

English summary of the polish statement of 6 January 2009 concerning Fennovoima nuclear plant

In the first part of the statement there is only some general explanation about the procedure and public participation in Poland.

According to new *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 (Official Journal of the Laws, No 199, Item 1227)* there are new administration authorities established and former competence of the Minister of the Environment, connected with participation of the Republic of Poland in the procedure for impact assessments in a transboundary context, at present is in hand of the Director General for Environmental Protection who acts in cooperation with the Regional Directors for Environmental Protection (former competence of Voivodes).

The set of information enclosed to the letter of 9 October 2008, signature: YM1/5521/2008 concerning Fennovoima Environmental Impact Assessment report for a nuclear power plant was made accessible for the public participation in the Zachodniopomorskie, Pomorskie, Warmińsko-Mazurskie and Podlaskie provinces as well as it was consulted with National Atomic Energy Agency.

The basic idea is that taking into account that the investment should not cause a significant adverse impact on the territory of the Republic of Poland **there is no reason for an active participation of the polish side in the transboundary consultations on environmental impact assessment.**

However, at the same time we would like to underline that polish public is very interested in being informed about any investment connected with new nuclear plants. In the case of Fennovoima nuclear plant the main comments and concerns voiced by the public was connected with:

- information whether there is a sufficient use of other cheaper and safer sources of energy (for example renewable sources of energy) or the methods of energy savings,
- information on the extension of the danger zone in case of accident,
- information on the place and method of nuclear waste disposal (storage on the nuclear plant area can raise risk in case of accident or terrorist attack in public opinion),
- information on the comparison of possible reactor types (pressure reactor - more safe in the public opinion versus boiling reactor).

Taking above mentioned information into account polish side would like to remark that we are interested in being informed in future and receive documentation concerning environmental impact assessment of any successive nuclear plants planned on the territory of Finland.