

The Project will consist of the construction and operation of a nuclear power plant, comprising:

- up to four power units (each unit contains i.a., a BWRX-300 modular nuclear reactor, control room building, turbine hall (turbine, generator)) **with a total power output not exceeding 1,300 MWe,**
- auxiliary buildings (including a spent fuel storage, interim radioactive waste storage facility, office buildings, workshop),
- the necessary technical infrastructure (including a water intake, pumping station, cooling water pipelines, cooling system infrastructure (mechanical/natural draft cooling towers), switchyard, power output to the NPS).

The aim of the project is to generate electricity or electricity and heat (cogeneration) using nuclear energy. The electricity generated will be fed into the National Power System (NPS)

using a power service connection, while the heat can be used for district heating by supplying the local district heating system (the construction of a service connection for district heating purposes is not included in the scope of this application for the decision on environmental conditions; it will be implemented on the basis of separate administrative decisions).

### **Transboundary impact**

To date, the international approach to the implementation of nuclear power plant projects has been characterized by transparent approach in the context of informing potentially affected Parties, despite the demonstration of no impact on people and the environment (including in the event of an accident).

Currently, there is no established approach in this respect for Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs), characterised by lower power levels (up to 1000 MWth), smaller quantities of nuclear fuel and less accumulated radioactive material in the reactor core. Moreover, the design of SMRs uses passive safety systems (that do not require continuous power supply to perform their safety function) and inherent safety characteristics which increases the intrinsic safety of such reactors and reduces the size of the emergency planning zone. The Project Information Sheet (enclosed) does not identify the possibility of a significant impact on the territory of neighbouring countries. Due to the scale of the project and the preventive measures applied, the scope of the impacts will not extend beyond the territory of the Republic of Poland.

**As no significant adverse transboundary impacts have been identified, information on the project, including its characteristics, is being provided to you by the Polish Party for information purposes only, while maintaining the transparency of the environmental impact assessment procedure.**

### **Environmental impact assessment procedure in Poland**

In Poland, the environmental impact assessment procedure, including in a transboundary context, is regulated by the Act of 3 October 2008 *on the provision of information on the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessments*.

Under the aforementioned Act, the procedure for assessing the impact of a project on the environment is a procedure aimed at issuing a decision on environmental conditions. The decision on environmental conditions, completes the environmental impact assessment procedure and is a binding for the authority issuing the investment decision.

At the current stage of the environmental impact assessment, the body conducting the proceedings, i.e. the General Director for Environmental Protection, carries out findings related to the scope of the environmental impact report (scoping).

### **Deadline for response**

The General Director for Environmental Protection kindly requests you to:

- acknowledge without delay receipt of this letter and its enclosures;
- present the statement if there are, in your opinion, indications of the possibility of a significantly negative impact on the territory of your country, as a result of the planned project;
- a simultaneous presentation of the aforementioned reasons and, if applicable, the statement on the scope of the environmental impact assessment report.

I kindly request that you provide the information mentioned above **within 21 days of receipt of this letter.**

### **Please forward your response to the following address:**

Contact point for the Espoo Convention

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*Yours faithfully,*

ANDRZEJ SZWEDA-LEWANDOWSKI  
General Director for Environmental Protection  
/ – digitally signed – /